

# CONNECTICUT RESULTS FIRST INITIATIVE

## **Policy Oversight Committee Meeting**

Thursday, September 19, 2013

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Legislative Office Building, Room 2D

Hartford, CT

**Members Present:** *Rep. Toni Walker (Chair), Al Calandro, Andrew Clark, John Clark, Libby Graham, Judy Greiman, Sen. Catherine Osten, Chris Reinhart (Representing OLR); Carrie Vibert, Elaine Zimmerman*

**Additional Attendees:** *Mike Lawlor (OPM), Rep. Tim Larson, Rep. Edwin Vargas, Rep. Jonathan Steinberg*

**Vacancies:** *(1) representative of the Connecticut business community appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, (1) representative of the business community appointed by the majority leader of the Senate*

**Working Group Members Present:** *Samuel Andoh, Brian Hill, Pat Hynes, Ashley Provencher, Robert Wysock*

### **MINUTES**

#### **I. MEETING CONVENED**

Representative Walker called the meeting to order at approximately 11:15 a.m.

#### **II. WELCOME**

Representative Walker welcomed everyone to the inaugural Results First Policy Oversight Committee meeting. She explained that Results First is a cost/benefit model which was originally created by Washington State. In 2007 Representative Walker witnessed the model's success while attending a conference and was determined to bring it to Connecticut.

In 2011, the Pew-McArthur Foundation began offering states technical assistance to implement the Washington State model (also known as Results First) and Connecticut was one of the first states to gain acceptance into the program. At the same time, these efforts were complemented by the Appropriations Committee's emphasis on Results Based Accountability. Through these initiatives, Connecticut was able to both reduce the cost of the juvenile justice system and improve young offenders' quality of life. Representative Walker recognized Mike Lawlor for spearheading the effort to bring Results First to Connecticut.

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### III. PRESENTATION: THE PEW MACARTHUR RESULTS FIRST NATIONAL INITIATIVE

Sara Dube, Manager of the Results First Initiative, presented on the national landscape of the Results First Project. This presentation is available for viewing at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/app/RFPO/taskforce.asp>.

### IV. PRESENTATION: WORK IN CONNECTICUT TO DATE

Andrew Clark introduced the members of the Results First Working Group and presented a historical overview of the initiative since 2011.

**a. Criminal Justice Component:** The Marginal Cost module of the Pew MacArthur Results First model calculates the cost of housing an inmate in a prison facility as well as costs incurred while being processed by the judicial system. Robert Wysock (OFA) and Samuel Andoh (SCSU) were given the responsibility of calculating this cost for offenders in Connecticut. Mr. Wysock and Dr. Andoh reported to the Committee that significant progress has been made in their calculations, and their confidence is high that the marginal cost calculations will stand up to national scrutiny.

Brian Hill (CSSD) analyzed Connecticut specific criminal justice data to understand existing offender patterns and their interfaces with intervention programs aimed at rehabilitation. The goal of this element of the model is to capture savings due to reduced recidivism. Mr. Hill reported to the Committee that Connecticut has high recidivism rates and there seems to be an opportunity to improve rehabilitation programs within the Department of Correction.

Dr. Ashley Provencher (Sienna College) analyzed the adult and juvenile justice programs operating in Connecticut and compared them to offender programs operating in Washington State. This is important because the Results First model is preloaded with data from Washington State's meta-analysis. Dr. Provencher reported that Connecticut has several programs that can be directly incorporated into the model and she is now prepared to analyze programs that were not included in the existing meta-analysis.

Andrew Clark reported that in the next few months, the Results First Working Group will prepare a Consumer Report's Digest on the criminal justice component of the model.

**b. Domestic Violence Assessment:** As per 2013 legislation, assessments are underway that will present an analysis of domestic violence programs offered by the Court Support Services Division and the Department of Correction relative to the Results First project. Members of the working group are participating in these assessments. Brian Hill anticipates that the CSSD report will be completed by March 2014.

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**c. Juvenile Justice Report:** The working group is currently examining ways to utilize the Results First model to analyze one or more of Connecticut's juvenile justice programs.

**d. Model Build Out Into Education & Child Welfare.** While no specific plan exists to expand the model into education and child welfare, Andrew Clark highlighted the advantage of leveraging the numerous experts available in the Connecticut State University System.

### V. NEXT STEPS

**a. Committee Meetings and Structure-** Representative Walker stressed that the purpose of the Policy Oversight Committee is to bring together experts to engage in a productive conversation about the cost/benefit analysis of state programs. Going forward, the Policy Oversight Committee will engage stakeholders in the collection and analysis of program information. The cost/benefit analysis of domestic violence, juvenile justice, and child welfare will be addressed at future meetings. A meeting schedule will be distributed to members via email and will be available on the Policy Oversight Committee website.

**b. Membership-** Individuals who wish to join the Policy Oversight Committee are welcome to express their interest, as the Committee remains open to accept additional members.

**c. October 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Report-** An Annual Report will be released in October summarizing the Results First Initiative's progress over the past 2 years. The report will be distributed to members via email and will be posted on the Policy Oversight Committee's website.

### VI. JANUARY 14, 2014 STATEWIDE CONFERENCE ON JUSTICE REINVESTMENT AND RESULTS FIRST

The Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy has reserved a meeting space at Central Connecticut State University to host a conference on Justice Reinvestment and Connecticut's Results First Initiative.

### VII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Representative Walker adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:45 p.m.