



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Diversion Work Group

February 7, 2024

201 N. Illinois Street, 2nd floor, Indianapolis

Meeting Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm.

In-person attendees: Mark Fairchild, Tracy Fitz, Megan Horton, and Shannon O'Toole

Virtual attendees: Leslie Dunn, Kay Knorr, Rachel McCaffrey, Mag. Richison, Will Scott, and Sarah Welcome

Staff: Diane Mains

- II. Diversion Work Group Goals

1. Diversion resource toolkit – will be drafted by the Chairs with review and approval by the Work Group. The toolkit will be designed to assist eligible entities apply for and receive funding to plan, start, and/or sustain youth diversion programs locally and regionally. The toolkit will include information on current youth diversion program grant recipients.
2. Indiana Youth Diversion Program Directory – a compilation of effective diversion programs from around the state and may include site visits. The Directory will include program details and contact information. Megan will lead this project with assistance from Rachel.
3. Outreach and messaging for the next round of diversion grants that will likely be available in March 2024 (in concert with the Grants Work Group and others). Develop a shared message and strategically disburse information about the grant application. Leslie will share the message that has been drafted for judicial officers. Special emphasis on planning grant requirements and the need to form a local/regional workgroup when establishing youth diversion programs.

- III. Legislation

Mark reported that HB 1194 (State Administration) authored by Rep. McNamara will authorize advance funding for diversion grants managed by the Criminal Justice Institute

and awarded before July 1, 2025. The bill passed the House of Representatives 97-0 and has been referred to the Senate for further review. Senator Crider is the bill sponsor.

IV. Next Steps

- Draft the Toolkit within the next couple of weeks.
- Members asked to confirm willingness to continue as a Workgroup member.
- Resend the attendance/electronic communication policy to members.
- Resend the Diversion Report to members.
- Contact Megan or Diane if you are interested in working on the Youth Diversion Directory.
- Add law enforcement and school representatives to the Diversion Work Group.

V. 2024 Work Group Meeting Schedule

All meetings will be held from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at 201 N. Illinois Street, 2nd floor, Indianapolis.

- March 13, 2024
- May 29, 2024
- July 24, 2024
- September 25, 2024
- November 13, 2024

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 pm.