

JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGY GROUP YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL OVERVIEW FOR 2019-2021 COHORT

Overview

THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION



Objective

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group (JJSG) works with state and local juvenile justice stakeholders and agencies (such as probation departments, community-based organizations, district attorneys, judges, etc.) to improve outcomes for youth who become involved in the juvenile justice system. Over the years, this has involved eliminating the inappropriate use of secure confinement, replacing the youth prison model and transforming juvenile probation. JJSG's strategic priorities also include promoting racial and ethnic equity and inclusion in the face of the profound racial and ethnic disparities that persist in the juvenile justice system.

JJSG established a Youth Advisory Council in 2015 to ensure that the voices of system-impacted young people are included and elevated in juvenile justice reform efforts nationwide. The Youth Advisory Council works in partnership with the JJSG to inform and strengthen the Foundation's juvenile justice system reform efforts. To date, 22 currently and formerly juvenile justice system-involved youth have served on the Council and have improved the thinking and work of JJSG.

JJSG is recruiting and selecting young adults who are currently or formerly involved in the juvenile justice system to support its national juvenile justice strategy.

JJSG will support Council members as emerging leaders and young adult professionals. JJSG is excited to be recruiting this third cohort of youth leaders and is looking forward to advancing partnerships between the team at Casey and a group of youth advisors who will advance juvenile justice reform efforts nationally.

To learn more about the work of the JJSG please go to <http://www.aecf.org/work/juvenile-justice/> and to learn more about JJSG's flagship initiative, the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative® (JDAI), please visit <https://www.aecf.org/work/juvenile-justice/jdai/>

Interested in learning more about the JDAI online community? Check out the latest, browse resources, connect with peers and begin to imagine the ways you would like to contribute. Visit JDAIconnect.org to create your online profile. If you have any questions about JDAIconnect, reach out to Auri Whitaker at auri@pretrial.org.

Structure

The Council is led through a partnership between JJSG and Community Law In Action (CLIA), a Baltimore-based organization that develops young people as leaders and advocates for community change through public policy. The Council will consist of ten to 12 members who will represent the diverse populations within the juvenile justice system. The Council will establish procedures with JJSG and CLIA based on the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group's strategic goals, budget and staff capacity, as well as the ideas and goals of the Council members. The Council will work with JJSG and CLIA to develop recommendations for the JJSG on an ongoing basis and to create and implement individually-tailored professional development plans. The Council will participate in four in-person Council meetings per year, which includes JJSG's annual inter-site conference. Council members are expected to join monthly conference calls to remained engaged in the Council's activities between in-person meetings.

Commitment

Council members are appointed for two-year terms and may be considered for reappointment if the member meets the eligibility criteria. Council members will meet in-person four times each year at minimum. This does not include additional professional development conferences or other meetings they may be invited to attend. In-person Council meetings will be scheduled for three-day periods. For months with an in-person meeting, the Council will conduct its business predominately onsite. For months with no in-person meeting, Council members are expected to commit an average 5 hours per month toward the Council's work and professional development opportunities including at least one conference call.

Anticipated 2019 Council Meeting Dates

- February 27 – March 2, 2019
- June 4 – June 8, 2019
- September/October 2019 - JDAI Annual Inter-Site Conference
- December 3 – December 7, 2019

General Responsibilities of Council Members

Council members will work together to develop recommendations that inform and strengthen the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group's work. Council members will review materials, draft and edit reports and presentations, conduct field research, attend and present at conferences and meetings and participate in professional development activities

and email discussions. The council member role also includes being an active member of and developing content to engage the JDAIconnect online community, Casey's online destination for juvenile justice reformers to share resources, talk and learn about youth justice. The Council will also be charged with contributing to the development of a guide on youth engagement for state and local juvenile justice systems. Council members will work together on a collective impact project of their choosing, with the purpose of engaging in consensus building and collaboration to achieve a common goal.

Sponsor Organization

Each Council member is required to have a sponsor organization within their community that can provide navigation support during their term of service on the Council. Navigation support refers to helping the prospective Council member with personal issues and challenges that may arise during their term. The sponsor organization will serve as a point of contact for JJSG to provide an additional layer of support for Council members. We recommend that prospective Council members select an organization that they already have a relationship with and a primary contact person who will be responsive to the Council member's needs. The point-of-contact at the organization will be expected to write a letter of recommendation that also indicates that they will agree to sponsor the prospective Council member. For those applying as a representative of a youth council in their state or local jurisdiction, there is the option to choose the council or another organization as a sponsor and they should provide the prospective Council member with a letter of recommendation.

Benefits for Council Members

Council members will receive stipends at a rate of \$43.75 per hour for work completed during and between the in-person meetings and \$21.87 per hour for professional development time. Council members will receive their stipends at the conclusion of each of the four in-person meetings. Moreover, each Council member will work with JJSG and CLIA to create individualized development plans to support individual's goals as emerging leaders. Individualized plans will provide opportunities for the Council member to achieve professional goals, explore interests, and develop skills. Overall, Council members will gain valuable experience, build leadership skills, develop a sense of community, as well as support and contribute to a national juvenile justice reform movement.

Costs for Council Members

There are no financial costs incurred by Council members to serve on the Council. Based on Council member's travel schedule for in-person meetings, Council members' travel, hotel and meals will be covered.

Qualifications

Applicants may apply as individuals or as representatives of existing youth councils.

At a minimum, the candidate should have the following experiences, skills and qualities:

- 18–25 years of age on November 16, 2018, which is the application due date;
- past or current juvenile justice involvement (e.g., probation, detention, commitment, residential placement, incarceration, and/or aftercare/parole)
- willingness to listen and learn;
- passion about and commitment to juvenile justice reform;
- skills in problem solving and critical thinking; and
- past or current experience in juvenile justice reform (e.g., organizing, policy advocacy or development, program development, research)

The following experiences, skills, and qualities are preferred:

- interpersonal skills;
- strong writing and public speaking skills;
- political astuteness;
- knowledge of and/or direct connection to JDAI and/or the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group's work

If you are an individual who is applying to represent their state or local juvenile justice youth council, your council should have agreed that you are the designated member to pursue this opportunity. The council you represent should meet the following minimum qualifications:

- The youth council should have an explicit focus on the juvenile justice system and/or youth justice reform.
- At least 50 percent of the youth council's members should have current or former justice system involvement.
- The council representative that is nominated by the group should have former justice system involvement.

Selection Process

To apply, candidates must submit the appropriate application materials online or send as a PDF an application form and letters of recommendation to Kelsey Johnson, Program Manager, at kelsey@cliayouth.org, fax to 410.706.0041 or mail to 520 W. Fayette Street, Suite 140, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Applications are due by **Friday, November 16, 2018 at 11:59 p.m.** Candidates may be selected for an interview via video conference during the review process. If a candidate is selected for an interview, the candidate will be contacted directly. Candidates who are interviewed will be notified of final decisions by the end of January.

Questions

If you have questions regarding the Youth Advisory Council, you may contact:

- Kelsey Johnson at kelsey@cliayouth.org or 410.706.3875; or
- Zainab Farhat, JJSG Program Associate, at ZFarhat@aecf.org or 410.223.3330.