



Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Advisory Board

September 26, 2024

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

WEBEX Video Conference and 60 E Van Buren, Suite 1374, Chicago

Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call & Introduction

Board members present: David Olson (Chair), Robert Vickery (Acting Director of IDJJ), Jenny Vollen-Katz

New Board members present: **Emily Buss**, University of Chicago Law School; **Alison Flaum**, Legal Director of Children and Family Justice Center; **Zachary Wahl-Alexander**, Associate Professor at Northern Illinois University-Project Flex; **Sabrina Davis**, Director of Career Pathways and Student Resources; **Meghan Olson**, Founder and Director of One for One Chicago

Absent members: Devon Van Houten-Maldonado (new member)

IDJJ Staff: Omar Jamil, Brittany Groot, Dominique Newman and Jullian Brevard

Guests/Members of the Public: **Adam Pauley**, Aurora Township Mental Health Board and President of the King County Regional Board of School Trustees; **Molly Halladay-Glynn**, student at Loyal Chicago and guest of Dr. Olson.

II. Introductions of New Advisory Board Members

III. Discussions of Advisory Board meeting topics Reports

A. **Data presentation** – Brittany Groot, Quality Assurance & Research Manager

Ms. Groot did not present data. Instead, she gave an overview of her role in the agency, which is to provide data and information and produce reports to give to Executive staff and Advisory Board. The reports were inspired by the consent decree. The reports showcase how things are going in the facilities and on aftercare.

B. **Departmental updates**

Legal – Jullian Brevard, Chief Legal Counsel

Chief Brevard advised the board the agency is still currently under the consent decree, however, on the last leg of it. The two categories being monitored are full-day school and implementation of compensatory education. Compensatory education is education that IDJJ must provide for students who were in IDJJ custody but missed education opportunities (e.g. during the pandemic). Second chances at education are now being giving and it is through tutoring. There are two agencies that IDJJ partners with. They are LVI and Varsity Tutors.



Legislation – Omar Jamil Senior Policy Advisor

Chief Jamil spoke of major legislation that has passed. One being Bill 426 which enables DJJ to engage with IDOC (Department of Corrections) to provide high school education services at one of our facilities. The facility designated is Illinois Youth Center (IYC) Harrisburg. Another legislation is in terms of appropriations which would allow us to provide wellness services to our staff using state resources. Other information will be addressed as it becomes available.

IV. New Business

No new business

Public Participation/Comments

Adam Pauley introduced himself to the Board and gave background into his interest in youth systems and services, as well as mental health services for youth.

Before close of meeting, future topics were brought to the board for further information. Two of those topics were (1) the transition for the youth at IYC Warrenville to IYC St. Charles (now known as the **Phoenix Emerging Adults Career and Education Center**), and how are both youth and staff adjusting; and (2) a presentation by the Independent Office of the Ombudsman (Karima Douglas) of its function and relationship with IDJJ.

Next Board Meeting: TBA

Adjournment: 12:58 pm