



Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Prevention

**Tuckahoe Library
1901 Starling Drive
Henrico, VA 23229**

AGENDA

**Tuesday April 23, 2024
10:00am-11:30am**

- **Call to Order and Welcome
Member Roll Call**
- **Approval of Minutes (2/20/24)**
- **DCJS Updates**
- **2024 Virginia Juvenile Justice Legislation Review**
- **Three-year plan Sub-Committee report out (Priority Areas)**
- **Public Comment**
- **Next Meeting Dates
September 17, 2024
November 12, 2024**
- **Adjournment**
- **Depart for James River Juvenile Detention Center (approximately 20-minute drive)**

At the start of the interview:

- Introduce yourself, tell why you are there, and how the information gleaned will inform policymakers.
- Explain that this is a voluntary interview and that he/she does not have to participate.
- Ask the youth's permission to be interviewed.
- Tell the youth that he/she does not have to answer any questions that he/she does not want to answer or feels uncomfortable answering.
- Explain that you are not here to discuss the details of his/her case or the reasons for any treatment that he/she may be receiving (e.g. mental health, drug or alcohol treatment);
- State that the information will be used to inform policymakers but that the youth's identity will be kept confidential.
- Ask the youth if they have any questions.

During the interview: If a youth discloses to you that he/she has been harmed by someone, is the victim of abuse, or intends to harm his/herself or others, you are required to tell the youth that you will report this information to the appropriate officials. If a youth starts providing details of his/her case, let him/her know again that you are not here to discuss the details of his/her case or to provide legal representation.

If a youth seems uncomfortable with any question, be sure to let him/her know that he/she does not have to answer any question that he/she does not want to answer.

Initiate the interview once the youth has agreed that he/she understands and has given his/her consent to proceed.

Script/Questions:

This is a voluntary interview and you do not have to participate. It will take roughly 45 minutes to an hour of your time;

For the purpose of today's interviews, we will focus on two topics, community services and programs. The work of the Advisory Committee is to address juvenile justice system improvements in Virginia. In order to do so we need to hear from those that are directly impacted by the system such as yourself.

Community Resources

1. Who do you turn to when you need help? teacher, counselor, staff, coach, law enforcement, parent?
2. In the community, what do youth consider to be a safe place? (parks, recreation centers, church, school, home, a friend's home, a neighbor's home, or a relative's home, etc.)? If there isn't any why?
3. How often did you have access to these safe places?
4. What do you believe is needed in the community to provide positive opportunities for our youth?
5. What are most common pitfalls that youth struggle with? Peer pressure? Substance use, family relationships, School?

Programming

1. What should a court-referred program look like for youth in the juvenile justice system?
2. What do you believe court programs should focus more on?
3. If you had the opportunity, how would you design a juvenile justice system?
4. What do you believe works? probation, evening reporting centers, community service, anger management etc.?

Control-the-world Question

If you had the power to change things for the better for youth, what part or parts of the system and community would you change? (could be in the community, police, family resources, school, anything).