



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

YOUTH COUNCIL

*Jada Young, Marvell Reed, Cheyenne Jordan, Jadah Webb,
Alannah Jones, Alexandra Moreno-Romero, Sherlean Roberts,
Jayne Kilander, Ayanna Lee, Samia Ahmed, Jesilyna
Gonzales, Tyrane Graham, Samuel Hartman*

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

4:30 PM

Room 303, City Hall

1. Call to Order at 4:32 PM

2. Roll Call.

Present 12 - Gonzales, Jordan, Young, Jones, Lee, Webb, Moreno-Romero, Roberts,
Kilander, Ahmed, Graham and Hartman

Excused 1 - Reed

3. Recommendations for the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force.

Members were sent the draft recommendations from the City-County Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force for them to review, discuss and add their recommendations to the list:

No more traffic lanes addition for buses on the roads.

Complete Street project needs to be reconsidered.

Youth council members to promote safe driving behavior among their peers.

4. Update on Milwaukee Youth Council Priorities:

Youth Homelessness

Litter

Drunk Driving

Youth Incarceration

This memo is in response to your request for information regarding issues related to youth incarceration and strategies peer cities have employed to combat the problem.

Issues Related to Youth Incarceration

The Incarceration of Minority Youth

Barry Krisberg, Ira Schwartz, Gideon Fishman

April 1987

At the time of the study, minority youths were incarcerated at three to four times the rate of whites in the United States. Research suggested that the number of young people incarcerated was increasing despite incidence of youth crime declining.

Research also showed that minority youth were more likely to be charged with serious crimes than white youth who had committed similar crimes.

Deconstructing the Pipeline: Using Efficacy and Effectiveness Data and Cost-Benefit

*Analyses to Reduce Minority Youth Incarceration**David Osher, Mary Magee Quinn, et al**2003*

In 1999, the rate of juveniles in residential placement was 156 per 100,000 people for white youth and 741 and 356 per 100,000 people, respectively, for black and Hispanic youth in the United States. Cost-benefit analyses demonstrated that tackling crime through preventive measures and community interactions is less expensive than the costs of incarceration.

*Father Absence and Youth Incarceration**Cynthia C. Harper, Sara S. McLanahan**August 2004*

This longitudinal study showed that young people who grow up in fatherless households face a higher risk of incarceration in the United States. Those with the highest risks for incarceration were those in stepparent families.

*Preventing Youth Incarceration Through Reading Remediation: Issues and Solutions**Christine A. Christle and Mitchell L. Yell**February 2008*

This study suggests that reading challenges represent a strong proxy for whether youth end up in the juvenile justice system.

*No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration**Annie E. Casey Foundation**October 2011*

America's youth custody rate was 336 per every 100,000 youth in 2002, nearly five times higher than the next highest nation. This study estimates that incarceration costs between \$66,000 and \$88,000 per juvenile annually.

*The Impact of Incarceration on Juvenile Offenders**Ian Lambie and Isabel Randell**April 2013*

This study showed that incarceration does little to solve developmental and criminological problems affecting juveniles. Instead, it often leads to negative behavioral and mental health outcomes, resulting in prolonged time spent incarcerated. Moreover, this study found that incarcerating young people does very little to reduce crime.

*Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie 2017**Peter Wagner and Bernadette Rabuy**March 2017*

This study found that 7,000 young people are in prison in the United States for offenses that do not actually amount to crimes, such as "technical violations" against their probations. Another 600 youth are in jail for "status offenses" such as running away from home, which is also not a criminal offense.

*Alternative Approaches to Youth Incarceration**Alternatives for Youth's Advocacy Program: Reducing Minority Youth Incarceration Placements in Cleveland, Ohio**Christopher A. Mallett and Linda Julian**August 2008*

This study highlights the high cost and ineffectiveness of incarcerating juvenile delinquents as part of the "tough-on-crime" model. Meanwhile, the Alternatives for

Youth's Advocacy Program (AFY) in Cleveland, Ohio, resulted in reduced detention center placement days by 47% and reduced state facility incarceration days by 74%. The AFY program takes a holistic approach, offering youth civil legal representation and defense attorney legal planning support.

California Miracle: Drastically Reduced Youth Incarceration, Drastically Reduced Youth Crime

Mike Males, Daniel Macallair

July 2010

Between 1980 and 2010, California saw an 80% decrease in juvenile incarceration, with only 33 of every 100,000 youth between ages 10 and 17 in a correctional facility.

Following a taxpayer lawsuit against the California Youth Authority, both parties settled to improve institutional facilities and provide better services. The state created an Integrated Behavioral Treatment Model, focusing on rehabilitation and custodial care.

The authors of this study note that incapacitation theory, which is the idea that locking up offenders will reduce crime, is not supported by their study. In other words, a decline in violent crime coincided with a fall in youth incarceration, while, previously in the 1980s, a rise in violent crime coincided with an increase in incarceration.

Countering Youth Incarceration: Community Strategies in New Orleans and Cape Town

Ariel Marshall

December 2012

New Orleans offers examples of community-based models through restorative justice to bolster youth independence and civic engagement as a means of reducing recidivism. Remedial strategies in New Orleans focus on youth development and self-efficacy. Programs offer intensive case management, mentoring, and educational services to allow individuals to understand their ability to effect change and to build a variety of skills, such as learning to communicate effectively.

A Relational Approach to Reducing Youth Incarceration

Christopher Blocher

January 2017

The Choice Program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), a non-profit organization, embraces the "relational perspective" in tackling youth incarceration. The relational perspective emphasizes contextual factors and the philosophical idea that humans are fundamentally influenced by their relationships with others. From this point of view, an approach seeking reconciliation and healing is more effective than punitive action.

Other Strategies

- Cuyahoga County, OH, launched a pilot program in 1993 that saw local grant money redirected from prisons to community-based programs for youth convicted of non-violent crimes. In the year after this policy change, there was a 40% drop in the number of incarcerated children.*
- Wyandotte County, MO, upgraded its juvenile detention center, hanging murals and artwork, and creating more of a home-type of feel. The center added more programs and afterschool activities as well, focusing more on communication; staff saw an increase in positive behavior.*
- Allegheny County, PA, allows youth in the county jail to enroll at a high school that is specially designed for juveniles charged as adults.*

There were additional questions asked to LRB for research for the next meeting.

Continuing the discussion of the Youth Council priorities, there were more questions outlined for LRB to research; some of those were:

Youth Homelessness - MKE

Definition of homeless (are there more Types of homelessness)

Main causes

How Many

Demographics (ages, causes, locations)

Survival mechanism

What sources are currently available (are they working)

Unique problems

What happens to those who aged out of foster care system into homelessness?

Runaways and its relationship to homelessness

Mr. Owczarski would like for council to create focus questions to narrow down action items for them to accomplish.

5. Announcements.

Ms. McHenry distributed district newsletter to the respective Youth Council member to review and familiarized themselves with their district and identify ways to become involved with their district council representative.

6. Meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM

Joanna Polanco

Staff Assistant

In the event that Common Council members who are not members of this committee attend this meeting, this meeting may also simultaneously constitute a meeting of the Common Council or any of the following committees: Community and Economic Development, Finance and Personnel, Judiciary and Legislation, Licenses, Public Safety and Health, Public Works, Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development, and/or Steering and Rules. Whether a simultaneous meeting is occurring depends on whether the presence of one or more of the Common Council member results in a quorum of the Common Council or any of the above committees, and, if there is a quorum of another committee, whether any agenda items listed above involve matters within that committee's realm of authority. In the event that a simultaneous meeting is occurring, no action other than information gathering will be taken at the simultaneous meeting.

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities through sign language interpreters or auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request this service, contact the City Clerk's Office ADA Coordinator at 286-2998, (FAX)286-3456, (TDD)286-2025 or by writing to the Coordinator at Room 205, City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Limited parking for persons attending meetings in City Hall is available at reduced rates (5 hour limit) at the Milwaukee Center on the southwest corner of East Kilbourn and North Water Street. Parking tickets must be validated in the first floor Information Booth in City Hall.

Persons engaged in lobbying as defined in s. 305-43-4 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances are required to register with the City Clerk's Office License Division. Registered lobbyists appearing before a Common Council committee are required to identify themselves as such. More information is available at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/Lobbying>.