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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<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 Superintendent Eddie Johnson</td>
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<td>Cynthia Hora 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>Lanetta Haynes Turner for 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>Kathryn Dunne for Sheriff Tom Dart</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Robb, Authority Chair</td>
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<td>Jennifer Vollen-Katz</td>
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<td>Patricia McCreary for Clerk Dorothy Brown</td>
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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
Shai Hoffman, Authority Program Supervisor  
Jaclyn Houston-Kolnik, Authority Victimologist  
Randy Kurtz, Authority Deputy Director  
Jude Lemrow, Authority Federal & State Grants Unit Administrative Assistant  
Nicole Kramer, Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office  
John Maki, Authority Executive Director  
Ron Reichgelt, Authority Program Supervisor  
Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor  
Angie Weis, Authority General Counsel  

Other Authority staff members and guests.  

**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, Affect, 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.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**

Motion: Ms. Hora moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Haynes-Turner seconded the motion and it 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?
  - How and by whom are these needs being met?
  - What needs are not being met?

• What are the needs of crime victims in Illinois?
  - 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?

• 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?

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

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
Work with State Agencies

- Understand the types of victim service funding available through other state agencies
- Incorporate feedback and insights from these agencies

Collect Original Data

- Conduct interviews and surveys with 3 stakeholders:
  - Victims (Aeffect)
  - Service Providers (ICJIA & Aeffect)
  - Criminal Justice Practitioners (ICJIA & Aeffect)
Supplementary Slides

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

Research Plan to Inform JAG and other Federal Funding:
Strategic Opportunities Committee Update

Megan Aldarden, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

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
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 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.

• 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.

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