



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Minutes from October 12, 2022, Meeting

The Youth Justice Oversight Committee (YJOC) met on October 12, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C. Justice Steve David chaired the meeting.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the Committee were present in person:
 - Dr. Matthew Aalsma, Indiana University
 - Stephen Balko, Indiana Department of Education
 - Serrilla Blackmon, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction
 - Judge Marshelle Dawkins Broadwell, Marion Superior Court 16
 - Judge Darrin Dolehanty, Wayne Superior Court 3
 - Tracy Fitz, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council
 - Magistrate Carolyn Foley, Allen Superior Court
 - Mary Kay Hudson, Indiana Office of Court Services
 - Devon McDonald, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
 - Nichole Phillips, Bartholomew County Probation, and the Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana
 - Terry Stigdon, Indiana Department of Child Services
 - Nancy Wever, Indiana Office of Court Services, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
 - Joel Wieneke, Indiana Public Defender Council
 - James C. Wilson, Circle Up Indy
 - Kia Wright, VOICES
2. **Members attending on Zoom:** Chair, Justice Steven David; Judge Vicki L. Carmichael, Clark Circuit Court 4; Judge Faith A. Graham, Tippecanoe Superior Court 3
3. **Members absent:** Shannon Chambers, Johnson County Probation; Terrie Decker, Indiana Department of Correction
4. **Staff:** Leslie Dunn, Nick Parker, Shenna Robinson, Colleen Saylor, Michelle Goodman and April Dubree attended in-person as staff from the Office of Judicial Administration. Julie Whitman and Blane Cook attended as staff of the Commission on Improving the Status of Children (CISC).
5. **Welcome and Introductions.** Justice David welcomed members and asked if anyone had anything to share. Joel Wieneke asked if YJOC members could receive the virtual meeting links to all of workgroup meetings so they could attend when they are able. Leslie Dunn said that she

would be glad to provide the link to any YJOC members wishing to attend a workgroup meeting. The workgroup meeting dates are listed on the YJOC website: <https://www.in.gov/youthjustice/>

YJOC members interested in attending can reach out to Leslie or Julie Whitman for the virtual meeting link.

- 6. Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2022, Meeting.** Committee members were provided a copy of the Minutes prior to today's meeting. Devon McDonald made a motion to approve the Minutes; Steve Balko seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and Committee members approved the August 10, 2022 meeting minutes unanimously.
- 7. Overview of Indiana's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI).** JDAI Director Nancy Wever provided an overview of JDAI and how it relates to the work of the YJOC. The JDAI comes from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, who continues to work closely with Indiana as we utilize the model here. JDAI started as a detention reform initiative in Marion County in 2006. JDAI was institutionalized by the Indiana Supreme Court in 2013 with the support of five other state agencies. The work has grown from detention reform to overall youth justice system reform all along the continuum--from prevention to reintegration--and is based on data-informed decision-making. Data from the 33 JDAI counties, which represent 73% of Indiana's youth population aged 10-17, was presented. Despite the reductions in admissions to secure detention, youth of color are still detained at a higher rate-over two times the rate in 2021 of white youth. The future of JDAI involves authentic partnerships with youth and families, mentoring and investing in the community. YJOC shares these goals with JDAI and this is the way we can work together. How can we work with the counties that are not part of JDAI? We need to get some baseline data and then ask them what they want to focus on; it needs to be locally driven. To get other counties involved, we will need to make it easy for them to be successful. The JDAI PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the YJOC website.
- 8. Workgroup Updates.**
 - a. Screening and Assessment:** Michelle Goodman provided the update for this workgroup. The workgroup has a wide variety of stakeholders, most of whom use the Indiana Youth Assessment System (IYAS) daily. They have met twice since the last YJOC meeting. The IYAS is a validated tool and is currently undergoing a re-validation process that should be complete before the final YJOC report is submitted. The workgroup is working through an action plan template to identify current policies and processes related to IYAS alongside the provisions of HEA 1359 to develop recommendations for their three deliverables-risk screening tools for diversion, risk and needs assessment tools for dispositional decisions (including out of home placements), and detention tools to inform initial and ongoing use of secure detention. They have a sub-workgroup that is interested in getting local feedback through some targeted questions they developed and can ask stakeholders through phone calls and other outreach. They will need to coordinate with the Diversion, Data and Probation Standards workgroups at some point. We can have a presentation on the IYAS and the validation process if this would be useful to YJOC members.
 - b. Data:** Dr. Aalsma reported that the Data workgroup had a presentation on Data Evaluation vs. Research and the difference between retrospective data and prospective data. They have two sub-workgroups; one to define the data elements and review the JDAI data dictionary and the second one to look at performance measures/metrics. If

other workgroups have thoughts on research that needs to be done, please let Dr. Aalsma know. Justice David asked all the workgroups to be thinking about what types of data they need and encouraged collaboration between the Data, Behavioral Health, and Diversion workgroups in particular. He also encouraged everyone to keep the process simple so new counties are willing to participate.

- c. **Behavioral Health:** Sirrilla Blackmon reported that this workgroup looked at strengths and opportunities for justice-involved youth. They reviewed existing data and services available and completed some system mapping. They have stakeholder members from DMHA, DOC, Probation, FSSA, IARCA, mental health providers, DCS, Public Defenders and the judiciary. They have created three sub-workgroups: 1) Service Availability to look at the services available, capacity and quality of services; 2) Workforce Development to examine how to assist an overwhelmed system; and 3) Parental Engagement to consider barriers to engagement such as transportation and childcare. They hope to have an initial draft for the group by March or April. Nancy Wever asked if they had considered the role of diversion in their group. Sirrilla said they are looking at all models of engagement; we may have to consider non-traditional options such as engaging the faith-based community, mentoring and other community resources.
- d. **Diversion:** Tracy Fitz reported that they have collected and shared resources with their workgroup such as the model for change, and diversion program information from several states. They will be working closely with the Grants workgroup to develop parameters for the grant programs. They are doing outreach to selected counties that have lots of diversion options as well as counties that do not have any programs to find out how things are working and how they are funded. They have created sub-workgroups on grants, best practices, and data. They are looking at what diversion data is collected and if they need to collect any other data; they will connect with the Data workgroup. Dr. Aalsma asked what options there are for youth who are in crisis. What is being done in other counties and how can we expand this and make it work across the state? Sirrilla said that as we are looking at the crisis continuum, we need to consult with Dr. Drapeau as he is working on this. In terms of best practices, we need to look at MST (multisystemic therapy).
- e. **Grants:** Devon McDonald reported that they have four sub-workgroups: Data/Outcomes, Funding formula, Survey group and Report Writing. Time is critical as the Grants report is due in early December. He asked the other chairs to please consider what information they may have that could be helpful to the grants process. He has met with Sirrilla from the Behavioral Health workgroup. The group is trying to figure out the amount of funding needed at this time for each of the grants, how much is being spent now and how much more is needed. They also want to determine what to include in the grant solicitation, what the relevant outcomes or performance measures should be and the parameters for use of the grant funds. Devon plans to meet with the other workgroups to ask if they have any suggested data points they want grantees to collect; if workgroups have that information, they can send that to Devon in the next two weeks. They are going to recommend a two-year grant cycle. They are considering a funding formula that includes a base award amount. The grants will allow for planning and implementation; some counties may be ready to implement but other will need planning time to put the program and services in place, build partnerships, regionalize, etc. They are working with IOCS on the format for the report which will be shared with the other workgroups for consistency. Judge Schein is the new co-chair of the Grants workgroup. Mary Kay

Hudson noted that as long as the base data is captured, research can be done later to answer some of the data questions identified; she suggests that Devon discuss with Dr. Aalsma.

- f. Transitional Services:** Nancy Wever presented for this workgroup. They have had two meetings and have discussed how youth enter and exit the Department of Correction and what happens upon release. Magistrate Vann explained the process. They have discussed how to change the re-entry strategy. They had some people missing they needed so they added some members. At the next meeting, they are having a presentation on the services that are provided as youth transition from placement or DOC.
 - g. Juvenile Probation Standards:** Magistrate Foley presented and shared that the Judicial Conference is charged with development of probation standards and they already exist. However, they are charged with developing juvenile probation standards. They have created three sub-workgroups: 1) Risk Assessment/Conditions of Probation; 2) Case Planning; and 3) Out-of-Home Placement/DOC commitment. These subgroups have met several times and have started to draft new standards. They have a shorter timeframe to finish the work because the revisions must be approved by the Probation Committee and the Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference. The meeting dates for the 2023 Board of Directors have not yet been set but they are aware that they will need to meet to approve the recommendations being submitted to the YJOC. She may ask Justice David to assist them in the presentation to the Board of Directors.
- 9. Family and Youth Advisory Committee Update.** Kia Wright from VOICES reported that recruitment of youth and families for the Family and Youth Advisory Committee has started. They have 34 applicants from all over the state from youth with lived experience in the juvenile justice and/or child welfare system. They will meet with the confirmed participants on 11/2 to provide an orientation and a summary of HEA 1359. Training begins on 11/9. They anticipate that their first meeting with a workgroup will be with the Grants Workgroup on 11/30. She is grateful that the youth had the opportunity to participate in the JDAI conference; it was an excellent learning experience for them.
- 10. Gathering Stakeholder Input.** Leslie Dunn reported that several groups have expressed interest in doing a survey of stakeholders. If a survey is going to be done, the various workgroups should coordinate and offer one survey that includes everyone's questions rather than doing multiple surveys. Some workgroups will be doing targeted outreach to counties instead to gather information by making phone calls. Justice David advised that a formal survey would need to be overseen by him and IOCS so we can review the questions and help coordinate; if you want to do a formal survey, please let Leslie Dunn know. However, workgroups can reach out to stakeholders informally to gather information and feedback.
- 11. Closing.** Justice David asked that the workgroups submit their YJOC reports about their activities and progress on the template form provided to the workgroups and staff. This is helpful in building the body of this work. Please utilize the staff to assist you in the reports and turn them in on the Monday before each YJOC meeting.

Next Meeting: December 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room B. Lunch will be provided.