

Minnesota Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC)
Youth Services Office
Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families
444 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

January 5, 2026

Subject: A Message from JJAC Chair Trahern Pollard

Greetings,

Minnesota's juvenile justice system is at an important moment of change. As policies evolve and expectations grow, the Minnesota Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) remains committed to building a system that is fair, effective, and centered on equity for all youth.

As an advisory body to the Governor and Legislature, JJAC works in partnership with youth, families, and system leaders to address long-standing challenges and advance solutions grounded in evidence, community wisdom, and lived experience. New perspectives and strong partnerships continue to strengthen our work and shape our shared vision.

In 2026, eliminating ethnic and racial disparities remains JJAC's highest priority. Our planning, funding, and policy recommendations are intentionally focused on supporting community-based solutions and practices that keep youth connected to their families and communities.

While meaningful progress is underway, more work remains. Lasting change depends on collaboration, creativity, and sustained commitment.

We invite you to join us in this important work. For more information, please contact Juvenile Justice Specialist **Callie Hargett** at Callie.Hargett@state.mn.us.

Kind Regards,



Trahern Pollard

Chair, Minnesota Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee

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