Memorandum

To: Strategic Opportunities Committee Members

From: John Maki, Executive Director

Date: June 19, 2017

Re: June 27th Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting Information

This memo provides a brief overview of the Strategic Opportunities Committee meeting on Thursday, June 27th from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

As you know, the purpose of this committee is to recommend strategic direction to the board and staff of ICJIA. The committee reviews the mandate of the agency as it is established by law and analyzes the elements of that charge to determine strategies to accomplish the mandate. It makes recommendations of strategic direction to the board for review and approval. Once approved, the strategic direction serves as the basis for policy and programmatic decisions about agency investments as reflected in notices of funding opportunity and eventually funding of proposals submitted in response to those notices. One element of the agency’s mandate must be addressed by the committee.

At the meeting, ICJIA staff will facilitate a discussion on the agency’s mandate “to coordinate statewide violence prevention efforts and develop a statewide plan that includes public health and public safety approaches to violence prevention in families, communities, and school” (20 ILCS 390/2). (See attached selections from ICJIA’s enabling statute related to violence prevention.) This mandate was added to ICJIA’s enabling statute in 2012, when the agency absorbed the functions of the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority. While ICJIA has engaged in strategic planning initiatives to help program its federal formula awards and has done some work to help coordinate violence prevention activities, it has not developed a statewide violence prevention plan. At the meeting, the staff will present information on the history and research of violence prevention programming and on how the agency’s current work is related to violence prevention. The ultimate goal for the meeting will be to begin to formulate how ICJIA’s staff and board can use its existing resources to develop a statewide violence prevention plan.
From ICJIA’s Enabling Statute

(20 ILCS 3930/2) (from Ch. 38, par. 210-2)

Sec. 2. Purpose of Act. The purpose of this Act is to coordinate the use of information in the criminal justice system; to promulgate effective criminal justice information policy; to encourage the improvement of criminal justice agency procedures and practices with respect to information; to provide new information technologies; to permit the evaluation of information practices and programs; to stimulate research and development of new methods and uses of criminal justice information for the improvement of the criminal justice system and the reduction of crime; to protect the integrity of criminal history record information, while protecting the citizen's right to privacy; and to coordinate statewide violence prevention efforts and develop a statewide plan that includes public health and public safety approaches to violence prevention in families, communities, and schools.

Sec. 10.1. Transfer of Illinois Violence Prevention Authority.

(a) The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, through its board, existing committees, and any committee or committees created on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly by law or pursuant to administrative rules of the Authority shall assume the powers, duties, rights, and responsibilities transferred from the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, including the powers, duties, rights, and responsibilities:

(1) to coordinate Statewide violence prevention efforts and development of a Statewide plan that incorporates public health and public safety approaches to violence prevention in families, communities, and schools;

(2) to seek and receive funds that may be available from private and public sources for violence prevention efforts;

(3) to distribute, pursuant to Authority rules and subject to available appropriations and other funds received for the purposes of this Act or the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of 1995, grants to community and Statewide organizations, other units of local and State government, and public school districts that address violence prevention in a comprehensive and collaborative manner, including, but not limited to, (A) community-based youth violence prevention programs, such as mentoring programs, after-school programs, and job training or development programs, (B) programs for the implementation and evaluation of comprehensive school-based violence prevention programs from prekindergarten through 12th grade, (C) early childhood intervention programs designed to prevent violence and identify and serve young children and families at risk, (D) family violence and sexual assault prevention initiatives, (E) programs that integrate violence prevention initiatives with alcohol and substance abuse prevention efforts, (F) programs
that integrate violence prevention services with health care provisions, and (G) programs
to support innovative community policing or law enforcement approaches to violence
prevention; and

(4) to provide technical assistance and training to help build the capacity of
communities, organizations, and systems to develop, implement, and evaluate violence
prevention programs.
AGENDA

I. Call To Order and Roll Call

II. Approval of the July 18, 2016; October 27, 2016; February 27, 2017; and March 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes

III. Discussion of ICJIA’s Statewide Violence Prevention Plan Mandate: How Can ICJIA Use Strategic Planning to Influence Violence Prevention Funding and Decision Making?

IV. Other Business

V. Public Comment

VI. Adjourn

This public meeting will be accessible to persons with disabilities in compliance with Executive Order #5 and pertinent state and federal laws upon anticipated attendance. Persons with disabilities planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact by telephone or letter John Klaer, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority,
MINUTES

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY
STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.
300 W. Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Roll Call

Committee Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. and asked General Counsel Angie Weis to call the roll.

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Also in attendance were:

Junaid Afeef, Authority Targeted Violence Prevention Program Director
Megan Alderden, Authority Research Director
Malgorzata Bereziewicz, Authority VOCA Attorney
Maureen Brennan, Authority Grant Monitor
After the initial roll call, four of the five Committee members needed for a quorum were present. Chairman Wolff suggested moving to agenda items that did not require a quorum.

**Executive Director’s Report**

Director Maki thanked the Committee and Authority staff for their hard work in moving from plans that had begun in the Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) to implementation. At this point in the cycle, he explained, the SOC would be starting to look at possibilities for 2018, especially as the Victims of Crime Act recently expanded eligibility.

**Victim-Centered Restorative Justice Research Presentation**

The Victim of Crimes Act permits resources to be allocated for restorative justice. Authority Research Director Megan Alderden explained the context for the use of these resources and began by clarifying that while restorative justice philosophy has always included the victim perspective, the victim-centered model is a specific type of restorative justice that is defined by the desires of the victim rather than by an interest in diversion of the perpetrator from the criminal justice system. She described three pillars of victim-centered restorative justice: addressing harms and needs, meeting obligations to restore the victim, and engaging stakeholders. Victim needs include information about the crime, the ability to talk about how the crime affected them, empowerment, and restitution or repair of harm. Dr. Alderden quoted expert Howard Zehr in listing critiques, which include a focus on offender needs rather than victim needs, intrusion of system goals (such as a reduction in criminal justice population), and a lack of victim input in the planning process. She also reported that Zehr’s ideal restorative justice systems would...
have victim involvement at all stages, optional dialogue with the offender, involvement of the victim’s support network, practitioner training, and take place in a safe environment. She said research support is mixed, with a meta-analysis of restorative justice programs finding victim satisfaction and higher rates of offender restitution but limited by the halo effect and self-selection bias. Dr. Alderden recommended explicit guidelines, ample oversight to ensure compliance to guidelines prescribed by the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC), and rigorous evaluation that focuses on victim outcomes.

Dr. Alderden described restorative justice in Pennsylvania, endorsed as victim-centered by the OVC. Though other states use this process for lower-level, petty, or juvenile crimes, in Pennsylvania, many violent and sexual crimes are processed through this system. Dr. Alderden reported that Pennsylvania’s victim advocacy agency runs a victim-offender dialogue process and an apology letter bank.

Meeting attendees commented on barriers to operating this program outside of the criminal justice system, what will be allowed under VOCA funding, success of restorative justice in the United Kingdom, overlap between victim and offender populations, cost and evaluation of the Pennsylvania restorative justice programs, and the Restorative Justice Community Center in North Lawndale.

Victims of Crime Act Updates

Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor, summarized recent progress on VOCA funding opportunities. She said transitional housing grants had been executed, programs began in March, and funding totaled to $2.1 million. She said legal civil services applications were being reviewed and requests totaled $7.1 million. A notice of funding opportunity for unmet needs of underserved populations was planned for release in May 2017.

According to Director Maki and Ms. Desai, the combination of the new GATA grant process and new rules on what is allowable under VOCA has challenged the staff to refine the language used in notices and reach out to the philanthropic community to help score applications and communicate gaps in what the agency is not allowed to fund.

Justice Assistance Grant Updates

Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor, summarized recent progress on JAG funding opportunities. Following Budget Committee approval, applications for grants to support law enforcement responses to narcotics were due in May 2017, and, once scored, suitable applications will be presented to the Budget Committee in September for a anticipated program start date in October 2017. Mr. Stevens also described the residential
substance abuse treatment and aftercare services funding opportunity, for which applications are due June 13, 2017.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Wolff asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hora moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Preckwinkle. The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.
Roll Call

Committee Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order and asked General Counsel Angie Weis to call the roll.

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Also in attendance were:

Maureen Brennan, Authority Criminal Justice Specialist
Caitlin DeLong, Authority Executive Assistant
Chair Wolff welcomed the group and mentioned that a board’s contributions fall into three categories: fiduciary, strategic, and generative/creative. She said while the other responsibilities are often clear, it can be difficult to make time for the generative/creative function, and it is the Strategic Opportunity’s Committee job to step back and think about what big-picture intentions for the justice system in Illinois might look like. This meeting will provide an opportunity for this work.

Executive Director’s Report

Director Maki thanked Chair Wolff for her insight and said his intention for the meeting was to describe projects that are moving from planning to implementation. He asked for the members’ feedback on the Authority’s progress and future.

Justice Assistance Grant Updates

Director Maki reported that the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program had been moved into a Grant Accountability and Transparency Act-compliant structure. Conflicts between the state and federal calendars, staffing bandwidth, designing strategic funding groups, and including research staff were cited as hurdles overcome during implementation.

Goals of delivering statewide benefit through JAG programs have been reached by incorporating research and information sharing, Director Maki said, particularly with the inception of the Department of Information and Technology. Competing with the private sector in recruiting talent has proven difficult, though ICJIA has a history of innovation in crime-mapping technology, he said.

Chair Wolff encouraged the group to define “statewide benefit,” and give their thoughts on whether progress had been made toward the goal. Director Maki answered that it did not have a static definition, but rather was an orientation that the Authority uses to
interpret research on what the state needs at different points in time. Ms. Campanelli said the benefit that ICJIA can provide is violence prevention by meeting client needs, such as reentry programs. Ms. Vollen-Katz added that statewide benefit does not necessarily mean every citizen profits from every program, but that funding decisions should be made with intentionality toward learning how to solve a problem so that the knowledge can be shared.

When Director Maki added that geographic diversity was also a piece of achieving statewide benefit, Ms. Vollen-Katz said she appreciated the Authority hosting training and events outside of Cook County.

Mr. Delfino stated that he is seeing progress in including all jurisdictions, but many southern counties still have unmet basic needs. He said his office has plans to organize a meeting with new prosecutors who may not know what resources are available to them and Chair Wolff suggested including ICJIA in the event. Judge Robb suggested Authority representation at bi-annual state’s attorneys' and public defenders' associations meetings to discuss how to apply for grants.

Ms. Hora asked about conducting a needs assessment for JAG funding similar to what was conducted for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds. Director Maki said JAG was initially set up to address law enforcement equipment needs rather than programs and it can be difficult to allocate funds to innovative programming or research.

Chair Wolff revisited Ms. Campanelli’s statement on violence prevention as the goal of the justice system. Mr. Chadd responded that the goal should be achieving accurate convictions, and Ms. Campanelli agreed. Ms. Vollen-Katz summarized both goals by suggesting that the common objective is reduced justice system contact. Ms. Desai reminded the group of the JAG priorities that had been agreed upon in 2016. Judge Robb suggested that those goals should be discussed regularly in committee meetings.

Director Maki said that percentages of JAG funding will not be set aside for particular program areas. Though available amounts are indicated in public Notices of Funding Opportunities, they can be adjusted based on the volume and quality of responses, especially during this first year.

Ms. Hora suggested the committee could receive a presentation of how the $4.2 million in JAG funding is divided. Director Maki welcomed future discussions about whether specific amounts or proportions should be set aside for innovative approaches. He added that all policies will be taken to the Authority Board for approval.

Director Maki said the committee had moved JAG into a competitive funding structure, informed by the Research & Analysis Unit’s work. ICJIA also has adopted a no-match
policy, following guidance from the U.S. Department of Justice. Director Maki also relayed the recommendation that the Authority follow the GATA structure in offering three-year grant cycles.

**Victims of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act Updates**

Director Maki laid out the anticipated Victims of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act funding calendar. He said the first notice of funding opportunity under the new competitive structure was for comprehensive legal assistance and the next will be for unmet needs for victims of child abuse, community violence, financial exploitation, and impaired driving. Ms. Brennan said legal assistance funding has been offered by ICJIA in the past, but not to this degree ($6 million). She said VOCA guidelines now allow for a greater range of services to be covered. Director Maki added that the Authority will be following federal recommendations in centralizing victim services, rather than funding single legal experts at various locations.

**Policy Updates**

Director Maki reported that the Criminal Justice & Sentencing Reform Commission report was released in January and the next Board meeting will include a panel of Commission members. Chair Wolff asked what the mechanism would be for monitoring progress on implementing the Commission’s recommendations. Director Maki answered that it would likely be the combined responsibility of ICJIA, the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council, and local criminal justice coordinating councils, and that he would be seeking the input of the Board to assign state-level accountability.

Director Maki reported ICJIA also recently became responsible for coordinating the Sex Offenses and Sex Offender Registration Task Force. He said the task force is charged with developing a report on sex offender registration, recidivism, and risk-assessment, and how Illinois aligns with national best practices in the treatment of people who commit sexual crimes.

**Future Meeting Dates**

The 2017 SOC meeting schedule was proposed. The next meeting will be held at the end of March. The committee then will convene every two months.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.
Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Wolff asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hora motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Vollen-Katz. The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.
MINUTES

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting
July 18, 2016, at 1 p.m.
300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois  60606

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Strategic Opportunities Committee of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met on Monday, July 18, 2016, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, in Chicago, Illinois. Committee Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

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Also in attendance were:
Megan Alderden, Authority Research & Analysis Unit Associate Director
Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor
MaryAnn Dyar, Authority Program Supervisor
May 25, 2016 Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion: Ms. Hora moved to approve the Minutes of the May 25, 2016, Strategic Opportunities Committee meeting. Ms. Vollen-Katz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Stopgap Budget Discussion

Authority Executive Director Maki said funds made available in the stopgap measure approved by the Governor would be used to fund programs that had not been funded over the past year. The Safe from the Start and Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Councils programs were not funded by the stopgap bill. The Authority is disappointed that these programs were not funded as they have a rich track record. Staff are still sorting through certain issues before sending official communication to the non-funded grantees. Designations for most stop-gap funded programs will be presented for approval at the August 18, 2016, Budget Committee meeting or soon thereafter.

Authority Deputy Director Kurtz said that the Adult Redeploy Illinois program was fully funded by the stopgap bill, including funding for the prior fiscal year.

Use of Grantees as Pass-Through Entities Discussion

Authority Executive Director Maki said the Authority historically has used lead entities to handle contracts with sub-grantees. Examples of this include funding to the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the CeaseFire program at University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). This practice has been in place for many years, is entirely legitimate and used by other state agencies as well,
Director Maki said. Authority staff are now reviewing our practice in the light of the Governmental Accountability Transparency Act (GATA) and the audit of the Community Violence Prevention Program. A recommendation based on this analysis will be made to the committee early next year. Committee Members discussed strengths and challenges in the use of lead entities. Strengths include cost effectiveness and subject matter expertise while some challenges include potential conflicts of interest and the need to create more innovation and competition.

A discussion followed on how the state’s Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, modeled after federal grant requirements, would require grantees to pre-qualify for grant funds and, therefore, mitigate some of the risks associated with engaging with unfamiliar grantees. Depending on the outcome of the risk assessment, the Authority may put additional special conditions in the grant contract. Given that the Authority has been following the federal requirements, there will be minimal changes to our practices. Staff will create new policies and procedures where appropriate. Chair Paula Wolff requested that these changes and additions, along with the summary of the new policies and processes prompted by GATA, be presented to the committee when finalized.

The committee also discussed the need to increase staff comfort with the use of data and outcomes. Director Maki stated that the Authority strives to embody data informed and outcome driven practices and should disseminate this understanding to other state agencies. To that end, Associate Director Alderden has been tasked with assisting public safety agencies to develop measurable outcomes for their respective agencies. At a future meeting, staff could present on the various projects that work towards improved use of data for outcome driven practices.

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Planning Process Discussion**

Director Maki introduced Jaclyn Houston-Kolnik, Ph.D, a victimologist hired by the Authority to manage the new Center for Victim Studies. One of her first projects is conducting a VOCA statewide victim needs assessment.

Ms. Houston-Kolnik delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled “VOCA Research Plan.” The presentation focused on victimization trends and characteristics, crime victims’ needs, and service gaps (See Attachment A). The presentation highlighted previously employed and new methods that will access a wider range of victimized persons which several committee members stated was very important. One important difference from previous assessments is the collection of original data. To that end, the consultant group, Aeffect, has begun their high level stakeholder interviews. Members requested to know the categories of victimization. The high level stakeholder interviewees represent the following categories: child abuse, domestic violence, elder
abuse, DUI related victimization, families of homicide victims, LGBTQ victims, legal issues experienced by victims, sexual violence and trauma.

The stakeholder interviews will inform in depth interviews with victims, families of victims, victim assistance providers and victim advocates. Finally, these in depth interviews will inform an on-line victim survey that will be widely distributed and available to all victims in English and Spanish.

In addition, committee members noted that the plan to assess victim focused funding across the state needs to incorporate local funding sources. In response to questions from committee members, Director Maki stated that the statewide assessment will be complete by December and that the Authority plans to convene the Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee first in August and then in December to review and respond to the assessment report.

Authority staff members also updated the committee on the release of the VOCA Transitional Housing for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking request for proposal.

**Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Plan Staff Updates**

Authority Research & Analysis Unit Associate Director Megan Alderden delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Research Plan to Inform JAG and Other Federal Funding.” (See Attachment A). She said research would focus on drug and substance abuse, violent crime, criminal justice system practices, and victimization. The VOCA assessment information discussed above can be folded into this research plan, our larger agency goals and funding directions. All feedback and information gathered will inform our planning in an iterative manner to be responsive to the ever changing public safety landscape.

**Other Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**
Motion: Ms. Hora moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Haynes-Turner seconded the motion and the passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.
**VOCA Research Questions**

- What do victimization trends and characteristics look like in Illinois?
- What are the needs of crime victims in Illinois?
  - How and by whom are these needs being met?
  - What needs are not being met?
- What are the gaps in services for crime victims?
  - Where (geographically) are services lacking?
  - What types of services are missing and how does this vary by crime type?
  - How do we best address these gaps?

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**Review Existing Literature**

- Research on the experiences and needs of victims of crime
- Core program components that reflect promising/proven practices
- Performance measures to monitor implementation and outcomes

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**Analyze Secondary Data**

- Use UCR data to assess crime trends and characteristics
- Analyze InfoNet data to understand victim characteristics, such as who sought services and what services they received
- Identify the prevalence of types of crime (UCR) and victim characteristics (InfoNet) by area/region
VOCA PLAN

1. **Work with State Agencies**
   - Understand the types of victim service funding available through other state agencies
   - Incorporate feedback and insights from these agencies

2. **Collect Original Data**
   - Conduct interviews and surveys with 3 stakeholders:
     - Victims (Aeffect)
     - Service Providers (ICJIA & Aeffect)
     - Criminal Justice Practitioners (ICJIA & Aeffect)

3. **Strategy, data-driven plan to address victim needs**
   - A comprehensive picture of the existing services and funding streams.

4. **Summary of victim needs literature and promising and proven practices.**
   - Documentation of geographic crime distribution and crime trends to identify areas of need by crime type and region.

5. **A comprehensive picture of the existing services and funding streams.**
   - Victim, service provider, and cj practitioner insights on victim service needs, gaps, and capacities.

6. **A comprehensive picture of the existing services and funding streams.**
   - Victim, service provider, and cj practitioner insights on victim service needs, gaps, and capacities.
VOCA Research Question 1
What do victimization trends and characteristics look like in Illinois?

- Previous literature on trends and characteristics of victimization across time
- UCR Data
- State agencies assessment and data
- Conversations with stakeholders- “On the ground,” what are they seeing?

VOCA Research Question 2
What are the needs of crime victims in Illinois?

- How are these needs being met?
- Who is meeting these needs?
- What needs are not being met and how do we meet them?

- Existing literature highlighting gaps and successful programs assisting crime victims
- Existing literature on core, promising/proven practices
- State agencies’ funding and input
- Collecting data from stakeholders: Victims, Service Providers, Criminal Justice Practitioners

VOCA Research Questions
What are the gaps in services for crime victims?

- Where (geographically) are services lacking?
- Where are services for certain types of victims missing?
- How do we best address these gaps?

- Geographic configuration of crime (by type; UCR)
- Gaps in state agencies’ funding
- Map of where victim service providers are/are not providing services (by crime type) gleaned from ICJIA/Affect surveys and interviews
- Existing literature and practitioner feedback on core practices

JAG Funding Purpose Areas

Purpose areas:

- Law enforcement
- Prosecution and court programs
- Prevention and education programs
- Corrections and community corrections
- Drug treatment and enforcement
- Crime victim and witness initiatives
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
Research Questions

- What are the trends in crime availability in Illinois?
- What are the resources available for local and state courts?
- What are the resources available for correctional and community services?
- What are the needs of criminal justice systems in Illinois?
- What are the needs of crime victims?
- What are the trends in violent crime in Illinois?
- What is the current practice response to violent crime in Illinois?
- What are the prevention or diversion programs?
- What gaps or needs exist?

Research Plan

- Funding data: UCR/CHRI data
- Original data: in-prison data, 6-practitioner weights, 4-practitioner weights, 6-practitioner weights
- Literature review: National practices, Promising practices, National practices, Promising practices, National practices, Promising practices
- Other state funding: Substance abuse and mental health programs

Research Plan Status

- Substance Abuse/Drugs
- Violent Crime
- CS Practices
- Victimization

Periodic, timely publication of information to help inform the conversation around improving public safety.

Result

- Periodic, timely publication of information to help inform the conversation around improving public safety.
- Documentation to assist JAG planning and identifying other funding priorities
- Blueprint for continued analysis of criminal justice issues, practices, and policies

2016 Research Priorities

- Collect, analyze, and publish data that informs the program needs in local jurisdictions as well as the state overall, including trends pertaining to 1) crime, 2) risk factors for delinquency and criminality, and 3) criminal justice operations and caseloads.
- Educate and inform citizens and stakeholders about crime and justice issues.
- Identify performance measures based on program logic models, design grantee data reports to capture those measures, and use data for determining program effectiveness.
- Identify evidence-based programs that fall within Authority funding priorities, and compile documentation of critical components of those program models for use by Authority grants staff to determine feasibility to the model in grant applications.
- Provide specific and extensive evaluation support, including cost-benefit analysis wherever possible, in areas where large allocations of grant funding have been made by the Authority including multi-jurisdictional drug task forces, community-based violence prevention, community corrections, and problem solving courts.
- Conduct applied research studies in priority areas to guide policy, practices and guide funding decisions in the state of Illinois and inform policy makers, practitioners, and citizens.
- Partner with other local and state agencies and universities on identifying important topics to examine and conducting research and evaluation projects.
Call to Order and Roll Call

The Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met on Monday, October 27, 2016, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, in Chicago, Illinois. Authority General Counsel Angie Weis called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Quorum was not attained.

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<th>Committee Member Attendance</th>
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<td>Director John Baldwin</td>
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<td>Director Patrick Delfino</td>
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<td>David R. McNaughton for Interim Superintendent Eddie Johnson</td>
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<td>Wendy Cohen for Attorney General Lisa Madigan</td>
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<td>Sheriff Michael McCoy</td>
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<td>Director Michael J. Pelletier</td>
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<td>President Toni Preckwinkle</td>
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<td>Rick Tanksley</td>
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<td>Paula Wolff, Committee Chair</td>
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<th>Other Authority Members Present</th>
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<tr>
<td>Daynia Sanchez-Bass for Public Defender Amy Campanelli</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Robb, Authority Chair (substitute committee chair)</td>
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<td>Jennifer Vollen-Katz</td>
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Also in attendance were:

Megan Alderden, Authority Research & Analysis Unit Associate Director
Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor
Mary Ann Dyar, Authority Program Supervisor
Shai Hoffman, Authority Program Supervisor
Rebecca Janowitz, representing the Cook County Justice Advisory Council
Jude Lemrow, Authority Federal & State Grants Unit Administrative Assistant
John Maki, Authority Executive Director
Mary Ratliff, Authority Program Supervisor (via teleconference)
Ron Reichgelt, Authority Program Supervisor
Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor
Angie Weis, Authority General Counsel
Other Authority staff members and guests

July 18, 2016, Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the July 18, 2016 Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting were not presented or discussed and there was no action taken due to a lack of quorum.

Lead Entity Policy Core Components

Authority Executive Director John Maki called attention to a memo entitled Questions and Considerations for Lead Entity Policy Discussion and he delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Lead Entity Policy Discussion that addressed these Core Components:

1. Criteria for Lead Entity selection
2. Oversight of Lead Entity’s Grantmaking
3. Authority monitoring of Lead Entity’s and sub-grantees

Executive Director Maki said that the Authority has never had a defined policy regarding the practice of issuing grants to Lead Entities, to be later subgranted out by those Lead Entities.

Authority Program Supervisor Ron Reichgelt explained the unique relationships that the Authority has historically had with the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the Coalitions’ roles as Lead Entities. He said that these agencies have specialized standards and expertise in their respective fields that qualifies them to engage in subgrants with partner agencies. ICJIA staff have, therefore, been able to oversee the administration of the grants employing the expertise of the lead entities.
Executive Director Maki said that the Lead Entity arrangement can be very cost-effective since hiring the number of staff necessary to manage these funds directly would be cost-prohibitive.

**Core Component 1: Criteria to select Lead Entities**

**Primary policy question:** *What criteria should the Authority establish to determine whether Lead Entities not designated by statute are necessary for, and capable of, efficient and effective grant administration?*

Executive Director Maki suggested that the first question to ask is whether or not a Lead Entity is necessary in any given situation.

Mr. Reichgelt said that for federally funded programs potential Lead Entities submit their policies to Authority staff for review and any agreements that the Authority enters into with Lead Entities includes federal financial and program guidelines. There are no similar guidelines governing state funds, although the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) is intended to address this.

Executive Director Maki said that sometimes Lead Entities are established by statute.

**Primary policy question:** *What criteria should the Authority establish to determine whether Lead Entities not designated by statute are necessary for, and capable of, efficient and effective grant administration?*

Authority Chair Elizabeth Robb said that auditors had concerns of the Authority’s methods of the disbursal of funds via Lead Entities in the past. The audit called for Lead Entity policy and procedure development. These policies and procedures will be applied to all Lead Entities whether or not they are statutorily mandated.

Authority Research and Analysis Unit Director Megan Alderden said that the Authority has recently revised its Budgeting for Results performance metrics and they will be applied to state-appropriated funds.

Executive Director Maki said that periodic reviews of Lead Entities for effectiveness and compliance should be built into the policies and procedures.

**Core Component 2: Oversight of Lead Entity’s Grantmaking**

**Primary policy question:** *How should the Authority strengthen its oversight of Lead Entities?*
A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the use of Lead Entities creates too much distance between their subgrantees that perform the programmatic work and the Authority, thereby affecting its ability to provide effective oversight. Executive Director Maki said that Lead Entities perform vital roles given that the Authority simply does not have the resources to absorb their work. Authority Special Projects Program Advisor Reshma Desai said that the Authority collects a lot of data from subgrantees, so it is not as if Authority staff has no idea what the programs are achieving. Authority Program Supervisor Ron Reichgelt said that staff regularly meets with Lead Entities such as the Coalitions and their subgrantees; the Authority is very visible to the subgrantees. Authority Grant Specialist Maureen Brennan said that the policy under development should emphasize that the use of Lead Entities would be the exception, not the rule. She said that Lead Entities such as the Coalitions have a level of clinical expertise above and beyond the capabilities of the Authority’s grant staff, permitting them to address program-specific issues with their subgrantees. She said that the draft policy calls for Lead Entities to have clinical and subject-matter expertise beyond the scope of grant monitoring; they offer something exceptional and unique.

Jennifer Vollen-Katz said that it is important to ensure that Lead Agencies perform at consistently acceptable levels from year to year. The Authority staff needs to be able to evaluate their administrative and substantive performance even though they have the clinical and subject-matter expertise.

Executive Director Maki said that Authority policy should require Lead Entities should adopt the Authority’s strategic priorities to qualify for funding.

**Core Component 3: How should the Authority monitor Lead Entities’ and Sub-grantees’ activity?**

**Primary policy question:** *How should the Authority monitor Lead Entities and Sub-grantees activity?*

Executive Director Maki said that Authority policy should define how the Authority can monitor Lead Entities’ subgrantee performance.

**Strategic Planning Work**

**Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Plan Updates**

Authority Research and Analysis Unit Director Megan Alderden said staff has moved toward an iterative research process regarding two JAG – funded areas:
1. Violent crime and the implementation of informed/best practices overlaid with Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) planning so that violent crime is addressed from a system perspective as well as a victim perspective.
2. Substance abuse issues in the criminal justice system and the implementation of informed/best practices.

Executive Director Maki said that a draft policy recommendations regarding JAG matching funds requirements and program funding duration would be forthcoming.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Updates

Executive Director Maki described recent Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) activity. He said that the Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee (VSAHC) had recently met and that committee will work to help establish spending priorities for VOCA and VAWA. Research to support the VSAHC’s plan is under way.

Notice of Funding Opportunity / Request-for-Proposals Protocol

Executive Director Maki said that the Federal and State Grants Unit (FSGU) is working to implement the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). FSGU is also working to transition the Authority to a request-for-proposals (RFP) program funding model.

Policy Updates

Committees and Task Forces

Executive Director Maki said that:

1. The Illinois Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform Commission will vote on final recommendations in December.
2. The E-Discovery and Information Sharing Task Force has been working toward a report that is due in January.
3. The Sex Offenses and Sex Offender Registration Task Force will ramp up activity as the Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform Commission winds down. This task force will examine the registry and ensure that it is aligned with best practices and manage risk appropriately.

Data-Driven Health and Justice
Executive Director Maki said that the Data-Driven Health and Justice Initiative was promoted by The White House and it is aimed at helping local jurisdictions use data-driven approaches to reduce reliance on incarceration and strengthen health systems for people with substance abuse and mental disorders. He said that Authority Program Supervisor Mary Ann Dyar had led these efforts and delivered a webinar entitled the *Sequential Intercept Model* that analyzes when individuals enter the criminal justice system. This initiative will be the subject of an event in Champaign in December.

**Discretionary Funding Working Group**

Executive Director Maki said that the Discretionary Funding Working Group helps local agencies access federal and private funding. Preparations are under way for the next federal grant cycle. Last year, the group raised about $3 million.

**State Programs**

Authority Program Supervisor Mary Ann Dyar said that Adult Redeploy Illinois (ARI) received stop-gap funding that allowed the Authority to pay back SFY16 program expenses and fund the programs through SFY17. Some administrative funds will be made available to support training and technical assistance for ARI grantees.

**Other Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**

Authority General Counsel Angie Weis adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.