



# Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

<b>Committee/Task Force:</b>	<b>Juvenile Justice and Cross-System Youth Task Force</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	January 8, 2021	<b>Time:</b>	9:00-11:00 am
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>	Ashley J. Barnett	<b>Location:</b>	Virtual- held via Zoom
<b>1. Meeting Objective(s)</b>			
Updates from sub-committees and Children's Commission.			
<b>2. Standing Members</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>In Attendance (X indicates present)</b>	
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		
Coleen Connor	Tippecanoe 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		
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	X	
JauNae Hanger	Children's Policy and Law Initiative		
Jill Johnson	Marion County Public Defender Agency	X	
Hon. Charles Pratt	Allen Superior Court, Family Relations Division		
Angela Reid-Brown	Indiana Office of Court Services	X	
Michael Ross	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	X	
Angela Sutton	Indiana Department of Correction		
Don Travis	Indiana Department of Child Services	X	
Nancy Wever	Co-Chair- Indiana Office of Court Services, JDAI	X	
Julie Whitman	Commission on Improving the Status of Children	X	
<b>3. Staff/Guests</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>		
Ashley Barnett	Staff- Indiana Office of Court Services, JDAI		
Angi Burrows	Indiana Department of Correction		
Terrie Decker	Indiana Department of Correction		
Mike Gray	Madison County Probation, ESC Sub-Committee Co-Chair		
<b>4. Updates/Old Business</b>			
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Main Points</b>	<b>(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions</b>	
Approval of minutes from previous meeting	No corrections noted.	Kory George moved to approve the minutes, Jill Johnson seconded. All voted in favor.	



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Review of CISC Strategic Goal 4 and Objectives	<p>Strategic Goal 4: Improve safety and outcomes of youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system, as measured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of counties regularly holding Dual Status Assessment Team Meetings</li> <li>- Number of JDAI counties</li> <li>- Number of delinquency and status cases filed</li> <li>- Number of youths waived to adult court</li> <li>- Number of youths with justice system history re-entering the adult system</li> <li>- Ratio of disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system at various points</li> </ul> <p>Nancy Wever asked whether the Task Force should be reporting out on the outcomes noted above; Julie Whitman said the Task Force is not responsible for reporting this data but if it is available, the Commission would welcome it. The outcome measures are one way to determine if the State of Indiana is moving in the right direction.</p>	<p>Nancy suggested keeping the goal and objectives on each agenda as a reminder to keep the Task Force focused on the overarching goals.</p>	



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<p><b>Objective 1:</b></p> <p><b>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</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Jurist in Residence/ Senior Judge Heather Mollo</p> <p>Judge Galvin reported that since Judge Geoff Gaither has been appointed Marion County Judge, Judge Heather Mollo now serves Chair of the Dual Status Implementation Committee and will report out in the future. Nancy Wever said she spoke with Angela Reid-Brown who noted the committee will hold a mini strategic planning session to make sure they are still on track with meeting their goals. The session is planned for mid-February, they may reach out to individuals from this Task Force to participate.</p>	
<p><b>Objective 2:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for identification, referral, and appropriate services for victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC)</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Judge Dowling and Judge Harvey</p> <p>Neither Judge Dowling nor Harvey were present. The next sub-committee meeting is scheduled for today at 10am. Nancy Wever said Judge Dowling is working to put the CSEC training on video so it can be accessed without her being in person. Julie Whitman said they are also working to survey probation officers on use of the CSEC screening tool, as well as development of the tool through a digital application that can be more easily accessed. Judge Dowling has been doing legislative advocacy around child trafficking and hopes to increase penalties for offenders.</p>	
<p><b>Objective 3:</b></p> <p><b>Increase alternatives to detention for youth, such as shelter care, assessment centers, intake centers, and alternative therapeutic settings (ESC)</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Mike Gray and Matt Gooding</p> <p>Mike Gray provided the update. The sub-committee did not meet in November so there is not much to update. They continue working to develop ESC resources for Family Case Managers (FCMs) and Probation Officers (POs) to access through the SharePoint site. In addition, Mike has been in touch with Anderson University and Strategies for Youth to discuss creating a “Fostering the Teen Brain” training curriculum for foster parents. The sub-committee is discussing ways to incentivize foster agencies and families to participate in additional trainings and accept higher need youth, i.e. youth with sexually maladaptive behaviors, CSEC, youth with higher level delinquency offenses, etc. Ann Davis said IARCA members have also been discussing ways to serve higher need youth and how best to support families that work with them.</p>	<p>Ann Davis agreed to join this sub-committee since IARCA is having similar conversations.</p> <p>Mike Gray said the sub-committee is developing recommendations and wondered at what point should we present to the full Commission. Julie Whitman said when presenting to the Commission, the sub-committee does not “need to have the entire problem solved.” In fact, pointing out where there are gaps in services can and should be part of the presentation.</p>



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<p><b>Objective 4:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for preventing and diverting youth from entering the juvenile justice system (Prevention and Diversion)</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Tracy Fitz and Megan Horton</p> <p>Neither sub-committee co-chair was in attendance. Nancy Wever reported that the group is working to understand what prevention and diversion programs are currently available across the state.</p>	<p>Nancy Wever will follow up with the co-chairs to see when they might be ready to present to the full Commission.</p>
<p><b>Objective 5:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices for preventing serious and violent delinquent behavior</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Steve Balko and Bob Bragg</p> <p>Steve Balko provided the update. The sub-committee is continuing to review violence prevention programs, such as the Youth Violence Prevention model, CURE Violence and VOICES in Marion County. Chase Lyday, President of the Indiana School Resource Officers Association, joined the sub-committee. In addition, the Indiana Minority Health Coalition will be recommending a staff person to join the group. One area of focus is to determine whether there is a difference in effectiveness between school-based vs. community based programs. While they are not prepared to share data, the sub-committee is preparing to give a broad status update to the Commission, as this is an area of interest for them.</p>	<p>Steve Balko will send Ashley Barnett the definition of youth violence the sub-committee developed as well as the information submitted in the bulk data request. He will also share the definition with Julie Whitman in preparation for the February Commission meeting.</p>
<p><b>Objective 6:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising programs to engage justice-involved youth and parents in effective treatment, services, and community connections (Youth and Family Engagement)</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Coleen Connor and Rebecca Humphrey</p> <p>Coleen Connor provided the update. The sub-committee is reviewing results of the survey released several months ago and is learning that there is much variation in practice in how communities engage youth and families. While electronic monitoring and home detention tend to be common in many communities, those programs are not as effective in terms of meeting the needs of youth and families. Community-based services are where they turn for resources and support. There is variation in the types of communities served (rural, urban, suburban, etc.) as well the types of services available and access to them based on the location of the community. Rural areas tend to rely on faith-based organization and/or smaller community centers for services. The group is moving toward preparing information on the types of services indicated to be the most helpful. Julie Whitman connected Coleen to David Reed and Dr. Rodriguez who are part of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Task Force. They discussed the MST model and how it could be used across the state. Dr. Rodriguez is considering joining the the sub-committee. They are looking at contemporary research and the Annie E. Casey</p>	<p>Coleen Connor will send the next meeting date to Judge Galvin and Nancy Wever.</p> <p>Amber Becker will reach out to the FSSA Deputy Director to see if she or someone else can join this sub-committee as this is an area of interest for them.</p> <p>Judge Galvin noted that many of the preliminary recommendations seem to fit with the FFPSA that will soon be implemented, and encouraged Coleen to incorporate this into recommendations they will make. In addition, the recommendation of the Child and Family Team Meeting model, particularly for youth on probation, will be part of the sub-committee's recommendations.</p>



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	<p>Foundation's KIDS Count Data to get a sense of what is going on across the State. The next meeting is scheduled at the end of the month.</p> <p>Julie Whitman raised the issue of the difference in functioning of delinquency and CHINS courts, and how sometimes, the delinquency court sees its sole function as working with just the child. She wondered if the workgroup could consider recommendations to change this dynamic and integrate working with not just the child but also their family. Judge Galvin noted that each court has its own specific approach but that the same services available to families in CHINS court are available to families in delinquency court. Don Travis said DCS has been working toward the family model and learning about ways to better engage with families.</p>	
<p><b>Objective 7:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices to support youth transitioning back to their families and communities from corrections, secure detention, and residential programs (Re-Entry)</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Joel Wieneke and Angela Sutton</p> <p>Neither co-chair was present so Jill Johnson provided the update. The sub-committee is focused on developing a survey aimed at collecting information about re-entry services available across the state. Dr. Matt Aalsma connected them with a post doctoral fellow who assisted with developing the survey and will analyze the data once available. She also conducted a literature review which focuses on best practices in re-entry that will help guide recommendations. The survey is ready to go; Joel Wieneke is working on the list of people who will receive it. The next meeting date has not yet been set as they want to wait for the survey to be distributed.</p>	<p>Nancy Wever asked Terrie Decker if there had been discussion about her stepping into the role of co-chair for the sub-committee since Angela has moved into a different role. Terrie said no, so she and Nancy will follow up with Joel Wieneke.</p>
<p><b>Objective 8:</b></p> <p><b>Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising practices and policies that integrate the science of child and adolescent development into the justice system's response to children and youth</b></p>	<p>Co-Chair(s): Judge Pratt and JauNae Hanger</p> <p>Neither co-chair was present, no update provided.</p>	<p>Judge Galvin will follow up with the co-chairs.</p>
<p><b>Sub-Committee Process and Examples- Julie Whitman</b></p>	<p>Julie Whitman reviewed the "Suggested Process for Subcommittees Tasked with Strategic Objectives" document. All Task Force members received a copy via email. The document provides guidance on moving sub-</p>	<p>Task Force Members who do not have access to the Teams site should let Julie Whitman and Ashley Barnett know. Also, sub-committee chairs</p>



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<p><b>Executive Director Update- Julie Whitman</b></p>	<p>committees toward meeting their stated objectives and providing recommendations to the Full Commission. It will be posted in the Teams site.</p> <p>Earlier in the meeting, Mike Gray asked how the sub-committees will know they are “done.” Julie Whitman said the recommendations from the sub-committees should be vetted through the Task Force before going to the Full Commission. Nancy Wever offered to work with sub-committees to review their report-outs, particularly if there is no Task Force meeting scheduled prior to the Commission meeting where the recommendation will be discussed.</p> <p>The link to the December 15 Commission meeting is posted on the website for those that wish to view. There were several equity resources provided, they are available with the December meeting materials. The Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force (group working with CSG on the assessment) is scheduled to meet January 15 from 2-4pm and will be webcast. Once this work concludes, CSG will present preliminary findings of their work. The State of the Child, in collaboration with the Indiana Youth Institute, is scheduled for January 26 at noon. The event will be in-person but is limited to 40 people. It will also be webcast. The next Full Commission meeting is scheduled for February 17; John Hammond with the Executive Branch will chair the Commission this year. Julie will be tracking all bills related to children during this Legislative Session and provide updates on the website.</p>		<p>were reminded to update the Strategic Plan tracker regularly.</p>



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<b>5. New Business/Presentations</b>					
<b>Topic</b>		<b>Main Points</b>		<b>(R)ecommendations/(D)ecisions</b>	
<b>6. Action Items (Include recommendations/queries for Executive Committee)</b>					
<b>Action</b>			<b>Responsibility</b>		<b>Due Date</b>
Objective 1: Reach out to Senior Judge Mollo to invite her to join the Task Force and/or provide reports for Task Force Meeting			Judge Galvin		Feb. 1
Objective 2: Determine status of recorded training and request reports for future Task Force Meetings			Nancy Wever		Feb. 1
Objective 3: Discuss timeline and content for presentation to CISC			Sub-committee		Next ESC meeting
Objective 4: Determine status of survey and request Sub-committee discuss timeline and content for presentation for CISC			Nancy		Feb. 1
Objective 5: Send definition of youth violence for distribution to Task Force; if no objection, may present this and information about bulk data request to CISC			Steve Balko		Feb. 1
Objective 6: Discuss timeline and content for presentation to CISC			Sub-committee		Next SC meeting
Objective 7: Connect Joel Wieneke and Terrie Decker, as Terrie is now in the role previously held by Angela Sutton; distribute survey			Nancy Wever; Sub-committee		Feb. 1; next SC meeting
Objective 8: Follow up with co-chairs to request status of work and invitations to meetings for Nancy and him			Judge Galvin		Feb. 1
Discuss plan for meeting with sub-committee co-chairs to develop consensus on roles, responsibilities and how to support work			Judge Galvin, Nancy Wever		Next meeting
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
<b>7. Adjournment</b>					
<b>Action</b>					<b>Time</b>
Judge Galvin adjourned the meeting.					11:04 am
<b>8. Next Meeting</b>					
<b>Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)</b>		March 5, 2021		<b>Time:</b>	9:00-11:00am
<b>Topics/Objective(s):</b>				<b>Location:</b>	Virtual