HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

Eliminating Racial Disparities Meeting Minutes

Date: April 14, 2022

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm

Location: Virtual

Minutes

Attendance: Judge Willms, Carrie Yeager, Chris Davis, Jamila, Jerald Moore, Kathy Cima, Latisce Williams, Latonya Reeves, Lisa McNaughton, Megan Jablonski-Johnson, Morgan Kunz, Sarah Davis, Sierra Leone Samuels, Taska Welters, Tracy Reid, Willie Bridges

Court Update

- Data point was identified by probation
- Youth of color of having lower success rates than white youth on EJJ probation-how can we improve?
- Six-month reviews-we need systematic changes
- EJJ and Certification Motions
 - In court data pulled-needs to be finalized and reported out
 - Low on staffing has caused issues on being able to finalize
- o Review of courtroom RAI is still be worked on, hope to be able to report out in June meeting

County Attorney Update

- Morgan shared and discussed PPT (attached)
- Discussions that came up throughout PPT
 - Use of a gun is the driving increase in EJJ cases
 - Gun cases in 2021 were up significantly in Brooklyn Park/Brooklyn Center
 - What are we hoping to accomplish?
 - Violence prevention
 - o Public safety



- o Equity-treat everyone the same at all decision points
- Do we need to look at policy or practice changes?
- 2019-expansion of post charge diversion
- 2020-diversion team-youth who complete diversion are less likely to recidivate
- Job training/programming-building job training program as part of diversion and probation youth. Youth could be paid for six months. Working with some existing partners. Hope to be up and running as a pilot by Summer.
- Youth Connection Center-they already do case management. Could look at referring youth to YCC on a pre-trial basis
- There are lots of reasons cases do not resolve-it takes two for an agreement
- There seems to be a disconnect between policies and practice
- Where are we with ERD and publicly stated where we want to be?
- CA office is willing to talk with others about how to make things better
- When looking at analysis for filing of certification and EJJ motions, how does past criminal history or lack thereof play a role?

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 9 4-530PM VIA ZOOM