



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Committee/Task Force:	Juvenile Justice and Cross-System Youth Task Force		
Date of Meeting:	Sept. 4, 2020	Time:	9:00-11:00 am
Minutes Prepared By:	Ashley J. Barnett	Location:	Virtual- held via Zoom
1. Meeting Objective(s)			
Updates from sub-committees and Children's Commission			
2. Standing Members			
Name	Organization	In Attendance (X indicates present)	
Steve Balko	Indiana Department of Education	X	
Jeff Bercovitz	Indiana Office of Court Services	X	
Sirrilla Blackmon	Family & Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health & Addiction		
Coleen Connor	Tiptecanoe County CASA	X	
Ann Davis	Indiana Association of Resources and Child Advocacy (IARCA)	X	
Hon. Kimberly Dowling	Delaware Circuit Court #2		
Tracy Fitz	Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council	X	
Hon. Stephen Galvin	Co-Chair- Monroe County Circuit Court #7	X	
Kory George	Wayne County Probation	X	
James (Mike) Goodwin	Indiana Department of Child Services, Sullivan County		
JauNae Hanger	Children's Policy and Law Initiative	X	
Jill Johnson	Marion County Public Defender Agency	X	
Hon. Charles Pratt	Allen Superior Court, Family Relations Division	X	
Angela Reid-Brown	Indiana Office of Court Services		
Michael Ross	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	X	
Angela Sutton	Indiana Department of Correction		
Don Travis	Co-Chair- Indiana Department of Child Services	X	
Nancy Wever	Indiana Office of Court Services, JDAI	X	
Julie Whitman	Commission on Improving the Status of Children	X	
3. Staff/Guests			
Name	Organization		
Ashley Barnett	Staff- Indiana Office of Court Services, JDAI		
Amber Becker	Family & Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction		
Mike Gray	Madison County Probation, ESC Sub-Committee Co-Chair		
Angie Hensley-Langrel	Indiana Office of Court Services		
Waylon James	Indiana Department of Child Services		
Abbey Wenzel	Intern, Children's Law and Policy Initiative		
Joel Wieneke	Indiana Public Defender Council		
4. Updates/Old Business			
Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions	
Approval of minutes from previous meeting	No corrections noted.	Jeff Bercovitz moved to approve the minutes, Jill Johnson seconded. All voted in favor.	



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<p>Objective 1:</p> <p>Strengthen collaboration between juvenile probation, mental health, the Department of Child Services, prosecutors, and public defenders at the county level, across the state, especially with regard to dual status children</p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Magistrate Gaither</p> <p>Don Travis provided the update. There has been work taking place in a number of areas within the Dual Status Implementation Committee at IOCS. There is consideration of more training for counties as well as updating the Resource Guide that was initially released in 2015-2016. The committee is scheduled to meet later today to continue working on updates to the Resource Guide, and the full sub-committee is scheduled to meet in 2 weeks. Don referenced a memorandum decision related to Dual Status Assessment Teams from the Appellate Court that may inform recommendation(s) from this Committee. Judge Pratt and Joel Wieneke provided some additional context on decision.</p>	<p>Ann Davis noted that co-chair Matt Gooding provided an update at the provider meeting held the day before, and some facilities indicated they had not received the survey. She offered to assist with disseminating the survey; Mike will follow up with Matt to make sure all facilities receive it and have a chance to respond. Ann will also provide the names of the facilities who reached out to her so Mike and Matt can follow up accordingly.</p>
<p>Objective 2:</p> <p>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>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Judge Dowling and Judge Harvey</p> <p>No report out, no one from this sub-committee was present.</p>	
<p>Objective 3:</p> <p>Increase alternatives to detention for youth, such as shelter care, assessment centers, intake centers, and alternative therapeutic settings</p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Mike Gray and Matt Gooding</p> <p>Mike Gray provided the update. The sub-committee continues to meet monthly. Recently a survey was sent to ESC providers seeking to understand admissions criteria, reasons for denial, communication with the youth's home community, role the facility plays in discharge planning, etc. During the last meeting, sub-committee members discussed the survey results; about half of the responses noted concerns with taking youth with sexually maladaptive behaviors and mental health needs. One area for consideration is assisting more facilities with meeting the needs of youth who are victims of human trafficking. In addition, the sub-committee connected with Robin Donaldson with Indiana Youth Services Association who presented about the Safe Place model at a recent meeting. There may be some promise with Safe Place being added to the continuum of services as an alternative to ESC.</p> <p>Judge Galvin discussed that it would be helpful to share the Equity Guide for Decision-Making Tool with</p>	



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<p>Objective 4:</p> <p>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for preventing and diverting youth from entering the juvenile justice system</p>	<p>the sub-committee as a resource for facilities to understand how much discretion is built into their decisions around intake; the tool could be used to help them identify and mitigate those areas of subjectivity/discretion.</p> <p>Co-Chair(s): Tracy Fitz and Megan Horton</p> <p>Tracy Fitz provided the update. The sub-committee held its second meeting on August 26. Magistrate Berish from Boone County and Judge Travis from Jackson County were added to the group. They firmed up the goals of the sub-committee, which center around identifying best practices and model programs for diversion. They hope to add someone from a community-based and/or faith-based organization to help them keep equity at the forefront. They also discussed decision points at which diversion could/shoud happen. Next steps include convening a small group to develop a survey that will be distributed by the end of the year to court staff across the state, at various decision points, to gather information about what is currently happening related to diversions. The next meeting is scheduled for October.</p>	<p>Kory George offered POPAI’s assistance with distributing the survey. Julie Whitman will forward the name of a potential contact with a faith-based organization connected to the juvenile justice system.</p>
<p>Objective 5:</p> <p>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for preventing serious and violent delinquent behavior</p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Steve Balko and Bob Bragg</p> <p>Steve Balko provided the update. They hope to get another sub-committee meeting scheduled in the next few weeks where they will focus on definitions and groups they hope to meet with to help define goals and develop recommendations.</p>	
<p>Objective 6:</p> <p>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising programs to engage justice-involved youth and parents in effective treatment, services, and community connections</p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Coleen Connor and Rebecca Humphrey</p> <p>Coleen Connor provided the update. The sub-committee met in July to review survey results and make sure they reached the right people. They recognized the need to reach out to Probation Officers to identify what community-based services are being offered and how youth and families are connecting to them. The response rate was only about 25% so they are looking at ways to make sure responses are representative of the entire state. In addition, a number of responses fell into the “other” category so it was hard to come to any sort of conclusion from that section. A final action step is that they would provide a resource of services for communities to reference. It will not include any type of treatment modalities but will show innovative strategies being used in communities</p>	



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5. New Business/Presentations			
Topic	Main Points	(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions	



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<p>Video Review- Equity, Inclusion and Cultural Competence Sub-Committee Presentation from the June CISC Meeting, Equity Guide for Decision-Making</p>	<p>The Task Force viewed the Equity, Inclusion and Cultural Competence Presentation from the June 2020 CISC Meeting where the Equity Guide for Decision-Making was discussed. The assessment tool that was described was adopted in August and can be located here: https://www.in.gov/children/files/Commission%20Equity%20Guide.final.pdf</p> <p>JauNae Hanger asked whether the tool would be made available more widely, such as at conferences and in other professional associations; Julie Whitman said they are working on this and asked for ideas on how to share. She will also look for opportunities to present the information at upcoming conferences. Nancy Wever said that all JDAI sites have received the tool and participated in the Implicit Bias Training Institute. Some sites have conducted equity impact assessments in areas such as policies and probation rules.</p>	<p>Don Travis noted that as the Task Force moves forward with making recommendations to the CISC, they should do so through the lens of equity, and consider using the equity assessment tool. If there are further questions about the tool, someone from the Sub-Committee will be asked to attend our next meeting.</p>
<p>Commission Update</p>	<p>Julie Whitman provided the update. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 21 via Zoom. Nothing discussed from today's meeting needs to go on the agenda. The Juvenile Justice System Review Task Force will hold its first meeting on September 30, a grant from the Lilly Endowment will support CSG's work. The Data Sharing and Mapping Committee has been working to pull together aggregate data to help this Task Force get a feel for the kind of data available at the state level. They may also sample more detailed data from a few counties. CSG is already gathering information about the types of juvenile justice system reports already available, and will also conduct focus groups and interviews with stakeholders. Some members of the JJ/CS Youth Task Force are also part of the JJ System Review Task Force and others will likely be contacted for an interview. The project should be complete by March/April 2021 and next steps will follow.</p> <p>The Commission's Annual Report is available on the Commission website.</p>	<p>JauNae Hanger asked if the final composition of the System Review Task Force would be shared, whether data flow would be coordinated between the JJ/CS Youth Task Force and the System Review Task Force, and if regular reports from the System Review Task Force would be made to our Task Force. Julie answered yes to all questions and will share pertinent information and facilitate communication between both groups.</p>



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Other Discussion	<p>Don Travis and Judge Galvin would like to attend sub-committee meetings as their schedules permit. Don suggested including both of them when sending meeting invites to sub-committee members.</p> <p>Kory George highlighted some recent issues with gangs and violence in the Richmond/Muncie areas, asked if there were any resources available to assist them. Don Travis suggested reaching out to Tippecanoe, St. Joseph, Elkhart and Vanderburgh counties, and Julie Whitman shared the following resource: https://youth.gov/feature-article/gang-prevention-overview-research-and-programs.</p> <p>The Children’s Law and Policy Initiative is hosting a lunch series focused on trauma, the August meeting was well-attended. The next one is scheduled for Sept. 23 and will focus on LGBT youth; the Oct. 28 meeting will focus on racial trauma. Here is the registration link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trauma-healing-and-prevention-virtual-lunch-series-tickets-109660659986</p>		
Next Year’s Meeting Calendar	<p>Don Travis will work with Julie Whitman and Jeff Bercovitz to coordinate next year’s meeting dates, similar to how they were this year (the first Friday of every other month, before Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee and a few weeks before each Commission Meeting). Commission meeting dates have not yet been set but once they are, Don will propose and share 2021 Task Force meeting dates at the next meeting.</p>		



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6. Action Items (Include recommendations/queries for Executive Committee)					
Action		Responsibility		Due Date	
Update tracking document with sub-committee goals and timelines.		Sub-committee chairs		Ongoing	
Submit member rosters and written updates for each Task Force meeting.		Sub-committee chairs		Ongoing	
Submit sub-committee minutes to Ashley Barnett		Sub-committee chairs		Ongoing	
7. Adjournment					
Action					Time
Nancy Wever moved to adjourn the meeting; Tracy Fitz seconded.					10:47 am
8. Next Meeting					
Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	November 6, 2020	Time:	9:00-11:00am	Location:	TENTATIVE (likely virtual)
Topics/Objective(s):	Confirm 2021 meeting dates				