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300 W. Adams Street • Suite 200 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

Memorandum

To: Strategic Opportunities Committee Members

From: John Maki, Executive Director

Date: April 21, 2017

Re: April 27th Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting Information

This memo provides a brief overview of the Strategic Opportunities Committee meeting on Thursday, April 27th from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

At the meeting, ICJIA's Research & Analysis Unit will brief members on victim-centered and victim-initiated restorative justice practices and facilitate a discussion about ICJIA's potential role in expanding that work in Illinois. While a variety of restorative justice models exist, there are varying philosophies and practices about the role of victims in the process. Victim-centered and -initiated practices are central to restorative programs that facilitate victim healing and empowerment and are newly allowable under the Victim of Crime Act. Following a presentation on these practices and models employed in other states (most notably in Pennsylvania), we hope to be better informed about the potential of these models for serving victims in Illinois.

Following that briefing and discussion, members will receive an update on the current status of various federal funding initiatives.



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Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2017
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
300 W. Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room
Chicago, Illinois

AGENDA

- I. Call To Order and Roll Call
- II. Approval of the July 18, 2016; October 27, 2016; and February 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes
- III. Potential Future Funding Opportunity: Victim-Centered Restorative Justice
- IV. Funding Updates
 - a. VOCA
 - i. What money has been spent?
 - ii. What opportunities are in the pipeline?
 - iii. What lessons have been learned?
 - b. Other Federal Funds
 - i. JAG Comprehensive Law Enforcement Responses to Drugs
 - ii. Technical Assistance Opportunity for County Criminal Justice Planning Partnerships
 - iii. Residential Substance Abuse Treatment and Aftercare Services
- V. Other Business
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Adjourn

This public meeting will be accessible to persons with disabilities in compliance with Executive Order #5 and pertinent state and federal laws upon anticipated attendance. Persons with disabilities planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact by telephone or letter John Klaer, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, 300 W. Adams St., Suite 200, Chicago, Illinois, 60606-5150, (312) 793-8946. TDD services are available at (312) 793-4170.



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MINUTES

**ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY
STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, February 27, 2017, at 11 a.m.
300 W. Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Roll Call

Committee Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order and asked General Counsel Angie Weis to call the roll.

Committee Member Attendance	Present	Telephone	Absent
Paula Wolff (Chair)	X		
Gladys Taylor for Director John Baldwin			X
Director Patrick Delfino		X	
Steven Caluris for Superintendent Eddie T. Johnson			X
Cynthia Hora for Attorney General Lisa Madigan	X		
Sheriff Michael McCoy			X
James Chadd for Director Michael J. Pelletier	X		
President Toni Preckwinkle			X
Other Authority Members Present	Present	Telephone	Absent
Public Defender Amy Campanelli		X	
Elizabeth Robb, Authority Chair		X	
Jim O'Grady for Leo Schmitz	X		
Jennifer Vollen-Katz	X		

Also in attendance were:

Maureen Brennan, Authority Criminal Justice Specialist
Caitlin DeLong, Authority Executive Assistant

Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor
Kevin Givens, Authority Associate Director of Federal and State Grants Unit
Randy Kurtz, Authority Chief Financial Officer
John Maki, Authority Executive Director
Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor
Angie Weis, Authority General Counsel

After the initial roll call, three of the five Board members needed for a quorum were present. Chairman Wolff suggested moving to agenda items that did not require a quorum.

Chairman's Remarks

Chair Wolff welcomed the group and mentioned that a board's contributions fall into three categories: fiduciary, strategic, and generative/creative. She said while the other responsibilities are often clear, it can be difficult to make time for the generative/creative function, and it is the Strategic Opportunity's Committee job to step back and think about what big-picture intentions for the justice system in Illinois might look like. This meeting will provide an opportunity for this work.

Executive Director's Report

Director Maki thanked Chair Wolff for her insight and said his intention for the meeting was to describe projects that are moving from planning to implementation. He asked for the members' feedback on the Authority's progress and future.

Justice Assistance Grant Updates

Director Maki reported that the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program had been moved into a Grant Accountability and Transparency Act-compliant structure. Conflicts between the state and federal calendars, staffing bandwidth, designing strategic funding groups, and including research staff were cited as hurdles overcome during implementation.

Goals of delivering statewide benefit through JAG programs have been reached by incorporating research and information sharing, Director Maki said, particularly with the inception of the Department of Information and Technology. Competing with the private sector in recruiting talent has proven difficult, though ICJIA has a history of innovation in crime-mapping technology, he said.

Chair Wolff encouraged the group to define "statewide benefit," and give their thoughts on whether progress had been made toward the goal. Director Maki answered that it did not have a static definition, but rather was an orientation that the Authority uses to

interpret research on what the state needs at different points in time. Ms. Campanelli said the benefit that ICJIA can provide is violence prevention by meeting client needs, such as reentry programs. Ms. Vollen-Katz added that statewide benefit does not necessarily mean every citizen profits from every program, but that funding decisions should be made with intentionality toward learning how to solve a problem so that the knowledge can be shared.

When Director Maki added that geographic diversity was also a piece of achieving statewide benefit, Ms. Vollen-Katz said she appreciated the Authority hosting training and events outside of Cook County.

Mr. Delfino stated that he is seeing progress in including all jurisdictions, but many southern counties still have unmet basic needs. He said his office has plans to organize a meeting with new prosecutors who may not know what resources are available to them and Chair Wolff suggested including ICJIA in the event. Judge Robb suggested Authority representation at bi-annual state's attorneys' and public defenders' associations meetings to discuss how to apply for grants.

Ms. Hora asked about conducting a needs assessment for JAG funding similar to what was conducted for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds. Director Maki said JAG was initially set up to address law enforcement equipment needs rather than programs and it can be difficult to allocate funds to innovative programming or research.

Chair Wolff revisited Ms. Campanelli's statement on violence prevention as the goal of the justice system. Mr. Chadd responded that the goal should be achieving accurate convictions, and Ms. Campanelli agreed. Ms. Vollen-Katz summarized both goals by suggesting that the common objective is reduced justice system contact. Ms. Desai reminded the group of the JAG priorities that had been agreed upon in 2016. Judge Robb suggested that those goals should be discussed regularly in committee meetings.

Director Maki said that percentages of JAG funding will not be set aside for particular program areas. Though available amounts are indicated in public Notices of Funding Opportunities, they can be adjusted based on the volume and quality of responses, especially during this first year.

Ms. Hora suggested the committee could receive a presentation of how the \$4.2 million in JAG funding is divided. Director Maki welcomed future discussions about whether specific amounts or proportions should be set aside for innovative approaches. He added that all policies will be taken to the Authority Board for approval.

Director Maki said the committee had moved JAG into a competitive funding structure, informed by the Research & Analysis Unit's work. ICJIA also has adopted a no-match

policy, following guidance from the U.S. Department of Justice. Director Maki also relayed the recommendation that the Authority follow the GATA structure in offering three-year grant cycles.

Victims of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act Updates

Director Maki laid out the anticipated Victims of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act funding calendar. He said the first notice of funding opportunity under the new competitive structure was for comprehensive legal assistance and the next will be for unmet needs for victims of child abuse, community violence, financial exploitation, and impaired driving. Ms. Brennan said legal assistance funding has been offered by ICJIA in the past, but not to this degree (\$6 million). She said VOCA guidelines now allow for a greater range of services to be covered. Director Maki added that the Authority will be following federal recommendations in centralizing victim services, rather than funding single legal experts at various locations.

Policy Updates

Director Maki reported that the Criminal Justice & Sentencing Reform Commission report was released in January and the next Board meeting will include a panel of Commission members. Chair Wolff asked what the mechanism would be for monitoring progress on implementing the Commission's recommendations. Director Maki answered that it would likely be the combined responsibility of ICJIA, the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council, and local criminal justice coordinating councils, and that he would be seeking the input of the Board to assign state-level accountability.

Director Maki reported ICJIA also recently became responsible for coordinating the Sex Offenses and Sex Offender Registration Task Force. He said the task force is charged with developing a report on sex offender registration, recidivism, and risk-assessment, and how Illinois aligns with national best practices in the treatment of people who commit sexual crimes.

Future Meeting Dates

The 2017 SOC meeting schedule was proposed. The next meeting will be held at the end of March. The committee then will convene every two months.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Wolff asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hora motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Vollen-Katz. The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Victim-Centered Restorative Justice

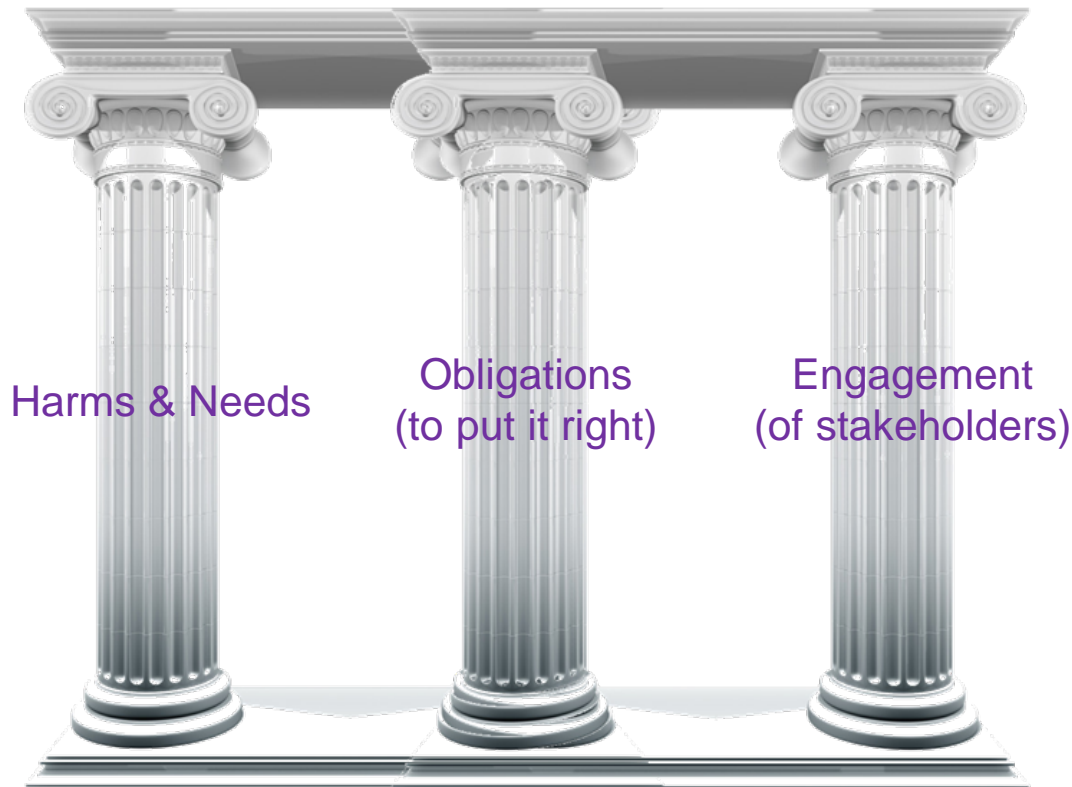
Megan Alderden, Ph.D.
Associate Director – Research
Research and Analysis Unit

Office for Victims of Crime: Funding for Restorative Justice

Activities in support of opportunities for crime victims to meet with perpetrators, including, but not limited to, tribal community-led meetings and peacekeeping activities, if such meetings are requested or voluntarily agreed to by the victim (who may, at any point, withdraw) and have *reasonably anticipated beneficial or therapeutic value to crime victims*. SAAs that plan to fund this type of service should *closely review the criteria for conducting these meetings*, and are *encouraged to discuss proposals with OVC prior to awarding VOCA funds* for this type of activity (emphasis added). At a minimum, the following should be considered:

- (1) The safety and security of the victim;
- (2) The cost versus the benefit or therapeutic value to the victim;
- (3) The procedures for ensuring that participation of the victim and offenders are voluntary and that the nature of the meeting is clear;
- (4) The provision of appropriate support and accompaniment for the victim;
- (5) Appropriate debriefing opportunities for the victim after the meeting; and
- (6) The credentials of the facilitators.

Three Pillars of Restorative Justice¹



1. Zehr, H. and Gohar, A. (n.d.) *Little book of Restorative Justice*. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/tdad/littlebookrjpakaf.pdf>

Victim Needs²



Information



Tell their story



Empowerment



Restitution/Vindication

2. Zehr, H. and Gohar, A. (n.d.) *Little book of Restorative Justice*. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/tdad/littlebookrjpakaf.pdf>

Critique of Restorative Justice

- Victims feel. . .
 - Restorative justice in practice focuses on offender needs
 - Obligated to assist offenders, prevent future victimization
 - Restorative justice is an alternative to reduce penalties
 - Restorative justice is being used to achieve system goals
 - They are an afterthought, they are unprepared and their needs unaddressed
 - They have little or no input in the planning process
 - Limited to cases in which the offender is identified, agrees to participate, meets criteria established by cjs personnel³

3. Mika, H., Achilles, M., Halbert, E., Amstutz, L., & Zehr, H. (2004). Listening to victims: A critique of restorative justice policy and practice in the United States. *Federal Probation*, 68(1), 32-38.

Victim-Centered Restorative Justice

- Victim involvement at all stages: planning, implementation, participation
- Restorative justice options follow victim direction and initiation
- Direct dialog with offender is an option
- Fully inform victims of options and potential outcomes
- Victim interests and needs first⁴

4. Mika, H., Achilles, M., Halbert, E., Amstutz, L., & Zehr, H. (2004). Listening to victims: A critique of restorative justice policy and practice in the United States. *Federal Probation*, 68(1), 32-38.

Victim-Centered Restorative Justice

- Encourage involvement of advocates and family
- Guarantee confidentiality, ability to choose to be involved, change one's mind, give voice, safe environment
- Restorative justice include training and education of practitioners, public and offenders about victimization and trauma⁵

5. Mika, H., Achilles, M., Halbert, E., Amstutz, L., & Zehr, H. (2004). Listening to victims: A critique of restorative justice policy and practice in the United States. *Federal Probation*, 68(1), 32-38.

Victim-Centered Restorative Justice in Practice

- Victim-offender dialog
 - Use volunteer facilitators
 - Victim initiated
 - Outside of the criminal justice process
 - Screening process to ensure appropriateness
 - 6 month to year long process in which the facilitator works with both the victim and offender
 - Small dialog group – typically facilitator, offender, victim
 - Used with a wide variety of crimes, often sexual assault, homicide, agg. assault

Victim-Centered Restorative Justice in Practice

- Apology Letter “Bank”
 - Following conviction or entry into programs, offenders are told about the apology letter bank
 - Individuals may submit an apology letter at any time
 - Letter is held until victim requests
 - Victim advocate works with the victim to prepare for receiving the letter and follow-up services as needed

Effectiveness of Victim-Centered Restorative Justice

- Data effectiveness of restorative justice
 - Some studies have produced mixed findings, although a recent meta-analysis indicates positive overall findings
 - Caution, however, is needed as these studies suffer from self-selection bias and include limited offender populations⁶
 - Often evaluations use victim satisfaction surveys or measures of offender outcomes (recidivism, restitution completed), few examine other types of victim outcomes

6. Latimer, J. Dowden, C., & Muise, D. (2005). The effectiveness of restorative justice practices: A meta-analysis. *The Prison Journal*, 85(2), 127-144.

Recommendation

- ✓ Clear guidelines and expectations for what constitutes victim-centered restorative justice
- ✓ Ample oversight of funded programs to ensure they are meeting OVC guidelines and final rule
- ✓ Need for evaluation using rigorous design
- ✓ Need for examining multiple types of outcomes