



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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**MINUTES**

**Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Authority Regular Meeting / Budget Committee Agenda**

October 10, 2014

9:00 a.m.

300 West Adams

Suite 200, Large Conference Room

Chicago, Illinois 60606

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Budget Committee of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met during the Authority Regular Meeting on Friday, October 10, 2014, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois. Budget Committee Chair State's Attorney Anita Alvarez called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. Authority General Counsel Lisa Stephens called the roll. Other Authority members and designees present were Waisu Fashina for Clerk Dorothy Brown, Daynia Sanchez-Bass for Abishi Cunningham, Kathryn Dunne for Sheriff Tom Dart, Director Patrick Delfino, Felix Gonzalez, Col. Marc Maton for Director Hiram Grau, Cynthia Hora for Attorney General Madigan, Director Michael J. Pelletier, Rebecca Janowitz for President Toni Preckwinkle, Randall Rosenbaum, and Angela Rudolph. Also in attendance were Authority Associate Director Wendy McCambridge; Authority Program Supervisors Ron Reichgelt, Shai Hoffman, and Greg Stevens; Rick Krause representing the Illinois Department of Corrections; Sarah Schriber representing Prevent School Violence Illinois; and other Authority staff members and guests.

## **1. Minutes of the August 6, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting**

Ms. Hora corrected the text of the first sentence of the sixth full paragraph on Page 4 of the minutes. She said that it should read (correction in *italics*):

“Mr. Abel, in response to a question by Director Cutrone, said that any corrective action plans for problems youths are under the jurisdiction of the respective counties.”

**Motion:** Ms. Hora called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting, as corrected. Director Delfino seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## **2. Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) FFY11 and FFY12 Plan Adjustments**

Associate Director McCambridge, referring to the memo in the materials dated October 10, 2014 and regarding the FFY11 and FFY12 JAG Plan Adjustments, called attention to the chart on Page 1 of the memo describing \$22,777 in FFY11 funds recently returned to the Authority. She said that staff recommended that these funds be made available for future programming.

### Matching Funds Waiver Request

Associate Director McCambridge said that at the June 27, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting a designation of \$252,198 in JAG FFY12 funds was made to the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office for their Community Justice Centers program. The Grant Recommendation Report should have requested a match waiver for the program, but it did not. Staff recommends waiving this matching funds requirement for this designation.

### Recommended Designations

Associate Director McCambridge said that staff recommended three new designations:

#### 1. Cook County Public Defender’s Office - Specialized Defense Initiatives / DNA and Digital Evidence Litigation Program

Associate Director McCambridge said that with a project start date of December 1, 2014, this program would provide funding for six assistant public defenders to attend a conference and receive supportive training on DNA and digital forensic science. Staff

recommends designating \$39,140 in FFY11 funds, with a matching funds requirement waiver, to the Cook County Public Defender's Office to continue this program. The Grant Recommendation Report describes the past year's program progress and projected budget details for this designation.

Ms. Hora said that in the past she has pushed for such training on a statewide basis, so she appreciates providing other public defenders with this opportunity.

## 2. Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) - Correctional Initiatives / Community-based Transitional Services for Female Offenders

Associate Director McCambridge said that with a project start date of March 1, 2015, this program would provide funding for the Females in Transition (FIT) program which provides support services for female offenders in the Logan and Lincoln Correctional Facilities. Female offenders' needs are analyzed prior to release so that they can be given proper post-release services once they are back in their communities. Staff recommends designating \$190,081 in FFY12 funds, with a 25 percent match, to the IDOC so it can continue this program. The Grant Recommendation Report describes recent program performance and projected budget details for this designation.

Ms. Rudolph asked what the previous impact on recidivism was and what the targeted goals are for the next phase going forward.

Rick Krause, representing the IDOC, said that the goal is to reduce recidivism. There are no specific targeted goals for this program. Last year there were 57 women who were successfully discharged from parole who were on the program, although there were 16 who were reincarcerated. The overall recidivism rate is about 47 percent. Reincarcerated does not necessarily mean re-offended.

Ms. Rudolph asked if there was a plan to determine whether or not there is a positive impact on program participants compared to those who do not participate.

Director Cutrone said that the recidivism rate for program participants works out to about 22 percent, versus 47 percent for non-participants. Empirical evidence says that providing services for drug abuse and other issues for returning offenders, whether male or female, tends to reduce recidivism rates.

Ms. Rudolph said that if we're going to talk about spending money, then the review should include more than just the number of people served or what the funds supported; the discussion should include the impact of the program. Grant Recommendation Reports should include such information so that we can have a really good sense of what is happening with the funding.

Director Cutrone said that obviously that would be ideal and it can be done in some cases relatively easily, but the Authority simply does not have the resources to do long-term assessments of all of its programs. The Authority operates under the theory that evidence-based practices have been shown to work and should work with the populations that we're serving, provided that there's some fidelity to the program. The Authority does not have the ability to perform long-term outcome assessments or evaluations on all 400 to 500 of its grants.

Ms. Hora asked if the information that Ms. Rudolph requested could be provided at the next Budget Committee meeting, given that the projected start date of this designation is March 1, 2015.

Associate Director McCambridge said that the Budget Committee Meeting that had been planned for the end of October of 2014 had been cancelled and anything that had been planned to be presented at that meeting had been moved to this meeting. There is a possibility of conducting another Budget Committee meeting during the December 5, 2014 Authority Regular Meeting.

Chairman Ellis said that the Authority could provide the requested information at the next Budget Committee meeting.

Mr. Rosenbaum said that it would be great to get more information before making decisions, but there is enough information here to vote on this designation and there is no need to delay the vote. The information provided says that there were 379 individuals who participated in post-release services, and an individual can be on parole for up to three years. During the last year, 73 individuals finished parole, but not all 379 were going to finish last year. Of that 73, 57 successfully completed parole and 16 returned to IDOC. The normal recidivism rate is 47 percent and this snapshot shows a 22 percent recidivism rate for individuals finishing parole in the last year. This shows that the program is working to reduce recidivism.

### 3. Winnebago County Circuit Court - Youth Recovery Court (YRC)

Associate Director McCambridge said that with a project start date of December 6, 2014, this program will target juveniles in the juvenile justice system who have a mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders through comprehensive and therapeutic judicial interventions. Since the program began, the YRC has accepted 52 youths and served 49 youths and their families. The target population is 10 to 17-year-olds with nonviolent offenses who have mental illness and/or co-occurring substance abuse disorders. From December 6, 2013 to present, there have been eight successful completions and six unsuccessful discharges out of a total of 29 participants. The

program goal is to provide coordinated case management services and treatment to youths to improve overall functioning, reduce recidivism and increase the quantity and quality of mental health and other services available to youths who need them. Staff recommends designating \$205,526 in FFY12 funds, with a 25 percent match, to Winnebago County so it can continue this program. The Grant Recommendation Report describes recent program performance and projected budget details for this designation.

Ms. Rudolph said that she would appreciate having goals set for programs so that if a program is considered for continued funding, some sort of performance metric can be linked to the goals so that there is an idea of what took place during the most recent grant period. This would help to understand the longevity and the impact of a program.

Director Cutrone, referring to his comments at the beginning of the Authority Regular meeting, said that one of the future plans that the Authority is undertaking is to eventually have the entire grant contract drafted and ready before its designation is presented to the Budget Committee. Such information as Ms. Rudolph is requesting would be included. The Authority's grant contracts set specific goals and objectives.

Associate Director McCambridge said that staff has begun to provide this information; staff felt that these were the three core areas that the information was the most pertinent regarding the number of individuals served and discharged. This is just a snapshot. We are trying to provide an overview of the grant and its key performance areas.

Director Cutrone said that the Authority often has more information than gets presented in the Budget Committee meeting materials because staff tries not to burden the committee with Grant Recommendation Reports longer than a page or two. If any Board Members have any question in advance of a Budget Committee meeting, you may contact Associate Director McCambridge and staff will be happy to supply you with whatever information you are looking for.

**Motion – Matching Funds Waiver Request:** Ms. Hora moved to grant the matching funds requirement waiver requested by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for its Community Justice Centers program. Ms. Sanchez-Bass seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote, with an abstention by Budget Committee Chair / State's Attorney Alvarez.

**Motion 1:** Ms. Hora move to approve the recommended designation of \$39,140 in FFY11 funds, with a matching funds requirement waiver, to the Cook County Public Defender's Office - Specialized Defense Initiatives / DNA and Digital Evidence Litigation Program. Mr. Rosenbaum seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote with an abstention by Ms. Sanchez-Bass.

**Motion 2:** Mr. Rosenbaum moved to approve the recommended designation of \$190,081 in FFY12 funds, with a 25 percent match, to the IDOC so it can continue its Community-based Transitional Services for Female Offenders correctional initiative. Ms. Hora seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Motion 3:** Ms. Hora move to approve the recommended designation of \$205,526 in FFY12 funds, with a 25 percent match, to Winnebago County so it can continue its Youth Recovery Court program. Mr. Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

### **Federal Awards:**

Associate Director McCambridge, referring to the memo in the materials dated October 10, 2014 and regarding Federal Awards, said that this memo is to alert the Budget Committee to two grants recently awarded to the Authority.

### **3. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) FFY14 Plan Introduction**

The Authority recently received an FFY14 PREA award of \$131, 697. These funds are intended to assist Illinois in becoming compliant with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 and, thus, avoid a mandated five percent penalty for noncompliance to future JAG awards to Illinois. PREA seeks to eliminate sexual abuse in correctional facilities by setting standards for the physical space and for the training, assignment, and conduct of personnel in the facility. The Authority will act as a pass-through agent for the PREA funds. The only viable recipient of PREA funds is the IDOC, with whom the Authority worked on the PREA application. Essentially, the application was to assist the IDOC to assess whether or not the State of Illinois is in compliance with PREA. This audit is the first step in identifying deficiencies. Staff seeks permission to enter into an agreement with the IDOC for the expenditure of these funds in support of this audit.

### **4. Violence Against Women Act – Arrest Program (VAWA A) FFY14 Plan Introduction**

The Authority recently received an FFY14 VAWA A award of \$900,000 to be spent over three years. The Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (Arrest Program) recognizes that sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are crimes that require the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable for their actions through investigation, arrest, and prosecution of violent offenders, and through close judicial scrutiny and

management of offender behavior. The Arrest Program challenges the community to work collaboratively to identify problems, and share ideas that will result in new responses to ensure victim safety and offender accountability. Staff is working to determine a list of appropriate recipients of these funds and will request designations at a future date. Staff anticipates making recommendations at the December 5, 2014 Budget Committee Meeting. In the past, the VAWA A program had been managed by the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA) who had worked with the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council (IFVCC) who had implemented this program throughout Illinois.

Ms. Hora said that she would like to see more requests-for-proposals (RFPs) so that any qualified entity in the state could apply, rather than having staff make selections.

Associate Director McCambridge said that some of the Authority's new internal reforms will require most, if not all, grant programs to become subject to the RFP process.

Ms. Janowitz said that she supported that move because we often do not recognize how many groups have expertise in these issues, but have not been tapped. Many more people could come to the table and participate.

Director Cutrone said that the VAWA A grants are, in effect, continuations of grants that had been issued via the IVPA in support of IFVCC programs. There is one in every judicial circuit in Illinois and they bring together the necessary stakeholders to do something like encourage arrest in these situations and to provide training for police. There is generally one chief judge in each circuit, so we are treating this as continuation grants. The Authority will be conducting many more RFPs, particularly in situations that do not involve continuation grants.

Ms. Hora said that the Authority should consider RFPs with continuation grants as well because there are a lot of agencies that are unable to apply for these funds if we just continue current programs for years and years. It would be good to discover what other programs exist that may be able to achieve the same goals or different goals and possibly do it better.

**Motion:** Ms. Hora moved to approve the staff request from permission to enter into an agreement with the IDOC for the expenditure of the FFY14 PREA award of \$131, 697. Mr. Rosenbaum seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

No action was required regarding the VAWA A plan introduction as it was intended for informational purposes only.

## **5. Violence Prevention Programs – Bullying Prevention (BP) SFY15 Plan Adjustment**

Associate Director McCambridge, referring to the memo in the materials dated October 10, 2014 and regarding Bullying Prevention, said that the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance (ISSA) is an organization that works with Prevent School Violence Illinois (PSVI). PSVI is a statewide coalition fiscally sponsored by the ISSA, which provides professional development and technical assistance to school personnel and other stakeholders to prevent and address bias-based bullying.

Associate Director McCambridge said that last year the Authority provided a grant to ISSA / PSVI for training for the Authority's new Bullying Prevention (BP) grantees. This \$10,000, which would be for a six-month grant starting on January 1, 2015, would again provide this training to a new cohort of BP grantees. The Illinois General Assembly provided additional funds for BP, and these funds are being recommended to support an analysis for the training for this new set of BP cohorts. ISSA / PSVI will tailor training for this new cohort of BP grantees and provide technical assistance to the grantees. Grantees that received the initial training last year will receive booster training this year and this will include an assessment to determine what their needs are and training will be tailored to them.

Mr. Gonzalez asked how \$10,000 would help solve anything.

Sarah Schriber, Coalition Director for PSVI, said that for this next grant cycle, a lot of foundational work had already been accomplished. This enables PSVI to use these funds to dive deeper into what the grantees are experiencing and what we expect the new grantees to experience. The PSVI partners with many schools across Illinois. PSVI administered a bias-based bullying survey in 2012 and in 2014 and what PSVI learned was that 87 percent of students who reported having been bullied also reported that bullying involved or seemed to be motivated by some sort of bias against a personal characteristic, either actual or perceived; race, religion, sexuality, gender, etc. PSVI also learned that as the biases against personal characteristics increase for individual students, their outcomes, such as depression and missing school, also increase exponentially. Often, these issues are overlooked when BP programs are implemented in schools, so the issues of bias and the impact of bias on systems and on individual students are generally not included. PSVI supplements the work that the schools are doing and assess the role of bias-related bullying on an individualized basis at each of the participating schools in the two cohorts.



Mr. Gonzalez asked if, at some level, all bullying is bias of some sort. If the actual act of bullying is biased in and of itself, how is this solved?

Ms. Schriber said that some bullying is very explicitly motivated by race or gender. 13 percent of students, although having said that they were bullied, did not indicate a specific motivation for the bullying. The outcomes are more serious when the motivations are specific. Bullying is a power imbalance and it is important to find the causes of that imbalance.

Mr. Gonzalez said that between two kids on a play lot, there's always going to be an imbalance; not everyone is equal on every single level. Kids are from one side of the tracks or they're from the other. It's always been that way. How does this program help these kids for \$10,000?

Ms. Schriber said that \$10,000 would make a difference because so much foundational work has already been done. This grant would support taking the baseline trainings that PSVI does, learning where they are in the state and what their populations look like, the specific language used in the bullying, and tailor training accordingly because the issues are different. In all African-American communities, bullying often takes the form of skin color and talking about different tones of skin color, but if we just talk about bullying in general as a power imbalance, that doesn't really get to the core. If the percentage of kids who reported being bullied was much lower than 87 percent, we might talk about bullying differently, but we're finding is that this added information is giving the people who are implementing BP programs more targeted information that is much more relevant to the specific populations and it is showing to be effective. These funds would supplement the training.

Director Cutrone said that this is exactly the kind of thing that the Authority has been trying to do. PSVI is doing training and also evaluation or surveying to establish the necessity for the training and raise awareness of bias-based bullying. The heavy lifting will actually be done by the 17 grantees who are the subjects of the next grant.

Ms. Schriber said that each cohort will receive one six-hour training and then technical assistance, depending on what they're experiencing in their communities. They can then call on PSVI because PSVI is a statewide coalition with partners all over Illinois who can provide additional services based on specific experiences. PSVI is piloting this approach and the surveys and takes its evaluation very seriously. This is part of a much larger program not funded by the Authority.

Mr. Rosenbaum asked if there has been research showing that anti-bullying training and discussion is more effective when done in grade schools or middle schools or high schools. If the Authority will be putting money towards this effort in the future, then the

funding should go where it will be most effective. The grantees in the next designation request include K-12, middle schools, and high schools.

Ms. Schriber said that there has been a lot of research about where bullying is most prevalent in the K-12 range and it has a lot to do with child and adolescent development. The most bullying actually happens in middle school. In the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), this would fall under K-8, but it is mostly Grades 6, 7, and 8. Both ISSA and PSVI are shifting focus from high schools where many of these programs are implemented and have been for many years to middle schools and elementary schools because prevention is preferable to intervention. There is a lot of intervention at the high school level, but if the BP efforts start at the Pre-K level, then we would expect to see better outcomes as the kids get older.

Associate Director McCambridge said that the next recommendation is for \$161,931 in SFY15 BP funds for a six-month planning grant starting on January 1, 2015 to ISSA to allocate funds for some new grantees. In October of 2013, the Authority release an RFP for BP, and as a result staff informed the Budget Committee that of 28 applicants, 10 and been selected for awards last year. Based on the scores of that RFP, there were other very well-deserving agencies that applied for grant funds, but were not awarded because the Authority did not have the funds. Today, staff is requesting that some of the additional funds recently received from the General Assembly be used to support a new cohort, including seven new grantees, so that they can perform BP training and evaluations. Those seven grantees are listed on Page 3 of the Grant Recommendation Report. Agencies were selected based on RFP score and geographical locations. She described the designation recommendations as listed in the chart on Page 3 of the Grant Recommendation Report.

Associate Director McCambridge, in response to a question from Ms. Janowitz, said that the second cohort was drawn from the original RFP.

Ms. Janowitz asked if there were other potential grantees left from that RFP and who was turned down in the first round.

Associate Director McCambridge said that out of 28 RFP respondents, 11 were not selected. If the Authority were to receive additional funding, it would issue a new RFP because staff feels that this is the cutoff for those that were eligible.

Ms. Janowitz asked if any consideration was given to perhaps issuing a new RFP and giving applicants an opportunity to improve on their original submissions. She said that she was concerned about a system that rewards the best applications, but then closes the RFP; this is how the same programs end up being funded over and over. Many grant issuing agencies tend to give to the same organizations repeatedly. It would be interesting

at some point to look at who was not approved and why and what opportunities could be provided for people to do a better job. Simply saying, "All right, you will get your money later," is not necessarily going to incentivize improving the grant applications as they go forward. Many people might want to improve their applications without necessarily knowing how to do it.

Associate Director McCambridge said that last year there were a number of RFPs for BP and for the After School Programs (ASP) that engendered a lot of interest. Staff arranged for those that did not receive awards from the Authority's RFPs to work with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) so that they could apply for grants through the IDHS's grant application training. IDHS has an on-line training and a video with instructions for creating good applications. Those who did not receive grant applications were referred to IDHS and put into their system and IDHS sent out invitations for them to attend IDHS's grants training. Staff viewed as a positive the ability to educate those who may not have done what was needed in order to score high enough for an application.

Ms. Janowitz said that she would be interested to find out how many people took advantage of that opportunity and found it helpful.

**Motion:** Director Delfino moved to approve the BP SFY15 designation recommendations. Ms. Hora seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote, with an abstention by Mr. Gonzalez.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Adjourn**

**Motion:** Ms. Hora moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

A citizen of the general public in the gallery who identified herself as the Queen Sister asked if this meeting was open for public participation and/or citizen comment.

Authority General Counsel Stephens said that there would be time for public comment at the end of the Authority Regular Meeting.

A citizen of the general public in the gallery who identified himself as George Blakemore asked if two meetings were being conducted; the Budget Committee Meeting and the Authority Regular Meeting. He said that the public was supposed to be able to participate in both.

Authority Chairman Ellis asked Mr. Blakemore if he had a comment with respect to the Budget Committee Meeting.

Mr. Blakemore said that he has been educated, enlightened, and informed in how these grants are given out in various communities to various agencies and he has written down, "goals, achievements, evaluations, and accountability." He said that there is something inherently wrong with the grant-issuing process and that he expects the Authority to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money. He said that he was appalled that one of the Budget Committee members asked how a program was evaluated and whether or not it achieved its goals and that we all know that the goals are to stop recidivism and bullying. There is something wrong with people who have not been evaluated in the past getting grants.

Mr. Blakemore said that there were two meetings here and one did not have a quorum. He noted that some stakeholders were not present at the Authority Regular Meeting's roll call and some who were have already left. He asked if the Authority has an in-house audit and who performs an outside audit.

Mr. Blakemore said that he felt bullied when Budget Committee Chair Alvarez called for the Budget Committee's adjournment. He asked who the Board was trying to hoodwink. He acknowledged Authority Chairman Ellis's intellect and said that Authority Chairman Ellis made an astute observation in recognizing that the public had a right to speak at the Budget Committee Meeting and also at the Authority Regular Meeting. He thanked Authority Chairman Ellis for having the wisdom to always never (sic) block out the public's participation.

Mr. Blakemore noted that he was not interested in receiving any grant funds himself. He requested that the Authority stop giving out grants in-house. He thanked all of the Board members and designees who were present and he asked them all to remember who they were; public servants. He said that something was inherently wrong with these grants (he did not identify any specific problems).

Authority Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Blakemore for his comments.

The Budget Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m. The Authority Board then moved on to discuss other items on the Authority Regular Meeting agenda.