



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Transitional Services Workgroup

Minutes April 4, 2024

The Transitional Services Workgroup of the Youth Justice Oversight Committee (YJOC) met on April 4th, 2024, from 1:00 PM through 2:30 PM (EST) in the Indiana Government Center, South Wabash Hall Room #1 at 302 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Terrie Decker Chaired and Magistrate Carolyn Foley Co-chaired the meeting.

- 1. Members Present:** The following members of the workgroup were present:
 - Chair Terrie Decker, Indiana Department of Corrections
 - Co-Chair Magistrate Carolyn Foley, Allen County Superior Courts
 - Amber Becker, FSSA
 - Nichole Phillips, Bartholomew County Probation
 - Kate Province, Indiana Office of the Public Defender
 - Emily Krauser, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority
 - Chris Stilwell, Indiana Department of Correction
 - Brandy Darling, Lake County Prosecutor
 - Chris Dixon, Indiana Department of Corrections
- 2. Members Present Virtually:** The following members of the workgroup attended virtually:
 - Terese Bottner, LifeWorks
 - Susan Lightfoot, Henry County Probation
 - Kevin Elkins, Lake County Probation
 - Bart Doan, Indiana Department of Workforce Development
- 3. Staff:** Joseph Fischer, Tyler Mason, and Leslie Dunn attended in person as staff from the Office of Judicial Administration. Mark Fairchild, IOCS staff and Executive Director of CISC attended as well.
- 4. Meeting Minutes:** Meeting Minutes: The workgroup reviewed the minutes from the March 7th, 2024, meeting. Motion for approval by Chris Dixon, seconded by Co-chair Magistrate Foley. March 7, 2024, minutes approved unanimously without change.
- 5. Attendance requirement:** The chairs emphasized the importance, and the statutory requirements surrounding in person meeting attendance. Understanding that unforeseen circumstances may arise, virtual attendance should be reserved for such occasions. Meetings are planned well in advance and when held will remain at this consistent timeslot. Indiana's open-door law, as adopted by the YJOC, requires that only a certain

number of members be present through electronic means. In-person attendance is also an integral part of the work of this workgroup, particularly as we move back into assigning individual and sub-committee tasks.

- 6. Judicial Focus Groups:** Chairs update workgroup on focus group meeting which took place immediately prior to this workgroup meeting. The initial question and answer session went well with a number of judges with different experiences in relation to both commitment and release policy from DYS.

Topics included:

- Criteria used to decide to resume jurisdiction, or not to do so;
- Services implemented upon release if jurisdiction is resumed;
- Criteria used to determine what services are appropriate;
- Timeline for planning and implementation of these services;
- Who provides these services;
- Does the county have a written policy, or is it just case by case;
- Length of time between release and case closure;
- How does the court respond if a youth fails to complete (or comply) with post release services; and
- Inquiries about data on outcomes of youth released from DYS with or without resumption of jurisdiction.

Terrie and Mag. Foley to continue collecting information from Judicial officers on these topics.

- 7. Review of TRP Services from DCS:** Don Travis of DCS presented an overview of the history, active usage, and general info about TRP services. Theoretically there is coverage for this service across the state, but practically speaking there is a lack of providers to cover the need. This service became more dormant after QRTP services from family preservation. There are currently 26 youth in this service- primarily Marion and Lake. They are open to the possibility of changing this to a per diem structure. One of the primary benefits of this service, other than it being specifically tailored for this population, is starting 60 days prior to release.

- 8. Creation of Sub-Committees:** The workgroup agrees to create three separate workgroups:

- *Collaboration with State Agencies:* Identify and make recommendations for bringing the services from different state agencies together to improve outcomes from youth released from DYS
 - Amber Becker, Emily Krauser, Doan Bartholomew, Christopher Stilwell, Susan Lightfoot, Heather Savage
- *Best Practices:* Developing a set of best practice recommendations
 - Magistrate Foley, Brandy Darling, Chris Dixson, Kevin Elkins, Nichole Phillips
- *Services:* Identification and development of practical and accessible services and services standard recommendations
 - Terrie Decker, Sarah Sailors, David Reed, Therese Bottner, Jill Johnson

- The workgroup also identified two other topics (Alternatives for high acuity youth, and Data Collection) which can be absorbed by the best practices group, and through communication with the Data Workgroup, respectively.
9. **Future meetings:** The May meeting will be removed from the calendar to allow the sub-committees and opportunity to get started. The next workgroup meeting will be June 6th, 2024, 1:00-2:30. The intention is to return to our usual meeting location @ IOCS, if feasible.
 10. **Closing:** Chair and Co-Chair thanked the members for their time and adjourned April 4, 2024, at 2:30 PM.