



Local JRAC Workgroup

Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC)

Justice Christopher Goff, Chair

Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2026

The Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council's Local JRAC Workgroup met on June 12, 2026, at 9:30 AM ET, at the Office of Judicial Administration, Tech Training Room (755) (251 N. Illinois St., Ste. 700, Indianapolis, IN 46204). Justice Christopher Goff chaired the meeting.

Members in attendance: Chris Biehn, David Bottorff, Elizabeth Darlage, Angie Estes, Justice Christopher Goff – Chair, Doug Huntsinger, Steve Luce (as proxy for Sheriff Jeffrey Balon), Angela Morris, Chris Naylor, Hon. Mark Spitzer (via zoom), and Ashley Stevens.

Supreme Court staff in attendance: Jennifer Bauer, Michelle Goodman, Troy Guenin-Hodson, Angie Hensley, David Sexton, and Rose Walker.

Guests: Denise Symdon (via Zoom) and Chris Cunningham (via Zoom).

I. Welcome

Justice Goff opened the meeting and welcomed members.

II. Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2026

Doug Huntsinger motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Steve Luce seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote.

III. 2025 Annual Report

Chris Biehn provided an update to members on the annual report surveys received from Local JRACs. He is still awaiting responses from approximately 30 Local JRACs. Funding and resources are the primary concerns reported by Local JRACs that have submitted surveys. Housing resource concerns were also reported frequently. 38 counties cited behavioral health as a top priority to address. The members discussed implementing a deadline for responses that balances thoroughness and timeliness.

IV. Technical Assistance Update

Chris Biehn and Denise Symdon provided an update on technical assistance efforts with counties. Chris Biehn noted that over half of the 60 counties that have responded to the 2025 annual report survey are requesting some form of technical assistance. Most of the requests center on data collection. Denise Symdon reported that the Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP) is currently working with 13 Local JRACs. She noted that a couple of sites that CEPP has been working with for the last year will finish their technical assistance rotation at the end of June, which will allow for new sites to begin receiving technical assistance. CEPP is starting a new contract with the Indiana Office of Court Services (IOCS) in July. The new contract work with IOCS will continue to focus on providing technical assistance directly to Local JRACs, while also building some webinar

resources and local workshops. CEPP is hosting a workshop at the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) summer conference in August, focusing on intentional collaboration. She noted that as the topic aligns closely with the work that CEPP has done with Indiana's State and Local JRACs, she may be reaching out to some individuals to help participate in the panel discussion. Finally, CEPP will also be providing some technical assistance training to IOCS staff to help build technical assistance capacity for the Local JRACs.

V. Competency/Legislative Workgroup

Chris Biehn reported that Brittany Kelly, State Court Behavioral Health Administrator, is helping drive the direction of the Legislative Workgroup as it begins addressing competency restoration. A grant was secured through the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) to fund work with the Leifman Group. The Leifman Group will help the Legislative Workgroup frame their competency conversation after conducting individual interviews with workgroup members. Interviews are scheduled for July 7th and 8th. The workgroup membership is expected to be around 25-30 members, including representatives from JRAC partner agencies and legislators. The Leifman Group will generate a report for the Legislative Workgroup before the conclusion of the grant period on September 30th.

VI. Communications Workgroup

Michelle Goodman provided an update on the Communications Workgroup. The workgroup reviewed existing content on the JRAC website and is looking to improve the website content and user experience. The workgroup is also discussing how to provide educational resources to local JRACs, the development of onboarding resources to assist Local JRACs with member turnover and supporting the goals of the JRAC strategic plan and technical assistance efforts.

Members discussed the need for onboarding and orientation resources, including a comprehensive toolkit for new members of Local JRACs. Members also discussed developing stakeholder-specific messaging that explains the relevance of JRAC to individual interest groups. This messaging could be distributed independently or as part of an onboarding package. As part of this discussion, Angie Hensley noted that the Data Workgroup is working on developing a top five list of items that Local JRACs should regularly discuss or report. The list is intended to help guide local stakeholders on what data and information they should be sharing at their Local JRAC meetings.

VII. Other Business

There was no other business brought before the workgroup.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 AM ET. The workgroup's next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2026, at 9:30 AM ET, at the Office of Judicial Administration Tech Training Room (251 N. Illinois St. Ste. 700, Tech Training Room (755), Indianapolis, IN 46204).

Respectfully submitted,

David Sexton

Indiana Office of Court Services