



# Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

<b>Committee/Task Force:</b>	Juvenile Justice & Cross-System Youth Task Force		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	May 5, 2023	<b>Time:</b>	9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. EDT
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>	Nancy Wever	<b>Location:</b>	Held Virtually via Zoom

## 1. Meeting Objective(s)

Orient new members, organize work of Strategic Plan objectives

## 2. Members

Name	Organization	In Attendance (X indicates present)
Steve Balko	Indiana Department of Education (IDOE)	x
Amber Becker	Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA)	
Honorable Vicki Carmichael (Co-Chair)	Clark Circuit Court #4	x
Ann Davis	Indiana Association of Resources and Child Advocacy (IARCA)	X
Terrie Decker	Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC)	X
Hon. Kimberly Dowling	Delaware Circuit Court #2	X
Tracy Fitz	Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (IPAC)	X
James (Mike) Goodwin	Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS), Sullivan County	X
Mike Gray	Madison County Probation Department	x
JauNae Hanger	Children's Policy and Law Initiative	X
Rebecca Humphrey	Tippecanoe County Government	x
Jill Johnson	Marion County Public Defender Agency, Juvenile Division	X
Samantha Lewis	Wayne County Probation	x
Leah Pezzarossi	Open Door Youth Services	X
Colleen Saylor	Indiana Office of Court Services (IOCS)	x
Don Travis	Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS)	X
Nancy Wever (Co-Chair)	Indiana Office of Court Services (IOCS)	X
Renee White	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (CJI)	
Joel Weineke	Indiana Public Defender Council (PDC)	X

## 3. Staff/Guests Present

Name	Organization
Mark Fairchild	Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana



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## 4. Strategic Objectives Update

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Main Points</b>	<b>(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions</b>
Objective #1: Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for identification, referral, and appropriate services for victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC)	<p>Judge Dowling reported that the Purdue Exemption Office contacted her approximately one year ago after receiving an Indiana Healthy Opportunities for People Everywhere (I-HOPE) grant asking to work collaboratively on CSEC. They have committed \$30K – some will be used to print the Quick Indicator tool for Healthcare professionals. Another potential use is for regional trainings for probation officers on the Screener tool. Many areas have already been trained. Knox and Lake county areas are only places where judicial contacts need to be made. Hope to have all areas trained by the end of this year. There is a recorded training option too.</p> <p>Committee wants to update strategic plan.</p>	<p>N/A – information only</p> <p>Nancy and Don to search for previous/old strategic plan to provide to Judge Dowling.</p>

## 5. Introductions and Check-In

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Main Points</b>	<b>(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions</b>
Group forming and organizing	<p>Task Force members introduced themselves and identified objectives of interest.</p> <p>Leah Pezzarossi - #2 and #4</p> <p>Ann Davis – all</p> <p>Don Travis – all</p> <p>Mike Goodwin - #3</p> <p>Mike Gray – implementation of previous recommendations and #2</p> <p>Joel Weineke - #3 and #4</p> <p>Jill Johnson - #3</p> <p>Tracy Fitz - #2 and #4</p> <p>Samantha Lewis - #1</p> <p>Mark Fairchild - #2</p> <p>JauNae Hangar - #4 (co-chair)</p> <p>Steve Balko - #3</p> <p>Colleen Saylor - #2 and #4</p> <p>Terrie Decker (in chat) – all</p>	N/A – information gathering



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## 6. Membership

Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions
Who are we missing?	<p>Judge Carmichael led a discussion about other agencies or individuals we should invite to membership on the Task Force. Suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BDDS</li> <li>Youth and families with lived experience (potential to invite some who are not serving on the CISC)</li> <li>Detention Center Director</li> <li>Diversity/Equity</li> <li>CASA (possibly Vanderburgh County Director, Suzanne Draper)</li> <li>Policy liaison from the Indiana General Assembly</li> </ul>	Nancy to coordinate reaching out to representatives of suggested stakeholder groups to invite for membership.
Structure	<p>Nancy gave overview of Task Force (TF) as a sub-group of the CISC, which operates on a three-year strategic plan cycle. The Plan is adopted by the CISC which assigns objectives to different Task Forces. This TF has operated by creating sub-committees to do the work which is then reviewed by the TF before presentation to the CISC so that the information or recommendation comes from the TF.</p>	N/A – information sharing

## 7. Organizing the Work

Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions
Creating sub-committees for objectives	<p>Judge Carmichael solicited volunteers to co-chair sub-committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objective #1 – Judge Dowling will continue</li> <li>Objective #2 – Leah Pezzarossi and Tracy Fitz</li> <li>Objective #3 – Joel Weineke and Steve Balko</li> <li>Objective #4 – JauNae Hanger and Rebecca Humphrey</li> </ul> <p>Judge Carmichael requested that co-chairs include Nancy and her in meeting invitations and information sharing.</p>	<p>N/A – information gathering</p> <p>Nancy to share information with Leah and Tracy re: past work on best practices to address status offenses.</p>



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Meeting Schedule	<p>The Task Force will meet on the first Friday of every other month, with a couple of exceptions due to holidays or other conflicts.</p> <p>Sub-Committees should be prepared to report activities at Task Force meetings.</p>		Meeting/calendar invitations have been sent for the remainder of the meetings for 2023.

## 8. Executive Director Update

Mr. Fairchild shared information about the recently completed legislative session. The CISC received funding to hire staff and potentially to provide stipends to youth members of the CISC and for the Youth Engagement Summit. The CISC became involved in some legislation that essentially privatized the DCS attorney role in some counties. It was able to get the proposal removed and requested that a study be undertaken to assess this before taking action.

Mr. Fairchild advised that the CISC is recruiting youth membership. It is his intent that youth vet all policy recommendations being considered by the CISC. He reported that the Equity, Inclusion and Cultural Competence and Trauma Committees have formally disbanded, although it is the expectation that all recommendations are considered through these lenses.

The next CISC meeting is on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) will be doing a version of the State of the Child for the CISC.

Mr. Fairchild shared that there may be consideration in changing the definition or term “vulnerable youth” as delineated by statute. Should it include youth with a 504 Plan through the education system? Are there others that are not currently included? There is a lot of focus on data – the Task Forces and sub-committees can utilize the Data Sharing and Mapping Committee for data requests. It is important to be able to understand the characteristics of youth in systems so that, ultimately we can focus on prevention efforts so that young people do not have to be in a system to access necessary services.

## 9. Action Items (Include recommendations/queries for Executive Committee)

Action	Responsibility	Due Date
Preparation and distribution of meeting minutes	Nancy	5/12
Locate CSEC Strategic Plan	Don and Nancy	6/2
Follow-up on previous recommendation to CISC (ESC presentation)	Nancy and Mark	7/7
Invite to membership – BDDS, youth, facility director, policy, CASA	Nancy to identify	7/7
Convene Sub-Committees	Co-Chairs	7/7

## 8. Adjournment

Action	Time
Meeting Adjourned	10:30 a.m.

## 9. Next Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	July 7, 2023	<b>Time:</b>	9:30-11:00 EDT	<b>Location:</b>	via Zoom
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