



Office of Court Services

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Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup

February 16, 2023

Meeting Minutes

The Juvenile Probation Standards workgroup met on February 16, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 2:30 p.m. at the Indiana Office of Court Services, Room 873. Magistrate Carolyn Foley chaired the meeting.

1. Members present. The following members of the Committee were present in person:

- Nick Ackerman, Indiana Office of Court Services
- Jenny Bauer, Indiana Office of Court Services
- Shannon Chambers, Johnson County Probation
- Magistrate Carolyn Foley, Allen Superior Court

Members present. The following members of the Committee were present via Zoom:

- Judge Mary DeBoer, Porter Circuit Court
- Heather Malone, Huntington County Probation

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

- Vicki Becker, Elkhart County Prosecutor
- Greg Peters, Allen County Probation
- Jill Wesch, Fountain County Chief Deputy Prosecutor
- Joel Wieneke, Indiana Public Defender Council

Guests Present:

Staff: Angela Reid-Brown (via Zoom), Colleen Saylor

2. Welcome. Magistrate Foley welcomed everyone in attendance.

3. Approve December Meeting Minutes: Workgroup members were provided a copy of the Minutes prior to today's meeting. Nick Ackerman made a motion to approve the minutes; Judge DeBoer seconded the motion., the minutes from the January 19, 2023, meeting were approved.

4. **Update on Screening and Assessment collaborative meeting:** Shannon shared that member of the Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup met virtually with members of the Screening and Assessment Workgroup on February 6, 2023. Members discussed the draft section that addresses the screening and assessment tools from the Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup. Jenny advised the draft was a condensed version of what is in the IYAS policy to address consistent use of the tools. This draft was provided to workgroup members with meeting materials sent out last week. The Screening and Assessment Workgroup provided feedback recommending the addition of language indicating the risk assessment information must be shared with decision makers prior to the decision being made. Members agreed this addition would be beneficial. Some prosecutors and judges advised the screening and assessment workgroup during a survey that they had not received copies of the assessments or information regarding the scores. It was discussed that all stakeholders would benefit from education and training on the purpose, use and meaning of the assessment tools and scores. Magistrate Foley brought up some concerns with the statutory language surrounding assessments being validated and the use of non-validated detention tools by JDAI counties. It was suggested that language be added to the proposed draft which highlights that the IYAS detention tool must be completed and if additional tools are used, such as a locally drafted detention risk assessment tool, the probation department will still need to complete the IYAS detention tool. Shannon is a trainer for the IYAS and shared that in training they advise counties they have to do the IYAS Detention Tool but can do their own if they have one. She shared that her personal experience from keeping track of both in Johnson County, the scores are usually pretty close.

5. **Youth and Family Advisory Committee Meeting:** Members discussed the upcoming meeting on March 4, 2023, and reviewed the protocol provided by Julie Whitman. There was discussion around the best approach and presentation tools. Magistrate Foley shared that in her discussions with members from groups that have already met with the committee the group is very willing to ask questions and give input. Members identified several areas where the input would be most valuable:

Under the new section on youth-specific probation standards

Youth Formal Probation Supervision Conditions – Formal youth probation supervision conditions should:

- e. promote positive, long-term youth behavior change
 - v. use incentives and graduated responses to support behavior change
were incentives and graduated response used in your case, what was your perception. If not used, what do you think about it? What incentives would have been motivating?
- f. promote relationship building with the probation officer
 - i. engage youth and family in collaborative case planning
 - ii. engage youth and family in setting goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely
 - iii. schedule contacts between probation officer, youth and family in accordance with youth's assessed risk level and needs
- g. provide positive youth development opportunities to develop youth skills and interests
what do they see this looking like?

- j. promote a clear pathway to early release and successful completion of probation term

Collaborative Youth Case Plan – A probation officer must collaborate with the youth, family, and service providers to develop an individualized case plan that identifies two or three clear, achievable, goals related to the youth’s criminogenic needs identified in the IYAS assessment (IC 11-13-1-9(b)(3)):

The collaborative youth case plan must match services and activities to address identified criminogenic needs and provide positive youth development. The plan should be strength-based, personalized to the youth’s interests and talents, proactively state expectations for supervision and accountability, and promote positive behavior change and long-term success with the use of incentives and graduated responses. The plan should also address potential barriers to success and be designed to enable the youth to experience success almost immediately.

How would their experience have been different if this had been in place when they were on probation?

Expectations for Youth Supervision – A probation officer must do the following in supervising youth on probation:

- l. focus on youth and family engagement *how might this work best?*

There was discussion that previous presentations by youth with lived experience shared a lack of understanding of the system and would have greatly benefited from having that information explained to them early in their involvement

Magistrate Foley, Judge DeBoer, Nick and Jenny agreed to work on the focus and questions and scheduled a virtual meeting for 2/22/23 at noon EST.

6. **Combined Draft Discussion:** Members shared a few corrections and changes to the current draft. Colleen will make the changes agreed to and redistribute an updated draft with the draft minutes.
7. **Further Discussion:** Members discussed sharing a draft of the proposed standards with the Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges after the Probation Committee reviews it. It was agreed the goal is to have a finalized draft to share a week in advance of each meeting. In order to include the feedback from the Youth and Family Advisory Committee the draft likely would not be available until after 3/4/23.

8. **Timeline/Future Meetings:**

- 3/4/23 Present to the Youth and Family Advisory Committee
- 3/9/23 March Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup meeting
- 3/10/23 Probation Committee
- 4/12/2023 Youth Justice Oversight Committee meeting
- 4/18/23 Judicial Conference Board of Directors
- 4/20/23 April Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup meeting
- 5/11/23 May Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup meeting
- 6/8/23 June Juvenile Probation Standards Workgroup meeting
- 6/14/2023 Youth Justice Oversight Committee meeting
- 6/18/23 Judicial Conference Board of Directors for approval