

2022 Q4

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF
JUVENILE JUSTICE

QUARTERLY TRANSFORMATION REPORT



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STRATEGIC OPERATING PLAN 2023

IDJJ's most recent four-year operating plan ended at the end of 2022, and IDJJ has been in the process of developing a new plan to continue pushing the Transformation for IDJJ forward.

In November of 2022, an anonymous survey was administered to staff throughout the department to determine goals for IDJJ's next Strategic Operating Plan. Participants were asked to rate recommendations from the Advancing Transformation Committee, and to also provide their own recommendations. A total of 115 participants completed the survey.

Themes from the survey were grouped into three categories: recommendations regarding staff, youth, and facilities. Below are some highlights from each category.

Regarding Staff

- Increased training opportunities
- Supports after critical incident, including a break room
- Allowing time for breaks while on shift
- Increased access to information on youth
- Improved communication including regular updates
- Improved hiring and retention of staff
- Computer and email access, including the use of tablets

STRATEGIC OPERATING PLAN 2023 CONT.

Regarding Youth

- Incorporating youth input through advisory boards/youth councils
- More programming to encourage prosocial behavior and prevent disruptive behavior
- Providing a cool down space for youth

Regarding Facilities

- Outside improvements for recreation: basketball court, soccer fields, outdoor track, outdoor beautification, staff parking lot
- Indoor beautification (paint, carpet, etc.), fridges and microwaves for staff, youth dorm basic upgrades, electronic doors

NEXT STEPS IN PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The IDJJ leadership team held a retreat in early December to discuss the staff survey results and began to prioritize and expand on the feedback received. The team is scheduled to meet again in late January to start drafting the new operating plan and will present it to staff for input in the first quarter of 2023.



JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM PARTNERSHIPS

IDJJ partners with multiple nationally renowned juvenile justice reform organizations that are assisting with the 21st Century Transformation in various ways. These partners provide services such as technical assistance, data-related support and analysis, policy analyzation, leadership training, and more.

Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) at Georgetown University

CJJR works with jurisdictions nationwide to help them better translate knowledge on “what works” into everyday practice and policy. The Center provides on-and off-site training, networking opportunities, webinars and more to help state and local agencies develop and implement system improvement efforts.

IDJJ participates in multiple programs that are offered by CJJR, including the Juvenile Justice Leadership Network, the Stop Solitary for Kids campaign, the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project, and the Public Information Officers Learning Collaborative.

Orbis

IDJJ and Orbis, the creators of the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI), have been collaborating over the past year to adjust scoring of the tool to be sensitive to the needs of our population. Revised scoring criteria will assist in the placement of youth and in the recommendations of services.



JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM PARTNERS CONT.

Chapin Hall Center for Children at University of Chicago

IDJJ utilizes Chapin Hall's rigorous research to implement best practices and most effective treatments for youth in our care. Experts work alongside community and agency partners to build more effective services and systems, accelerate the use of evidence in practice, and better serve children, youth, and families.

As part of IDJJ's 21st Century Model Transformation, IDJJ has partnered with Chapin Hall at the University to evaluate and improve upon evolving practices. Chapin Hall is a policy research institution housed at the University of Chicago, that seeks to employ rigorous research for practical solutions that improve youth and community well-being. Since 2020, Chapin Hall's partnership with IDJJ has included providing a synthesis of national best practices in juvenile justice transformation efforts, process maps of mobile intake and aftercare to inform the newly piloted mobile intake process, geospatial maps to identify optimal IDJJ placement locations, and analytics of IDJJ data.

This quarter, Chapin Hall has been helping to clarify the mobile intake placement decision-making process. Specifically, Chapin Hall and IDJJ are partnering to ensure the new decision-making process leverages the diverse expertise of its multidisciplinary team and considers the most important criteria when determining whether the needs of youth can be safely and effectively be met in a community-based setting. Furthermore, Chapin Hall is working to identify potential efficiencies to streamline the mobile intake process, including opportunities to use existing technologies, like Y360 to store and share information pertinent to timely and individualized decision-making for youth. Finally, Chapin Hall is working to develop analysis to identify the geographic distribution of IDJJ contracted service providers. This will enable the mobile-intake team to identify what services are accessible to a young person near to their community.

JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM PARTNERS CONT.

LOOKING AHEAD

University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI)

UCCI's mission is to research, develop, disseminate, and implement evidence-based practices in corrections. UCCI offers a knowledgeable approach to realize stronger adoption and incorporation of effective interventions with IDJJ youth. Technical assistance is also provided to IDJJ through UCCI.

2023

In early 2023, IDJJ will continue to work on a new strategic operating plan, and will also begin to outline a vision and core values based on the mission to build youth skills and strengthen families to promote community safety and positive youth outcomes.

Additional opportunities for youth, families, and staff to provide feedback on policies and practices will be a focus of 2023. Family Advisory Council will provide families with opportunity to dialogue with IDJJ administrators. Monthly Lunch & Learns for staff will provide staff with opportunity to give feedback to executive staff. IDJJ will continue to find new ways for youth to use their voices and give feedback about their needs and experiences.

IDJJ looks forward to substantial progress on the Transformation Plan as we move into the new year.