WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

Maryland
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY

DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

STATE ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) MEETING
May 6, 2024
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Held Via Videoconference

MINUTES

Participating Members:
Georgia Noone-Sherrod, Acting Chair
Derek Getic
D'Montae Vilgrain
Fred Chavis
Janet Furman
Kara Aanenson
Laura Wilt
Rachel Johnson
Tholyn S. Twyman
Makayla Johnson
Mary Abraham
Nathaniel Balis
Seema Gajwani
Shannon Breddell
Tamedris Hollywood
Teresa Richardson

Guests:
Amanda Rodriguez
Karl Pothier
Jessica Port

Staff:
Aubrey Gerhardt
Jenny Krabill
Kourtney Toogood
Layomi Omolola

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Ms. Noone-Sherrod, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. Everyone on the call introduced themselves.

II. MEJC Presentation

Mr. Nate Balis gave an overview of the mission, initiatives, structure, and members of the Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative (MEJC). The mission of MEJC is to reduce the mass incarceration of African Americans and other marginalized groups in Maryland prisons and jails. The presentation from MEJC will be attached to these meeting minutes and made a part hereto.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The January and March meeting minutes were not approved because a quorum was not present.

IV. Grant Review Training

Ms. Krabill presented on the grant review process to State Advisory Group Members who would be participating in reviewing applications. A copy of the slides will be sent to members as a part of their reviewer packets. Because this slide deck may contain confidential information on the grant review process specific to the JJAC award, a copy will not be made available publicly. However, the training generally included the following:

- How to identify application components;
- How to score with impartiality and in accordance with the NOFA;
- Confidentiality;
- Avoiding conflicts of interest; and
- Expected timelines for completion and funding recommendations;

All reviews should be completed by May 22, 2024. Reviewer packets were sent to those participating in reviews during the meeting in real time.

All reviewers will receive an email with a conflict of interest form to sign. If additional conflicts arise, members should email Ms. Krabill and/or Ms. Omolola.

Participation in the review process was stressed by more than one member of the State Advisory Group. Mr. Getic emphasized how all members of the State Advisory Group should participate in reviewing grant applications to keep the amount of work evenly distributed between members. It is also important to make sure that all applicants receive a fair and thorough review.

V. Membership and Subcommittees

Ms. Krabill informed the group that an email was sent out with an updated list of State Advisory Group Membership and encouraged everyone to review and provide feedback. A discussion occurred regarding methods of communication surrounding membership and overall updates for the State Advisory Group. The group agreed to put this on the agenda for the next executive committee meeting. In the meantime, members were encouraged to reach out to office staff with any questions or concerns.

Office staff reported that the process for potential membership includes interested parties reaching out to Ms. Krabill to express interest. A resume should be provided and an interview with staff will be scheduled if an open seat is available. Potential candidates will be encouraged to attend meetings and join a subcommittee while awaiting a potential appointment.

The following individuals will be recommended for appointment based on interviews, resumes, and continued involvement in SAG activities over the past several months:

- Saqqara Andrews
- Beyer Bullard
- Amanda Rodriguez
- Janette Graham
- Tamerdis Hollywood (interview to be scheduled today)
- James Hollywood (interview to be scheduled today)

A. ELs

Ms. Aubrey Gerhardt shared how EL members and leadership are currently drafting an application form to help with recruitment efforts of youth.

B. R/Ed

Ms. Layomi Omolola provided updates for the R/Ed subcommittee including The 13th Documentary Screening event. The subcommittee is attempting to finalize the budget, and secure the venue for the event. Additional details will be relayed to the group as they are available. The group should email Ms. Omolola if they know of any organizations that would be interested in partnering with them.

C. Grantee Engagement

Ms. Krabill shared how the Grant Engagement chair, Mr. Fred Chavis, volunteered to be the State Advisory Group chair.

Ms. Chavis expressed direction in recruiting more youth and getting them involved in grant engagement.

D. Recruitment and Retention

Ms. Krabill reported that a discussion was held during the last Executive Committee meeting surrounding the importance of recruitment, retention, and participation for the SAG. Additional details regarding meetings and strategies will be forwarded as available.

VI. Round Table

Ms. Noone-Sherrod encouraged the group to listen to Ms. Makayla Johnson's podcast addressing youth and mental health.

The group was also reminded of the upcoming CJJ conference at the end of this month. and Ms. Gerhardt noted the CJJ Conference is coming up soon after the grant review.

The office shared that The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) launched a few weeks ago and will provide R/ED training webinars this month to aid in coordinators making new R/ED plans. The office hopes to be available to provide training and assistance to sub-grantees or other organizations for R/Ed topics sometime this summer.

VII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on **July 1, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**