



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Committee/Task Force:	Juvenile Justice & Cross-System Youth Task Force		
Date of Meeting:	November 5, 2021	Time:	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Minutes Prepared By:	David Sexton	Location:	Held Virtually via Zoom

1. Meeting Objective(s)

Discuss the role of sub-committees after completing their recommendations/presentations to CISC.
 Receive guidance from CISC Executive Director Julie Whitman.
 Discuss the plan for the Task Force moving forward.
 Receive sub-committee reports.

2. Standing Members

Name	Organization	In Attendance (X indicates present)
Steve Balko	Indiana Department of Education	X
Jeff Bercovitz	Indiana Office of Court Services	
Sirrilla Blackmon	Family & Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health & Addiction	X
Coleen Connor	Tippecanoe County CASA	
Ann Davis	Indiana Association of Resources and Child Advocacy (IARCA)	
Terrie Decker	Indiana Department of Correction	X
Hon. Kimberly Dowling	Delaware Circuit Court #2	X
Tracy Fitz	Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council	X
Hon. Stephen Galvin	Co-Chair – Monroe County Circuitry Court #7	X
Kory George	Wayne County Probation	
James (Mike) Goodwin	Indiana Department of Child Services, Sullivan County	
Mike Gray	Madison County Probation Department	
JauNae Hanger	Children's Policy and Law Initiative	X
Jill Johnson	Marion County Public Defender Agency	
Heather Mollo	Jurist in Residence	X
Angela Reid-Brown	Indiana Office of Court Services	
Michael Ross	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	
Sandy Runkle	Prevent Child Abuse Indiana/The Villages	X
Don Travis	Indiana Department of Child Services	
Nancy Wever	Co-Chair – Indiana Office of Court Services, JDAI	
Julie Whitman	Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana	X
Joel Weineke	Indiana Public Defender Council	X

3. Staff/Guests

Name	Organization
Amber Becker	FSSA

4. Updates/Old Business

Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions
Approval of minutes from previous meeting	Minutes from previous meeting were not distributed.	Tabled.



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5. New Business/Presentations

Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions
Executive Director Update	<p>Julie Whitman offered three possible options for a subcommittee that has completed its charged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The subcommittee remains active and is involved in implementation of the recommendation. 2. Review their original objective and take on a new aspect of it. 3. Disband. <p>Judge Galvin agreed with Ms. Whitman that each of those options was a valid course of action depending on what subcommittee members feel they have to offer.</p> <p>The December 15 CISC meeting will be in Government Center South and will involve a reception for staff and volunteers after the meeting concludes.</p> <p>In 2022 the Commission will be embarking on a continuous quality improvement effort and preparing for the next strategic plan.</p>	



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6. Sub-Committee Reports

Topic	Report
Dual Status Implementation Committee	<p>Judge Mollo delivered the committee report. The committee has worked over the year to train users of the dual status screening tool and improve the consistency of its use. Of 51,000 preliminary inquiries reviewed, about 17% identified a child as dual status, when it was estimated that about 25% of youth in the justice system would be identified as dual status. Around one-third of counties have a perfect record of use of the dual status screening tool, whereas the other two-thirds of counties have missed completing the tool one or more times. Six counties were identified as missing the screening tool about half the time. There are four counties in the state that are either not completing preliminary inquiries or are not submitting them. A statewide training is scheduled for December 1 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST.</p> <p>Dual status tool questions will now be mandatory fields in the preliminary inquiry which Judge Mollo hopes will improve the rate of completion and the data the state receives.</p> <p>Judge Mollo will give an update to the Commission at their December 15 meeting.</p>
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Committee	<p>Judge Dowling delivered the committee report. The committee has been working on updating their tools and gathering feedback from counties. The Law Enforcement and Health Care tools will have to be reprinted. Through collaboration with the Indiana Office of Court Services the committee has updated the probation screening tool. They have a final copy and hope to see it go into production in the next six months. The committee has been drafting a user manual for the probation screening tool as well.</p> <p>The committee collaborated with DCS to update their regional human trafficking coordinator map.</p> <p>Another focus of the committee has been getting a juvenile enhancement to Indiana’s purchasing statute. The efforts did not lead to a legislative change in the last session, but Rep. McNamara intends to introduce the bill again in the upcoming session.</p> <p>The committee also has been working on a legislative change to automatically appoint counsel to a child identified as a human trafficking victim.</p> <p>Judge Dowling walked through the probation screening tool with members.</p>
Emergency Shelter Care Committee	Tabled.
Diversion Subcommittee	<p>Tracy Fitz delivered the committee’s update. The committee has been working to complete their diversion survey snapshot. Ms. Fitz shared a few data slides from the snapshot with members. She is hoping that going forward with legislative changes the committee can work with legislators to make sure that use of a screening tool is required. She is also looking at possibly redefining “informal adjustment” and defining a continuum.</p>
Preventing Serious and Violent Delinquent Behavior Committee	<p>Steve Balko delivered the committee’s report. The committee recently discussed data gaps and the current picture of data. Next steps for the committee include continuing to look at practices that are yielding promising results and continuing to evaluate the data. Mr. Balko hopes to start the recommendation drafting process soon.</p>
Youth and Family Engagement Committee	Tabled.
Reentry Committee	<p>Joel Wieneke delivered the committee report. The committee has circulated a survey and is compiling results and preparing a presentation. They have also circulated some best practices materials and are about to begin the process of smaller group interviews with some of the individuals who completed the survey.</p>



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Child and Adolescent Development Committee	<p>JauNae Hanger delivered the committee report. Ms. Hanger wished to acknowledge, on behalf of her committee, the work of CSG and the Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force. The committee is working on a recommendation to the Commission on adopting a minimum age (12) for prosecution and secure detention. This recommendation aligns with the minimum age that youth can be held in juvenile correctional facilities. Julie Whitman asked if Ms. Hanger could send everyone the recommendation and Ms. Hanger immediately distributed.</p> <p>Judge Galvin asked Judge Mollo for her thoughts. Judge Mollo indicated her full support for the recommendation.</p> <p>Judge Galvin noted that if this recommendation is adopted and becomes law, DCS will need to step in and fill a services gap. Don Travis further noted that there are a number of services that are not just housed in DCS, such as some in DMHA, so in his view it is a matter of being able to find the right services for a child in need. Ms. Hanger expressed that she felt that this recommendation as law could force change among mental health service providers to accommodate youth with serious behavioral and mental health problems.</p> <p>Ms. Whitman asked Ms. Blackmon if this recommendation were to go into effect with a one-to-two-year delay, if that would help bring mental health services stakeholders and policy makers to the table to build a sufficient safety net. Ms. Blackmon said that it might, and it would require leg work to figure out where agencies are now.</p> <p>Ms. Whitman suggested that if minimum age legislation does not come out of the CSG and Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force process, that this Task Force should consider raising their recommendation to the Commission. However, if there are minimum age recommendation made by the Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force this Task Force could offer its support based on its study.</p> <p>Amber Becker advocated for the Task Force bringing together youth serving stakeholders as soon as possible to make preparations for minimum age legislation.</p> <p>Judge Galvin agreed that the Task Force would await the recommendations from the Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force before making this recommendation to the Commission.</p>				
7. Action Items (Include recommendations/queries for Executive Committee)					
Action	Responsibility		Due Date		
N/A	N/A		N/A		
7. Adjournment					
Action			Time		
Meeting Adjourned			N/A		
8. Next Meeting					
Date:	1/7/2022	Time:	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Location:	Held Virtually
Topics/Objective(s):					