



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Behavioral Health Work Group

Minutes (December 8, 2022)

I. MEETING DETAILS

January 5, 2022 from 11am-1pm ET

IGCS Conference Center, Room F

Minutes By: Nick Parker, Staff

II. ATTENDEES

Members present in-person: 12

- Baumer, Keena – Indiana Medicaid (FSSA)
- Becker, Amber – Division of Mental Health & Addiction (FSSA)
- Blackmon, Sirrilla – Division of Mental Health & Addiction (FSSA)
- Daus, Dr. Kristen – Indiana Department of Correction
- Davis, Ann – Indiana Association of Resources & Child Advocacy
- Frantz, Zoe – Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers
- Frazer, Rebekah – Indiana Department of Education
- Harlan-York, Jessica – Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (FSSA)
- James, Waylon – Indiana Department of Child Services
- Mehta, Dr. Crystal – Indiana Department of Correction
- Pratt, Alicia – Tippecanoe County Public Defender
- Simmons, Brittany – Indiana Office of Court Services

Members present electronically: 2

- Bartnick, Cheryl – Allen County Probation

- Drapeau, Dr. Chris – Division of Mental Health & Addiction (FSSA)

Members absent: 1

- Hulvershorn, Dr. Leslie – Indiana University School of Medicine / DMHA (FSSA)

Staff present: 2

- Nick Parker, Indiana Office of Court Services
- Mindy Pickett, Indiana Office of Court Services

Guests or speakers present: 2

- Leslie Dunn, Indiana Office of Court Services
- Julie Whitman, Indiana Office of Court Services

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 8, 2022 minutes approved by consent of committee

Posted to Teams Site (Meeting 5)

IV. PRESENTATIONS

- Serrilla Blackmon and Waylon James shared lessons learned from a complex case involving high-acuity youth, including an overview of what was done before, during, and after their agencies' handling of the case. This led to a discussion about interdisciplinary team handling of cases as a potential concept for the work group report, with an emphasis on how people can work together, be more proactive, and find solutions to put into a final plan for a youth in crisis. There was also discussion about having cohesive internal escalation policies at different agencies to inform quickly that community resources were exhausted and a child needs high levels of support as a result.
- There were ideas shared for how to integrate this idea into an overall YJOC plan to create a system that would handle complex cases by getting all parties at the table quickly and consistently. Final plan should describe multidisciplinary efforts to difficult cases and how to ensure care for those children in our current system, with an aim to prevent them from encountering a gap in services. Report should include anticipated requests for funding, including a discussion of which counties could apply and how that process would look.

- Some agencies might have created similar systems – this could form the basis for our model in the final report and would be a good starting point for research and integration of those ideas. Other agencies have programs in place (example: DMHA and mobile stabilization services through 988; FSSA internal group on high acuity cases and state hospital placements) that could be discussed and linked together for the final report.
- The final recommendation could include a way to help families de-escalate a crisis that occurs in the home. There could also be an emphasis on how this plan could streamline services, including a discussion on PHI waivers and tech solutions (like digital ways to have the team meet through email or otherwise). There should also be a section on how providers link into the services for youth to make the plan solutions-focused.

V. **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Grants Coordination Subcommittee – tasked with providing recommendations to the Grants Process work group.
 - Created a memo with recommendations on the six statutory requirements of the behavioral health competitive grants.
 - Work group is currently finishing up metrics and budget – will report back in January on the final report and recommendations, if available.
- Service Availability – looking at pre-dispositional evaluations to help understand the current system and what to do with youth lingering in DOC.
 - Considering requests for funding a statewide network of contracted community partners.
 - Looking into how to utilize prior psychiatric evaluations within a certain timeframe to streamline the process.
 - One idea is funding for detention centers for evaluations that can be conducted at the facility to prevent the need for youth to go through DOC.
 - Another idea is judicial education – judges are ordering the evaluations that might not be warranted. Creating criteria and help guide for judges would help alleviate this concern. Education could happen for all stakeholders.
 - Telehealth options – federal law changes with health emergency ending.
 - Health parity – reimbursement is not the same; kids in detention have Medicaid cut off.

- Workforce – discussing challenges in the workforce and how it relates to provision of services to justice-involved youth.
 - Detention centers struggling to provide right supports – figuring out a way to retain staff if they aren’t used to working with mentally ill youth.
 - Licensure – getting people licensed more quickly.
 - Education – creating a track and pipeline for people to come into these roles after they graduate.
 - Emphasis on short-term solutions that might help – looking at other programs to shine light on work being done (example: Be Happy program with primary care physicians; NAMI peer groups).
 - Linking this conversation with telehealth opportunities.
- Parental & Community Engagement – discussing ways to increase participation from other stakeholders to help youth.
 - Transportation issues and addressing parents lack of engagement in cases.
 - Suggestion for youth advocate program (YAP) with recovery specialists and lived experience that might increase outcomes for youth.
- Next Steps
 - Beginning to write a draft of the final report – will use the blueprint as a starting point. All data and statistics need to be added back into the report and fact-checked and reviewed.
 - If you have any reports that should be included in the final report, please email them to Nick Parker and include the page numbers that your subcommittee would like to endorse for the report.
 - Youth Advisory Group – more information will be forthcoming; we will be sharing our plans with the group to get feedback from kids/families.

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, January 5, 2023 from 11am-1pm ET

Thursday, February 23, 2023 from 11am-1pm ET

Monday, March 13, 2023 from 11am-1pm ET

Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 11am-1pm ET

Monday, May 8, 2023 from 11am-1pm ET

All Meetings at IGCS Conference Center, Conference Room F