



Youth Justice Oversight Committee

Transitional Services Workgroup

Minutes June 6, 2024

The Transitional Services Workgroup of the Youth Justice Oversight Committee (YJOC) met on June 6th, 2024, from 1:00 PM through 2:00 PM (EST) in the Indiana Office of Court Services, 251 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis, IN 46205. 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
- Don Travis (For David Reed), Indiana Department of Child Services
- 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 Dixson, Indiana Department of Corrections
- Susan Lightfoot, Henry County Probation
- Kevin Elkins, Lake County Probation
- Bart Doan, Indiana Department of Workforce Development

2. Members Present Virtually: The following members of the workgroup attended virtually:

- Terese Bottner, LifeWorks
- Amber Becker

3. Staff: Joseph Fischer and Tyler Mason 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. Moton for approval by Susan Lightfoot and

seconded by Co-chair Magistrate Foley. March 7, 2024, minutes approved unanimously with one change: Brand Darling was incorrectly listed as probation rather than prosecutor.

5. Judicial Focus Groups:

- Magistrate Foley provided an update on the information gathering sessions with Judicial Officers. Participation has not been what we would ideally see, but we have received a good amount of information from participating Judges. Particularly in terms of the wide variety of practice across and even within counties. Most counties do not have any written policy or screening process for reassumption. The Chair and Co-Chair will be presenting to the Juvenile and Family Judges in June. This will include the opportunity to gather more information. Magistrate Foley to continue having these meetings as the opportunity arises, to gather more information.

6. Reports from Sub-Committees: The workgroup agrees to create three separate workgroups:

Best Practices: This group has met twice. They have begun to create a task list and are building a list of resources for review and comparison. They will continue to bring added information back to the workgroup as the sub-committee continues to gather national and local information on best practices.

- National Reentry Center, Brandy Darling has found a site with links to many resources to share. Georgia's DOC has met with members to discuss second chance act states and how they are using the funds. Members have also spoken with Illinois and Alaska about their reentry practices. OJJDP- Reentry Starts here.

Service Standards Terrie provided update. They have engaged in a deep dive of the DCS service standard process including hourly vs. per-diem, the RFI process.

- Request For Information – from providers to see about the rate of way they would like to be paid. This is something they could do with this service standard and if they would be best served with a per-diem rate
- Mentoring – There is a fairly strong hesitancy, though not a full “no” against payment from this particular piece. Paid mentors pose the potential to do harm or lead to more revolving doors for youth. Perhaps mentoring should come from a volunteer place.

Collaboration with State Agencies : Have met once and have begun taking a deep dive into what services are already provided at this time. They are also looking at what state services are available but not being well utilized.

- Creating a “hub” of staffing cases with outside organizations. Not sure how this might work with outside of state agencies
- Heather Savage is going to create a spreadsheet of IYI resources that might become involved.
- Chris recently was requested by IU for a partnership with and will be collaborating with them on creating avenues for success for these youth.
- Each of these services should be summarized and made widely available for judges and probation officers with these cases.

The group reiterated the importance of a “warm” handoff. The youth should know what services are in place and have met the providers prior to release. Releasing youth with an appointment card and no work done has not been successful.

7. **Future meetings:** Due to the Holiday, the next meeting will be July 11th (second Thursday). This meeting will be from 1:30-2:30 in the same location.
8. **Closing:** Chair and Co-Chair thanked the members for their time and adjourned June 6, 2024, at 2:00 PM.