

**Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 10:00AM – 12:45PM**

**Location: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority  
300 West Adams Street, Suite 200  
Chicago, IL**

**Members Present** – Joe Alexander (Alan Spellberg), Kathryn Bocanegra, Jim Chadd, Gino DiVito (Chairperson), Craig Findley, Hanke Gratteau, Nathalina Hudson, Katie Holihen (Amy Campanelli), Margo McDermed, Marcia Meis, James Piper, Elgie Sims, Jason Stamps, Don Stemen, Julian Thompson, and Kristen Ziman.

**Members Present by Phone** – Rob Jeffreys, Aja Kearney (Marcus Evans) and Stu Umholtz.

**Members Absent** – Steve McClure, Stuart Palmer, and Warrant Wolfson (Vice-Chairperson).

**Non-Members Present** – John P. Carroll, Peter Coulson, Eugene Doherty, Mary Ann Dyar, Michael Elliott, Savannah Felix, Lily Gleicher, Ashton Hoselton, Bryant Jackson-Green, Sharone Mitchell, Lynne Mock, Mark Powers, Ben Ruddell, Kathy Saltmarsh, Aditi Singh, Alison Spanner, Nate Inglis-Steinfeld and Michael Toomin.

**Non-Members Present by Phone** – Frankie Cortez, Tiffany O’Neil and Jason Sweat.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman DiVito called the thirty-third regular meeting of the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman DiVito gave the opening remarks, including a summary of the agenda and purpose of the meeting:

- Welcome to new Cook County Sheriff Representative, Hanke Gratteau, Hanke currently serves as director of the Sheriff’s Justice Institute, a department dedicated to enhancing the delivery of social justice across every aspect of the Sheriff’s Office. Ms. Gratteau is a former journalist who spent decades as a reporter and editor at the Chicago Tribune. She also served as Executive Director of the John Howard Association and brings a wide range of experiences to SPAC

**Vote: Approval of the meeting minutes from the September 20, 2019 SPAC meeting**

Margo McDermed moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Kristen Ziman. The minutes from the September 20, 2019 SPAC meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Implementing the Illinois Supreme Court’s Strategic Agenda for the Judicial Branch**

*Alison Spanner, Assistant Director, Access to Justice Division, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC).* Alison was an integral part to staffing the Judicial Conference that developed the Court’s Strategic Agenda for the Judicial Branch, which Director Saltmarsh served on. She spoke about her focus on implementation and how data and analysis will be used at the AOIC.

- The mission of the Branch will be: “to protect the rights and liberties of all by providing equal access to justice, resolving disputes, and upholding the rule of law pursuant to the powers and duties entrusted to us by the Illinois Constitution.” The vision of the Branch is “to be trusted and

open to all by being fair, innovative, diverse, and responsive to changing needs.” The core values of the Branch are: **Fairness**—impartial in our actions, decisions, and treatment of all. **Accountability** – responsible and answerable for our conduct and performance, and transparent in the use of public resources. **Integrity** – honest, trustworthy, and committed to the highest ethical and professional standards. **Respect** – treat all with dignity, courtesy, and understanding.

- The strategic goals of the Branch are to provide: 1. Accessible justice & equal protection under the law, 2. Procedural fairness, timeliness, & operational efficiency, 3. Professionalism & accountability throughout the judicial branch, 4. Understanding of & confidence in the judicial branch, 5. Sufficient funding & effective use of judicial branch resources.
- The Illinois Judicial Conference, which crafted the strategic agenda, is comprised of 29 voting members: 15 judges and 14 non-judges, with the Chief Justice serving as Chair. The judicial members include a second member of the Supreme Court, as well as judges from all levels and geographic areas of the state appointed either by nature of their position or individually selected by the Supreme Court. The IJC non-judicial members include the Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts and 13 other justice partners selected by the Court from the following categories: court clerks, court administrators, attorneys and public members.

### **The Role of Research & Analysis in Implementing Change in Local Jurisdictions**

After the presentation of AOIC’s Strategic Agenda Plan, *Nate Inglis-Steinfeld*, *SPAC Research Director*, went on to moderate a panel of those who actively participate in their circuit’s efforts to use data and analysis to identify and address issues and implement strategies to improve outcomes.

- Chief Judge Eugene Doherty – Since 2007, Judge Doherty has served as the Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit. Chief Judge Doherty shared how the Winnebago County’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council has utilized the data analysis to assess their local practices, using Loyola’s research and ICJIA’s support:
  - The community survey work was of interest to the judiciary, but it was more critical to the political elements of the criminal justice system.
  - We in the judiciary are committed to implementing evidence-based practices, but usually that means implementing measures which have been tested in some other jurisdiction. Rarely does it mean putting our own programs to the test, but the Loyola data analysis gave us that insight for really the first time. We have a great deal of data available internally, but we do not have the expertise or resources to process the data to ensure true apples-to-apples comparisons and analysis.
  - Loyola’s work on analysis of sentencing practices showed us that, in Winnebago County, similarly situated (borderline) defendants were less likely to be sentenced to prison than in other communities, showing more reliance on probation.
  - The analysis of the consequence of putting more people on probation validates the decision-making referenced in the preceding point.
  - We are hopeful that, in the future, we will be able to examine the efficacy of our pretrial bond and detention decisions.
- Trisha Malott – Ms. Malott is the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Supervisor for McLean County. In her time with McLean County, Ms. Malott created a Frequent User System Engagement (FUSE) program, a behavioral health triage center which serves as a diversion option for law enforcement and as an outpatient telepsychiatry clinic. Ms. Malott’s efforts also include the use and collection of data, strong

partnerships at local, state and federal levels, and being part of a jurisdiction that uses data to “move the needle.”

- In 2013, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) studied McLean County’s systems, noting a direct connection between deficiencies in the coordination of BH systems and the increase in jail detainees with BH issues. Since then, we worked to address provisions for people with behavioral health issues post-arrest, with intent to decrease the number of people with mental illness who enter the criminal justice system. We want to intercept and direct people at the earliest point possible toward community treatment verses incarceration.
- To help accomplish our data driven activities in McLean County, we began contracting with Illinois State University’s Stevenson Center. We also entered into a data-sharing agreement with the University of Chicago’s Center for Data Science and Public Policy, as well as a local HSMIS entity. We also believe that maintaining a regular dialogue with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technologies (DoIT), the Division of Mental Health and other pertinent state agencies is extremely important.
- FUSE is a proven model in identifying frequent users of jails, shelters, hospitals and/or other crisis services and then improving lives through supportive housing. Supportive housing is an evidence-based solution that leads to better health and other good outcomes for the homeless and disabled. Tenants receive help with accessing affordable house with wraparound support service, which helps stabilize their lives and significantly reduces returns to jail and homelessness, reliance on emergency health services, and improves their quality of life.
- FUSE can vary by community and we collect data on a large number of data points, pre and post treatment. To overcome data challenges: we try to have participants sign releases and contact information; Build community partnerships to connect possible participants; Provide referral forms to agencies and departments such as probation; and continuously see new ways to integrate data.
- Successful implementation of FUSE will help with: Improved clinical outcomes for participants; cost savings to taxpayers, hospitals, shelter systems; reduction in recidivism rates for those engaged; increased access to employment/stable employment; sustainability for the FUSE program; and with future investors/implementation of pay for success models.

### **New Business**

Margo McDermed moved to approve the 2020 SPAC meeting dates, seconded by James Chadd. The 2020 meeting dates were approved by unanimous voice vote. The 2020 meeting dates will take place on: Friday, June 19, 2020, Friday, September 18, 2020 and Friday, November 20, 2020.

### **Adjournment**

James Chadd, moved to adjourn the thirty-third regular meeting of the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council, seconded by Margo McDermed. The thirty-third regular meeting of the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. by unanimous voice vote.