



Governor Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
San Wong, Director

## Justice Advisory Board

### Meeting Minutes

#### Google Meet

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

**Present:** Hon. Jeffrey Neary (Chair, Ex-officio); John Haila, Vice Chair; Kim Cheeks; Sarah Fineran; Eileen Meier; Tina Meth-Farrington; Andrea Muelhaupt; Cody Samec; Sherri Soich; Kurt Swaim; Maria Valdez Guerrero; Bruce Vander Sanden; Oliviah Walker; Dale Woolery  
Ex-officio: Hon. Romonda Belcher; Rep. Mary Lynn Wolfe

**Staff:** San Wong; Steve Michael; Mindi TenNapel; Shayla Gilleland; Ilma Jahic; Julie Rinker; Lanette Watson; Cheryl Yates; Jorge Calderon (intern)

**Others:** Laura Hessberg; Joseph Shoemaker; Michelle Tilotta; Arnold Woods

#### I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Hon. Jeffrey Neary, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Introductions were made. A quorum was present.

#### II. Approval of Minutes—November 10, 2021

Andrea Muelhaupt moved to approve the minutes from the November meeting, seconded by Tina Meth-Farrington. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### III. Division Update

Steve Michael reported the following:

- **Pre-Charge Diversion**—CJJP was awarded a \$1.5 million grant from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to establish new and expanded Pre-Charge Diversion (PCD) programs in local communities. The effort would allow the addition of five new communities.
- **Juvenile ReEntry Navigators**—Through funding acquired by Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services, three navigators will be hired to work with disabled youth transitioning from out-of-home placement. The work will focus on job skills, career readiness, and employment. The navigators will be in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Districts and either the Boys' State Training School or YSS in Ames. One position has been filled, two remain open.
- **Apprenticeship Research**—Mindi TenNapel reported that meetings have been held with six Iowa correctional institutions regarding apprenticeships for inmates. Staff are looking at data points such as release, recidivism, program completion rates and evaluations, and

comments on barriers and positive parts of the program. The survey was provided to all sponsors to identify common consistencies and areas of improvement. The research includes work with Iowa Workforce Development to collect data on wages, employment rates, and placement following release.

#### **IV. Survey – Law Enforcement’s Response to Mental Health Crisis**

Shayla Gilleland, CJJP, and Jorge Calderon, CJJP intern and public health master’s student at the University of Iowa, presented preliminary information on a two-part study regarding law enforcement’s response to mental health crises.

The information was based upon survey responses from 152 of Iowa’s 390 law enforcement agencies. The purpose was to assess current practices, provider partnerships, response strategies, training, frequency of calls, and resources available. A follow-up survey will be conducted to learn more about barriers and identify areas of improvement. The following highlights their presentation:

- Almost two-thirds of calls for service involve someone experiencing a mental health crisis.
- 10% of the agencies have a mental health provider on staff,
- 68% have a partnership with an inpatient/outpatient facility.
- 72% have trained officers or staff to provide crisis intervention services.
- Typical response strategies involve transport to hospital, direct officer assistance, or referrals to crisis intervention or a mental health provider.
- Greater access to mental health professionals and funding resources are needed.

Haila asked if the types of mental health situations were identified. Gilleland responded that survey respondents ranged from law enforcement administrators to dispatchers, so there was a broad range of first-hand knowledge. At this time, the purpose is to obtain a general consensus and collect further information through follow-up questions.

Haila asked how this information will be used. Gilleland responded that law enforcement personnel noted the importance of gathering this information. The follow up component will further identify gaps with hopes of making the information more meaningful.

Neary recommended contacting referral individuals to understand the context of the responses and whether someone is on staff or referred to other services.

Eileen Meier noted that services are needed in rural areas in order to avoid repeated interactions with the same individual. Gilliland responded that she hopes the project will ultimately identify services needed, geographic access to services, and burdens to law enforcement.

Beth Barnhill asked if law enforcement training included scenarios to practice response options. Gilleland offered to include this in the follow up survey.

Michael added that the purpose of this preliminary presentation was to obtain feedback from Board members on additional information that should be collected. He encouraged comments. Ultimately, the goal is to identify law enforcement needs at the community level.

Dale Woolery suggested surveying providers to see how the data match. Michael thought that would add value.

Haila noted the importance of accurate information to avoid anecdotal or inaccurate responses. He suggested sharing the information with legislators to propose funding for uniform training and mental health resources.

Gilleland noted the frequency of comments related to the overall lack of bed space, law enforcement resources, and amount of time spent on mental health issues.

## **V. 2022 Legislation Review**

Cheryl Yates reviewed the following bills that have passed the first funnel and are relevant to this Board and its work. She asked if other legislation should be tracked.

SF2363: Lengthen times prior to applying for modification  
HF2446: Child Pornography  
SF241: Obscene material, minors  
HF2462: Increased penalties for heroin  
SF2332: Sets bond amounts for A, B, C, and D forcible felons  
SF2419: Expunging criminal records on domestic abuse of sexual abuse case  
HF2464: Expungement of human trafficking records while the victim of human trafficking  
SF2328: Criminal Victims' Rights  
SF2292: Assaulting social workers attempting to provide emergency medical services  
SF2257 &  
HF2507: Transfers oversight of Detention Home Fund to CJJP

Eileen Meier asked about the status of legislation to establish a cold case unit. Yates responded that the aforementioned legislation was brought to the attention of CJJP through correctional impact statements. She offered to add the cold case unit legislation to her list.

## **VI. Juvenile Justice Task Force**

Michael reported that the Chief Justice has seated a task force to review and make recommendations to improve the juvenile justice system. Six work-groups have been seated. CJJP staff are on each workgroup and will carry forward advice from CJJP councils, committees, and this Board. Gender and racial disparities are priority areas that will be woven throughout the process.

## **VII. Report on Iowa Summit on Justice and Disparities**

Michael reported both he and Haila served on separate workshop panels. A lot of information was shared on the [2020 racial disparities report](#). The Chief Justice's task force was announced at the Summit.

Belcher asked if the report would be updated. Michael responded that the report will be updated with 2021 data.

**VIII. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**IX. Issues for Next Meeting**

Barnhill requested training on the Sex Offender Registry, sex offense penalties, efficacy of measures, and public perception and how to change it. She suggested inviting legislators. The Council of State Governments has conducted some work on offenders who commit harm and asked if there was general interest.

Muelhaupt responded that there is a diverse group of sex offenders who are treated differently. She is interested in being part of the dialogue and conversation.

Valdez noted JCO training by the Iowa Board for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers was very informative.

Vander Sanden offered to have staff present information on supervision, treatment, and roadblocks.

Neary asked that a discussion on sex offender treatment and other roadblocks be on the next agenda. He suggested Vander Sanden provide information.

Nearly also asked for an update by Chief Tupper on the Marshalltown mental health partnership—what was learned, what changes were made, etc.

**X. Adjournment**

Haila moved to adjourn, seconded by Vander Sanden. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker  
Administrative Secretary  
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning