

**Council on the Children of Incarcerated Parents and Caregivers**
**Unapproved Meeting Minutes**
**April 9, 2025**

**Members Present:**

* Domnique Jones-Johnson (via Teams)
* Troy Hankton
* Renee Carthan
* Jasmine McDuffey (via Teams)
* Desiree Godfrey (Proxy for Dr. Dana Foster)
* Troynyah Hankton (via phone)
* Alfred Carter

**Staff Present:**

* Jolie V. Williamson, Director of Children’s Programs and the Children’s Cabinet

**Call to Order:**
As quorum was not met, the meeting was informational. The meeting was called to order at 10:09 AM by Domnique Jones-Johnson.

**I. Introductions**

* Domnique Jones-Johnson welcomed attendees and initiated participant introductions.
* Renee Carthan introduced herself as Policy Manager for Daughters Beyond Incarceration, supporting girls with incarcerated parents.
* Alfred Carter introduced himself as Confidential Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Juvenile Justice and a PhD candidate in Justice Studies.
* Desiree Godfrey served as proxy for Dr. Dana Foster, Director of the Office of Behavioral Health's Coordinated System of Care (CSOC) at LDH.
* Jasmine McDuffey introduced herself as Program Manager for the CSE ENT Program, focusing on non-custodial and custodial parents.
* Troynyah Hankton introduced herself as a child of a formerly incarcerated parent, with an interest in advocacy and equal rights.
* Troy Hankton introduced himself as a formerly incarcerated parent and current Family Reunification Specialist.

**II. Old Business – Council History and Goals**

* Domnique Jones-Johnson provided background on the Council’s formation in 2021, rooted in her personal experiences and resulting legislation. The Council serves as a bridge between families impacted by incarceration and state agencies.
* Alfred Carter emphasized the importance of inter-agency coordination and data collection to develop a comprehensive support plan.
* Troy Hankton shared his personal story as an incarcerated parent and fielded questions from Council members.

**III. New Business – Future Recommendations**

* Plans were introduced for a pilot program allowing incarcerated parents to attend milestone events such as graduations, virtually.
* The Council discussed strengthening collaboration with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to facilitate family engagement and visitation.
* Future expansion ideas include enabling attendance at events such as report card conferences and teacher meetings.
* Members noted the critical role of correctional staff support in implementing these initiatives.
* The Council agreed on the necessity of collecting data to support legislative advocacy for these efforts.
* Alfred Carter recommended legislation mandating the distribution of resource packets to families of incarcerated individuals.

**IV. Action Items**

* Members were encouraged to continue gathering data and coordinating with agencies to support the Council’s goals.
* Domnique and Jasmine discussed outreach to additional organizations and stakeholders to broaden Council representation.
* Jolie Williamson suggested the development of a public-facing website to centralize informational resources for families.

**Adjournment:**
The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 AM by Domnique Jones-Johnson.