

PROGRAM SUMMARY

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR CURFEW/TRUANCY SERVICES

Since 1996 the City, through its Health Department, has partnered with Hennepin County and Minneapolis Public Schools under a Joint Powers Agreement to provide curfew/truancy services through the Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC). The JSC is an important resource for intervening with youth at the first sign of risk. It provides supervision, referral, and community-based aftercare services to adolescents ages 10-17 who encounter law enforcement officers in Hennepin County for truancy, curfew, and low level offenses (e.g. assault, theft, fare evasion, disorderly contact, etc.) that do not meet the admission criteria of the Hennepin County Juvenile Detention Center.

The JSC is open 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Youth who are brought to the JSC are screened for juvenile delinquency and mental health risk factors, reconnected with their families and, when appropriate, connected to community and government resources to help address the needs that may have contributed to the youth being brought to the JSC. Youth who visit the Juvenile Supervision Center receive:

- Risk and needs screening
- Mental health screening
- Assistance with parental/guardian involvement
- Connections to resources and referrals to community services
- A safe and supervised space with access to enriching and educational activities
- Information on rights and responsibilities

Many youth who visit the JSC receive community-based aftercare services tailored to the unique needs of each youth including:

- Case Follow-Up: Follow up with youth and parent or guardian
- Case Stabilization: Focused short-term service to ensure immediate safety and connection to services for youth who are homeless, precariously housed, mentally ill, chemically dependent, not enrolled in school or experiencing family crisis.
- Case Management: long-term, one-to-one support for youth who meet certain criteria

In 2015, the JSC had 1775 visits from 1218 unique young people. Of those, 411 participated in case management aftercare services. 75% of youth who visited the JSC did not re-enter within one year, and 74% of youth engaged in case management improved school attendance while on case management. Over the past 5 years 72% of visitors have been Minneapolis residents. In addition to generating positive outcomes, the JSC has been looked to as a model by other cities across the country.

The annual operating budget for the JSC is approximately \$760,000. Per the Joint Powers Agreement, the three partner entities share equally the costs of operating the JSC during curfew and truancy enforcement hours. That cost has been approximately \$295,000 total (\$98,333 per entity). Hennepin County alone contributes an additional amount for costs related to operation of the JSC during all remaining hours and aftercare services, which amounts to approximately \$463,000 per year.

The current Joint Powers Board (JPB) governing the JSC is comprised of representatives from the City (Mayor and City Coordinator), Hennepin County (County Attorney and County Administrator), Minneapolis Public Schools (Superintendent), and the Fourth Judicial District. The JPB meets annually to

make policy decisions, adopt an annual budget, review progress, and set priorities. A JSC Workgroup is made up of staff from each partner entity and the contracted service agency and meets monthly to oversee the work of the JSC. The City is represented on the Workgroup by staff from Health, Police, and the Mayor's office. JSC services are provided by a contracted youth-serving agency.

While funding for the JSC has been provided using CDBG public service funds since at least 1997 from fund/department 01400-8600111, other funding sources may need to be identified in the future for the City's portion if CDBG funds to the City are reduced or eliminated.

The new Joint Powers Agreement updates the language to reflect the evolution of the JSC that has occurred in the last twenty years, including the shift from being a curfew/truancy drop-off center to being a 24/7 resource serving both status offenders and low-level offenders. In addition to that and other language contemporization, some of the other key changes in the new agreement include:

- Change in the fiscal agent. Under the initial Joint Powers Agreement the City has served as the fiscal agent for the contract associated with the equally apportioned approx. \$295,000 contract, while Hennepin County has served as the fiscal agent for its approx. \$465,000 contract. Under the new agreement Hennepin County would serve as fiscal agent for both contracts rather than having separate fiscal agents for each contract.
- Removal of Fourth District Court as a voting member of the Joint Powers Board. District Court cannot be a member of the Board without being a party to the JPA, and having it as a party to the agreement raises questions about equal financial contribution from all parties.
- Addition of another voting member from Minneapolis Public Schools (Chief Academic Officer) to the Joint Powers Board so that each entity has equal representation on the Board.
- The new agreement has a term of ten years rather than twenty. The new agreement allows for an automatic renewal for additional five year periods unless the parties terminate or there is a new JPA.
- Change to allowing Board members to serve as officers for more than one year and reducing the number of officers.
- Establishment that any votes that take place within the JSC Workgroup will be limited to two votes per entity, regardless of the number of representatives from each entity.

In addition to the new Joint Powers Agreement, the MOU between the partners details the additional contributions outside the JPA. Under the MOU, the City would agree to provide the following services to assist in the operation of the JSC. Though no MOU is currently in place, all of these have been provided by the city for some time and are being provided by the City currently:

1. Physical space in Minneapolis City Hall
2. Utilities and space maintenance
3. Copier
4. Landline phones
5. Furniture for JSC space in Minneapolis City Hall
6. Two 40 hour per week Minneapolis Police Department Transport Officers

7. Minneapolis Police Department squad car
8. Staff time for coordination of JSC services
9. Training opportunities for JSC service provider staff
10. Mail service within Minneapolis City Hall
11. Building security

Each party has been and is currently providing their own respective additional contributions, which are also outlined in the MOU. These include the additional contract (approx. \$465,000) for additional operating costs and case management and transport van and related costs (Hennepin County), and computers and IT support (Minneapolis Public Schools).

For further information about the Juvenile Supervision Center please contact Josh Peterson, City of Minneapolis Health Department Youth Intervention Coordinator, at 612-673-2534.