

Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2024

The Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council met on January 12, at 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in Capital Center in Indianapolis. Justice Christopher Goff chaired the meeting.

1. Members present. The following members of the Council were present:

- Bernice Corley, executive director of Indiana Public Defender Council
- Christine Blessinger, designee for the commissioner of the Indiana Department of Correction
- Mary Kay Hudson, designee for chief administrative officer of Office of Judicial Administration
- Sheriff Dan Mawhorr, president of Indiana Sheriffs' Association
- Judge Mark Spitzer, designee for president of Indiana Judges Association
- Troy Hatfield, president of Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana
- Shelby Thomas, proxy for Governor
- Andrew Cullen, proxy for chair of Indiana Public Defender Commission
- Zoe Frantz, president and CEO of Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers
- Steve McCaffrey, president and CEO of Mental Health America of Indiana
- Jade Palin, designee for executive director of Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
- Chris Naylor, executive director of Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council
- Scott Hohl, president of Indiana Association of Community Corrections Act Counties

2. Members absent. The following members did not attend the meeting:

- Howard Simms, designee for executive director of Division of Mental Health and Addiction
- David Bottorff, executive director of Association of Indiana Counties
- Daniel Glass, designee for State Budget Director
- Rep. Wendy McNamara, chair of House Courts and Criminal Code Committee
- Sen. Aaron Freeman, chair of Senate Corrections and Criminal Law Committee
- Rep. Mitch Gore, ranking minority member of House Courts and Criminal Code Committee

- Sen. Rodney Pol, ranking minority member of Senate Corrections and Criminal Law Committee

- 3. Guests.** The following attended the meeting as guests: Denise Symdon and Richard Stroker from the Center for Effective Public Policy; Angie Estes from the Department of Correction; Lisa Thompson and Dave Williams from the Office of Court Technology (video).
- 4. Staff.** Jenny Bauer, April Dubree, Michelle Goodman, Chris Biehn, David Sexton, Jamie Bergacs, and Natasha Phillis attended as staff from the Office of Judicial Administration.
- 5. Approval of minutes.** The Advisory Council approved the minutes from the December 8, 2023, meeting on motion and second by Sheriff Dan Mawhorr and Chris Naylor.
- 6. Workgroup Reports.**
 - a) Annual Reports Workgroup.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that the bill on annual reports by ICJI and DOC has not yet been filed for the 2024 legislative session of the Indiana General Assembly.
 - b) Racial Equity Workgroup.** Steve Luce reported that the next meeting is scheduled for February 15. He also reported that Dr. Lowder requested an additional month to collect pilot data. The workgroup granted the request and looks forward to her report.
 - c) Local JRAC Workgroup.** Chris Biehn reported that the workgroup has not met since December. He also reported that the counties working with the Center for Effective Public Policy are re-starting after a holiday break.
 - d) JRAC Reports Workgroup.** Michelle Goodman reported that the Q4 reporting period is open and 6 counties have submitted so far. She also reported that the subcommittee reviewed the Q2 and recommends approval by the Advisory Council. Bernice Corley moved to approve the Q2 reports and post online and Scott Hohl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Goodman further reported that the annual report will be published soon after the Q4 reporting period ends and that the new LIT tax law requires counties to report to JRAC. She met with the Association of Indiana Counties to discuss how to set up reporting.

7. Indiana JRAC through lens of EBDM Model discussion.

- a) Team Charter review.** The Advisory Council members reviewed the team charter and did the following:
- Adopted the charter with amendments on motion and second by Mary Kay Hudson and Judge Mark Spitzer.
 - Authorized staff to make edits on motion and second by Andrew Cullen and Mark Spitzer.
 - Authorized staff to post the team charter on the JRAC website on motion and second by Andrew Cullen and Mark Spitzer.
- b) System map review.** Chris Biehn reported that he made the changes to the system map requested at the last meeting. The Advisory Council members discussed the new maps for pretrial and problem-solving courts. Staff will continue to work on these maps and the Pretrial Committee will review the pretrial map for feedback. The Advisory Council will complete the maps in the next few meetings.
- c) Decision-point narrative review.** The Advisory Council discussed the following decision-points:
- Decision Point #2 on Pretrial Status
 - “What currently happens”: need new section for certified pretrial; new research since 2016; data from SRS and INjail are new data sources; add performance measures; need to revise bail language
 - “Opportunities for improvement”: funding; expand certification; refer to manual; new data initiatives
 - Data: remove references to Software Unlimited
 - Decision Point #8 on Probation, Parole, Community Corrections Interventions: need information on research; update IJC to IOCS; add references to local JRACs; add reference to system map; update references to “offenders”
 - Suggestions to review narrative sections: 1) does the narrative reflect the system map, 2) research reviews and updates, 3) where is data and what are we doing with it, 4) opportunities for change.
- d) Sustainability Plan review.** Under the governance-focused objectives of the plan, the members discussed that most of the items in Objective 2 (establishing the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of EBDM in Indiana) have been accomplished. On Objective 3 (develop an overall criminal justice and EBDM funding strategy), the members discussed that the funding strategy has been piece-meal and dedicated funds are needed. In addition, the members discussed the need for funding infrastructure and an inventory of available funding to recommend allocation. Under the process-focused objectives of the plan, the members discussed that critical

incident response protocol should be separated from the communication plan.

- 8. Next Meeting Date.** The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the South Tower of the Capital Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Office of Court Services