

MINUTES

Juvenile Advisory Committee

February 6, 2026

via Microsoft Teams

1. **Attendees:**

- a. Members: Alicia Gooden, Holly Harvey (Chair), Ryan King, Kaarin Lueck, Lori K. Morgan, Aaron Negangard, Dan Pappas, Joann Price, and Graham Polando.
- b. IOCS Staff: Mindy Pickett (committee staff), Jamie Devine, Colleen Saylor, and Leslie Dunn.
- c. Guests: Hon. Dana Kenworthy, Senior Judge Heather Mollo

2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the October 3, 2025, committee meeting were approved.

3. **FFY 2025 Court Performance Measures Update:** Jamie Devine reminded committee members that scholarships are available through the CIP program for judicial education and/or professional organization dues. Colleen Saylor presented data from 2025 fiscal year court performance measures. The data represents all cases in which wardship was terminated between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025. Positive data trends include the number of median days to permanency has drastically changed from 2021 to 2025 from 592 days to 470 days and the number of days to reunification are under the national standard. Committee members may reach out to Colleen or Jamie for more information about their individual counties.

4. **2026 Legislative Session:** Judge Harvey reviewed current pending legislation related to juvenile law. The committee expressed concerns with SB 171 and the issues it might cause between adoption and juvenile courts. Committee members suggested a trial rule change to set forth the procedure between the two courts. T.R. 12(B)(8) may already provide guidance when an action is pending elsewhere even when the cases are titled differently but are about the custody of the child. The committee agreed to inform ICJFCJ, through Judge Campbell, that our committee has concerns. Judge Harvey volunteered to take a look at possible rule amendments to address the issue for the next meeting.

5. **Other business:**

- a. DCS Prosecutor Pilot: Judge Harvey informed committee members that the prosecutor pilot is not moving forward. There were concerns about the constitutionality of prosecutors being DCS counsel.
- b. Youth Justice Oversight Committee (YJOC) Update: Judge Kenworthy provided an update on the YJOC and the workgroups. The next round of grant applications are due mid-February. There is still \$43 million of the \$60 million available. There is a diversion guide available that outlines programming throughout the state. The behavioral health workgroup will be publishing guidance on telehealth soon. The data workgroup is working with 11 counties on data quality improvement.
- c. Open Discussion: The committee discussed a letter from DOC-DYS that was recently distributed to judicial officers regarding release notifications. Committee members discussed their practices when reinstating delinquency jurisdiction. A copy of the letter will be distributed to committee members via email following the meeting. The committee briefly discussed concerns with the length of stay for some children for competency restoration. There was a

request to discuss at a future meeting how committee members are handling the limitation of provision of reunification services statute (I.C. 31-34-20-1.6).

- d. The chair canceled the March 6, 2026, meeting. The committee tentatively agreed to meet in person one time per year and plan to do so in October this year.

2026 MEETINGS: May 1, August 7, October 2, and December 4