

## **Report to the Indiana Commission on**

### **Improving the Status of Children**

#### **From**

#### **The Commission's Task Force on Data Sharing and Mapping**

**December 11, 2013**

1. The Data Sharing and Mapping Task Force (Task Force) met on Friday, November 22, 2013 from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Supreme Court Law Library. The following members were present:

- Lilia Judson of the Division of State Court Administration (STAD), (Co-Chair);
- Julie Whitman of the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI), (Co-Chair);
- Ann Hartman of Connect2Help/211;
- Chris Waldron of the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH);
- Cynthia Smith of the Department of Child Services (DCS);
- Mary DePrez of the Judicial Technology & Automation Committee (JTAC);
- Tom Bodin of the Indiana Attorney General's office (IAG); and,
- Kevin Moore of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA).

The meeting was staffed by Mike Commons and Ruth Reichard, STAD staff attorneys. Not present: Jeff Tucker, DCS; Joshua Towns, Department of Education; Paul Baltzell, Indiana Office of Technology.

2. The Task Force discussed the following items related to the mapping project:
  - a. Current status of data collection on mental health and substance abuse service providers
  - b. Additional information desired from providers and ways to obtain it in the future
  - c. Additional types of resources that could potentially be added in the future (e.g., afterschool programs)
  - d. The centrality of the data collection and resulting database to the project.
  - e. The feasibility of continuing the initial round of data collection and creating the map using already committed state staff resources. (It is feasible.)
  - f. The importance of identifying a permanent home for the database, to include the ability to continue adding, deleting, and updating provider information.
  - g. The importance of identifying resources, perhaps in the 2015 state budget, for the ongoing maintenance of the effort. The task force hopes to have an initial cost estimate for the Commission's February meeting, as well as a detailed timeline for the project.

- h. The audience for the map will impact both the necessary functionality of the interface and the most appropriate home for the data.
  - i. Notification to service providers that their data will be made public (if that is what the Commission decides.)
3. The Task Force next discussed the data sharing mandate, and agreed that we need more information and direction from the Commission with regard to that portion of the task force's work.

The Task Force is seeking guidance from the Commission on the questions listed below. We hope that the Commission can discuss these at its February meeting.

**Regarding data mapping:**

- a. Who is or are the primary audiences for the map and the data it displays? Is it for the public, the courts, state agencies, or all of the above?
- b. If all of the above, should there be any distinction between what the public is able to view and what state agencies or the courts can view?
- c. Is any of the data sensitive in nature, such that security restrictions would be necessary?
- d. Based on the audiences and the purpose of the map, what types of functionality is needed to make the map truly beneficial?
- e. Where should the database/map "live," to include future updates to the data and the mapping interface? Possibilities identified by the Task Force include:
  - i. Indiana Supreme Court – State Court Administration through JTAC
  - ii. ISDH
  - iii. 211
- f. Is the Commission able and willing to identify resources in the 2015 state budget to continue this project? Which agency will do so?
- g. Besides creating the map, does the Commission desire any additional analysis on the data being collected? If so, what type of analysis?
- h. What is, or should be, the scope of the data sharing efforts of the Task Force?
  - i. What are the goals or purposes of the data sharing?
  - ii. What types of data need to be shared?

**Regarding other data projects:**

Among other things, Senate Bill 125 directs the Commission to:

- study and evaluate .. data from state agencies relevant to evaluating progress, targeting efforts, and demonstrating outcomes;

- study and evaluate ..communication and cooperation by agencies concerning vulnerable youth;
- promote information sharing concerning vulnerable youth across the state
- promote best practices, policies and programs.

Given these charges, what questions does the Commission want answered for which the Data Task Force should gather information?

Examples of possible questions:

- How many children are cross jurisdiction children and how does this affect them?
- Is there a benefit to broadening pilot project of mental health assessments upon detention in detention center?
- Should there be best practices for detention centers?
- What are the educational outcomes for children in placement; in detention; in foster care?
- Is there a correlation between school disciplinary policies/justice system involvement?
- Is there a disproportional minority contact of juveniles with justice system?
- Is there existing data that agencies should share in order to advance the mission of the Commission? If so, what are they and how can they be shared?

4. Next meeting: the Task Force's next meeting will be on Friday, January 24, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, at a place to be determined.