



Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023 // 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Virtual (Zoom)

Co-Chairs Kelli Thompson and Sara Benedict

Subcommittee Members Present:	Kelli Thompson, Sara Benedict, Lisa Yeates, Andrea Loscher, Nicholas Bakken, Kit Kerschensteiner, Heather Kierzek, Beth Robinson, Judge Elliott Levine, Melvin Juetter, Sheila Carlson, Nick Sayner, Lance Wiersma, Adam Plotkin
Subcommittee Members Not Present:	Holly Audley, Mark Abeles-Allison, Colleen Clark-Bernhardt, Tamra Oman, Robert Mann, Judge Jo Deen Lowe, Jessica Skemp, Kristy Gusse, Patti Jo Severson, J.C. Moore
DOJ Staff:	Ryan Anderson, Phil Zell, Katie Snell, Sabrina Gentile, Mike Derr, Jacqueline Kamin, Chris McKinny, Dylan Mooney, Marsha Schiszik, Mark Rather, Kaley Horvath, Mike Austin, Lara Kenny
Other Agency Staff:	

Welcome and Opening Comments

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. Co-Chair Kelli Thompson welcomed members to the meeting and indicated that she would like to remain on this Subcommittee even though she's no longer the State Public Defender. She noted that the meeting did not immediately have a quorum, but that once a quorum was reached, the previous meeting minutes would be reviewed, and the Subcommittee would entertain other business.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2023

The September 28, 2023, meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Judge Elliot Levine and seconded by Melvin Juetter to approve the September 28, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Subcommittee Member Updates

Wisconsin Association of Treatment Court Professionals (WATCP) Update – Commissioner J.C. Moore was absent, so Heather Kierzek provided the update. The WATCP Coordinator and Case Managers Conference was held October 11 and 12 at the Madison Marriott West. More than 100 participants registered and attended, which included 12 presenters on various topics. The 2024 Statewide WATCP Conference is currently being planned and is scheduled for April 24-26, 2024, at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells. The theme will be "20 years of WATCP." NetWeb zoom meetings by discipline continue to occur with each meeting focusing on a specific issue or best practice.

Discussion and Approval of State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) Proposal

Katie Snell gave an overview of the Bureau of Justice Program's (BJP) Proposed Budget Plan for FY 2022-2023 Byrne SCIP Funding, which was shared with the Subcommittee as a separate document. The plan summarized a three priority framework, listed potential projects under each priority, and listed next steps for BJP to take under each priority. The plan also included an estimated SCIP budget of \$4,166,354 for Subcommittee review and approval.

Various attendees commented on the proposed priorities and projects. Adam Plotkin noted that adding prosecutors would add more prosecutorial work down the road, and that adding new gun charges seemed antithetical to the purpose of pre-charge diversion programming.

Judge Levine commented that prosecuting gun crimes won't solve or reduce such crime or violence, that mental health courts have had mixed levels of success, and that the primary problem is availability of guns.

Lara Kenny stated that the purpose of SCIP is not to comprehensively review effectiveness of treatment court and diversion programs.

Judge Levine wondered how many felony possession of firearms charges actually involves use of a firearm.

Melvin Juette said we need to educate stakeholders and the public on why persons carry guns and provide outreach encouraging them not to carry weapons. Often people do because they feel safer with them. We are dealing with changing a mindset, which is hard.

Lisa Hanneman (public attendee) shared information on Shot Spotter and other youth gun violence programs as possible steps to consider supporting. Judge Levine suggested that the program use more funds to review research to better understand gun violence.

Lara Kenny asked, what are the next steps for the Subcommittee to take, given more than \$4 million is being proposed for use? Sara Benedict said the proposal is not yet ready for a vote, needs more study and work. Is there an overlap with other Department of Health Services (DHS) and DOJ initiatives that should be considered? Other Subcommittee members agreed.

Kelli Thompson suggested a workgroup be formed to further study and develop this proposal. Several members agreed to form a workgroup to work with Katie Snell, including Adam Plotkin, Melvin Juette, Judge Levine, Sara Benedict, Nick Sayner and Niki Leicht. Nick Sayner requested a list of research that BJP staff have reviewed.

Approval and Discussion of Diversion Program Outcome and Performance Measures

This topic was postponed and tabled due to lack of quorum and lack of time to discuss.

2024 TAD Grant Application

Mike Derr reported that the 2024 TAD Grant Application process is nearly completed, as today was the deadline for current TAD subgrantees to submit their final applications. BJP expects to receive applications from all 59 grantees. Total requests came in at \$116,000 under the \$9,688,900 in available TAD funds. All but \$205,000 of the total funds awarded will cover continuation of funding at the same amount as in 2023. The \$205,000 will cover increases of baseline amounts for projects that started implementation in 2023, unique staff training activities, and project evaluation activities. BJP staff are exploring using the remaining \$116,000 to cover TAD program training or similar needs. A fiscal training webinar is scheduled for January 18, 2024, to provide information and guidance to TAD grantees on their submission of quarterly fiscal claims and reports.

Legislative Updates

Chris McKinny noted that things have been active lately with legislation. Assembly Bill 57, relating to addressing prosecutorial discretion, is proceeding through the Assembly. Adam Plotkin stated that this bill, if passed, may be vetoed by Governor Evers, which he would consider good news. McKinny said there are currently no bills or proposals that directly impact the TAD Program.

Dashboard Demo of Comprehensive Outcome, Research and Evaluation For Treatment Courts and Diversion Programs (CORE)

Kaley Horvath gave an overview of the Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis's (BJIA) public facing dashboard consisting of CORE reported TAD data that will include rates of referrals, eligibility and ineligibility, and program status in treatment courts and diversion programs. She included a series of slides providing the project overview and screenshot examples of data to be featured on this dashboard. The launch date for this dashboard site is in January 2024. Kaley described remaining tasks and elements to be included or improved prior to the launch, and covered how the dashboard will initially feature statewide level data but may subsequently also include site specific data.

2023 Subcommittee Goals and Objectives Progress

Derr used a PowerPoint for the Subcommittee's 2023 goals and objectives. For each of the five primary goals, he described the activities and outcomes achieved by the Subcommittee, BJP and BJIA staff, particularly activities and milestones achieved since the Subcommittee's September 28, 2023, meeting. He noted that at the next meeting in February, Subcommittee members will establish new goals and outcomes covering CY 2024.

Upcoming Meetings

Kelli Thompson and BJP staff noted upcoming Council and Subcommittee meeting dates and times. Lara Kelly stated that DOJ will soon be finalizing a calendar of 2024 meeting dates for the CJCC and all subcommittees.

- Executive Subcommittee November 28, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Race Equity, Inclusion, and Access Subcommittee December 7, 2023, 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
- CJCC December 13, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Nick Sayner and seconded by Melvin Juetten to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.