

Introduction and PowerPoint

Slide 1

Welcome to the ___ roundtable! My name is ___ and I'm a member of the Juvenile Justice Workgroup that was established in June by leaders from all three branches of Kansas state government.

Slide 2

The Workgroup's priorities are to promote public safety and hold juvenile offenders accountable; control taxpayer costs; and improve outcomes for youth, families, and communities in Kansas. The workgroup was charged with developing proposals for comprehensive reform of the juvenile justice system that will be used as the foundation for statutory, budgetary, and administrative changes during the 2016 legislative session.

Slide 3

The bipartisan, inter-branch workgroup is made up of 17 members representing a broad array of stakeholders, including law enforcement, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, legislators, Court Services officers, and Community Corrections officers, among others.

Slide 4

The Workgroup is in the midst of our data analysis and system assessment stage. Starting in September we will begin discussing policy options, which will be finalized in November as policy recommendations. Throughout this process, we have been engaging with stakeholders like yourselves through meetings, surveys, and now roundtables, and we will continue to seek your input throughout this process.

Slide 5

The Workgroup is holding roundtable discussions to collect input from a wide range of stakeholders across the state. The information that is collected and discussed at this roundtable today and others throughout the state will be reported back to the Workgroup and state leadership for consideration in the policy development process occurring in September and October.

Slide 6

Looking at the national picture, we see that juvenile crime, arrest, and commitment have all decreased over the past several years. That is a great trend, and Kansas is in line with the trend of decreased crimes and arrests.

Slide 7

However, Kansas still has higher commitment rates than most states. And research has shown that for many youth, out of home placement actually increases the likelihood of recidivism.

Slide 10

I hope it's been helpful for you to hear this overview, and why Kansas is excited to engage in this process. Now, we want to hear from you about things that could be improved, and we also want to learn about things that are working well and could potentially be expanded. Your input is extremely valuable to this process, and we really appreciate your attendance here today, and thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend this roundtable.

Questions for all Roundtables

- What are the strengths of the Kansas juvenile justice system?

- What are areas in need of improvement within the Kansas juvenile justice system?
- Do you think the different components of the system – court services supervision, ISP, case management, JCF, and detention – work well together to create the best outcomes possible?