



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Grants Process Workgroup October 27, 2022 – Meeting Minutes

I. MEETING DETAILS

Date and Time: October 27, 2022; 2:30-4:30 p.m. EDT

Location: Indiana Government Center – South, Conference Room 17

Minutes Prepared by Nancy Wever, Staff to Workgroup

II. ATTENDEES

Members Present in Person: Devon McDonald, Judge Lori Schein, Joann Keys, Dr. Chris Drapeau, Ross Maxwell, James Wilson, Rebecca Humphrey, Damon Cox

Members Present Electronically: Carmen Sims, Leslie Dunn, Kim Whitehurst

Members Absent: Angie Hensley, Judge Stephen Koester, Judge Lynn Murray

Staff Present: Nancy Wever

Guest(s) Present: Justice David, Julie Whitman

III. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair McDonald convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. EDT

Dr. Chris Drapeau was introduced as a new member of the workgroup

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (from 9/26 meeting)

Motion to Approve – Ross Maxwell

Second – Judge Schein

Minutes unanimously approved by roll call vote

V. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

a. **Convene Funding Formula sub-committee – completed**

b. **Connect with Diversion workgroup regarding survey – completed**

c. **Sample Reports to Judge Schein – completed**

d. **Send survey to JJIC for distribution – not completed (see below for discussion)**

VI. FUNDING FORMULA

Sub-committee met and discussed proposing base of \$37.5K (per grant, per county) + \$5K, \$10K or \$15K based on designation of county population (<25K, 25K-50K, >50K). Each county would be eligible for \$80K, \$85K or \$90K. The total using this formula is approximately \$7.9M and is based on the most expensive treatment modality and number of delinquency filings. The workgroup discussed – is this the right “formula”?

Chair McDonald discussed the difficulty of identifying funds needed with short timeframe required by statute and offered suggestion of requesting that the fund be established with an appropriation of \$1 plus funding to ICJI to determine funding needs, possibly contracting with entity to assist.

Justice David stated appreciation for group wanting to be good stewards and suggested if this is the ask, we identify what we have done and what is required to make determination and a possible range of the required funding. He added that we name the need to consider planning and implementation grants. Justice David is meeting with Representative McNamara soon and will float this idea to her for feedback.

Co-Chair Judge Schein asked if legislation would need to be amended to allow for planning grants. Chair McDonald advised that this would not likely be necessary, as planning grants seem to align with the spirit of the statute.

The workgroup discussed formula versus competitive grants, as the diversion and community-based alternatives grants are formula and the behavioral health grants are competitive.

Julie Whitman raised questions regarding having to wait two more years (for budget legislative session) if funding amount not identified. Chair McDonald confirmed this would be a risk but could potentially ask for mandatory allocation. Julie reminded the workgroup of the other requirements going into effect July 1 (e.g., no fees for Informal Adjustments) and the idea was to provide funding to support local response to changes.

Leslie Dunn asked if regional approach would be allowed and encouraged? Chair McDonald advised that this is an option but will need to identify lead agency/county to be fiscal agent.

Co-Chair Judge Schein asked if counties could sub-contract with local organizations for diversion programs? Ross Maxwell advised this would be easier and would encourage funding to support programs and not staff positions.

Nancy Wever suggested that if we had more time, we could explore something really different (e.g., funding a “third party” agency to handle referrals for diversion and distribute them to agencies). The workgroup discussed workforce concerns, even with sufficient funding, options to serve youth may be limited. Nancy Wever added that we could tap into non-traditional services, including faith-based organizations, for programming.

VII. SURVEY

Joann Keys advised that a small group met with the chairs of the Diversion workgroup and learned that the survey they did as part of the Juvenile Justice and Cross-System Youth Task Force took more than a year to develop and compile results. The survey we wanted to do was broader and seemed to drift in purpose. The small group proposed that we do not do a survey, as we do not have the time to re-develop and compile responses in the short timeframe we have.

VIII. DATA/PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Chair McDonald advised that he is meeting with Dr. Aalsma next week to discuss what Data workgroup needs. The workgroup discussed the need to collect both outputs and outcomes but could focus on outputs first. James Wilson suggests collecting data about socioeconomic status so that we can begin to address root causes.

IX. ELIGIBILITY

The workgroup agreed that both governmental and non-governmental agencies could apply for funding. Julie Whitman reminded of the statutory requirement of local collaborative group (JRAC or other) to receive funds. Justice David reminded that JRAC is primarily adult focused. Chair McDonald advised that collaboration can be assessed through application process, possibly with letter of support from judicial officer or others.

X. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANTS

Dr. Drapeau provided a memo to the group from the Behavioral Health Plan (BHP) workgroup and discussed the document. He emphasized that this is an opportunity for coordination and collaboration and the group discussed the need to ensure there is not duplication amongst funding sources and responsible agencies. For example, DMHA has responsibility for establishing crisis response system so programs need to align with their work.

There are many unanswered questions about funding for recommended programs – what are limits or definitions of “crisis”. Dr. Drapeau explained that a state plan amendment is being developed and until that is approved, it is not certain what Medicaid will fund and what might need to be an appropriation by the legislature.

The workgroup discussed reporting requirements for grant funds and how to make this simple for local agencies.

Chair McDonald asked about other states who we could model. Dr. Drapeau suggested Maryland and New Jersey for Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS). Julie Whitman advised that DMHA has funding to implement Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) in eight sites for two years. Four sites are active. Need to develop sustainability plan. MST can be funded by DCS for families eligible for family preservation services, but youth in the justice system are currently excluded from family preservation services. DMHA is seeking an enhanced Medicaid rate for MST and DCS is considering expanding eligibility for family preservation services. Joel Weineke (in attendance) asked about MRSS provided while a youth is in residential care – is this funded as MRSS or invoiced to DCS as part of the residential rate?

Julie Whitman reminded the group that the behavioral health plan is for “justice-involved” youth, which is not defined in the statute. Could youth who are diverted be “justice-involved”? The workgroup raised questions about prosecutors’ authority to determine diversion and the reality that there are many youths whose contact is not known by the prosecutor.

Chair McDonald requests the BHP workgroup continue to provide information.

XI. TIMELINE/ACTION PLAN

a. Survey Results by 11/1 – waived

b. Funding Formula determined by 11/1

The workgroup acknowledged we may not meet this internal deadline. Further discussion needed with legislators regarding feasibility of establishing fund and appropriating nominal amount pending additional work.

c. Data/Performance Measures, Eligibility and Process determined by 11/1

The workgroup acknowledged we may not meet this internal deadline. Chair McDonald is meeting with Dr. Aalsma and will provide relevant information.

d. Report draft to WG by 11/28 and finalized by 12/9 for submission to Oversight Committee

XII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Nancy to schedule a meeting of funding formula group when feedback received from legislators regarding establishing fund and appropriating minimal funds.

b. Nancy to schedule a meeting of data and performance measures group when information received from Data workgroup.

XIII. ADJOURN

Chair McDonald adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m. EDT.