

Minutes from the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board Meeting
Monday, September 16, 2013
1:30-3:30p.m.
JRTC, 100 W. Randolph Street, Room 9-040, Chicago
IDOC, 1301 Concordia Court, ISU Building Lab Room, Springfield

Board members in attendance (CHI): Joe Antolin, Walter Boyd, S.A. (Tony) Godinez, Patricia Hayden, Adam Monreal, Angelique Orr, Mike Pelletier, Jesus Reyes, Michelle Saddler, Brent Stratton, Deborah White

Board members in attendance (SPI): Kathy Saltmarsh, Mike Torchia

Board members by phone: Joe Bruscato

Non-board members in attendance: Jordan Boulger, Reshma Desai, Mary Ann Dyar, Margie Groot, Sharrell Hibbler, Sean O'Brien

Call to order/Roll call/Introductions

Director Tony Godinez called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m. Mary Ann Dyar conducted a roll call, and it was determined there was quorum.

Approval of minutes from June 17, 2013 meeting

Secretary Saddler called for a review of the minutes from the June 17th special ARIOB meeting. Brent Stratton made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Adam Monreal and passed.

Program Administrator/Committee reports

Director Godinez asked Mary Ann to deliver a program administrator report. Mary Ann reported that as of the June 17th meeting, ARI now has 15 sites covering 39 counties. This coverage is represented in the map on the updated dashboard document. Of the 15 approved sites, 12 ARI sites reported last quarter diverting a cumulative total of 1092 individuals, which includes 860 individuals currently being served and 232 individuals who successfully completed their ARI programs. A quarterly data report summary (April-June 2013) highlighted information provided by the sites on service numbers, successes, challenges and technical assistance needs.

ARI staff is working with ICJIA staff to add automated reports to the database used for ARI quarterly data collection. Jordan Boulger noted ICJIA will be ready to roll out an enhanced database and the new reports by the end of the year. The automated reports give sites the capacity to access data quickly for internal and external reporting purposes, and to increase public awareness of their programs, such as to county boards.

Mary Ann referenced a July 2013 report from the Vera Institute of Justice titled *The Potential of Community Corrections to Enhance Public Safety*, which includes important information and recommendations and mentions ARI as a model program. A July 14th article from the *Herald Review* reported on the 4th Judicial Circuit implementation grant to establish mental health courts. Also, ICJIA produced a draft press release about ARI's increased SFY14 appropriation and expansion plans. This is the first wide-scale ARI press release. Joe Antolin suggested keeping track of ARI media mentions on ARI website under the "Publications" tab.

ARI staff and a number of ARI site representatives will be attending the Illinois Association of Problem Solving Courts conference in Springfield on September 19-20th where ARI staff will focus on planning grant outreach. On September 15th in Evanston, IL, Mary Ann presented on a panel with representatives from the Shriver Center and TASC about criminal justice reform at the invitation of State Senator Daniel Biss of the north suburbs. The constituent audience had many good questions.

Discussion of FY13 spending and FY14 funding

Director Godinez asked Mary Ann to report on FY13 and FY14 funding. Mary Ann reported that approximately \$500,000 of SFY13 funds will go unspent, which is more than anticipated and was in large part due to overlapping federal funds and a compressed timeframe. Secretary Saddler noted this was discussed at the last meeting and questions were addressed. Mary Ann also noted that the federal ARRA grant is expiring on September 30th, and the remaining site (Cook) will be moved to state funding.

Mary Ann said that there is a plan to spend the full \$7 million appropriation in SFY14. Approximately \$3.1 million was appropriated at the May 2013 ARIOB meeting for renewal grants, \$1.4 million at the June 2013 meeting to new sites, and \$1.7 million is up for a vote today. The ARIOB previously set aside \$200,000 for planning grants and 10% of the total appropriation (or \$700,000) for administrative costs. Site spending (particularly among start-ups) is being monitored monthly, as well as the take-up rate for planning grants and administrative spending. Information through the first quarter of SFY14 will be available at the November meeting for a discussion about whether to re-purpose dollars for a supplemental funding opportunity for sites.

Chairman Monreal inquired about how ARI targets where new funding might be directed, and how the program can attract the counties that commit large numbers to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). Chairman Monreal noted that he and Director Godinez have contacts throughout the state that might be helpful with outreach. Mary Ann discussed how ARI historically has prioritized outreach to high-committing counties but also looks at how participating counties can divert the maximum number for greatest impact. An example of the latter approach is later on the agenda, with funding decisions for secondary programs in Cook and Winnebago counties. Will County is not yet an ARI site, but is being targeted for a planning grant. Other planning grant targets that have high IDOC commitment levels are Kankakee, Vermillion, Champaign, and Adams counties.

Mary Ann said the ARIOB will be faced with strategic decisions about how to most effectively expanding ARI reach among specific target populations and across the state to more counties. ARI staff encouraged ARIOB members to report on any stakeholder conversations in high-committing counties where staff can follow up regarding, for example, the current planning grant opportunity. Joe Antolin noted that with restricted funding timeframes, there is a balance between trying to bring on new sites and working with existing sites to increase impact. Discussions about expansion strategies will be part of the upcoming ARI strategic planning process.

Director Godinez noted that some target populations (such as probation violators or drug offenders) are of more relevance to IDOC than the counties from which they come. Secretary Saddler requested additional discussion about specific target populations returning to IDOC and reoffending the most. In terms of geography, Director Godinez noted over 50% (of the IDOC population) comes from Cook County. Kane and Will counties also commit large numbers. Regarding specific offender populations coming to IDOC, Director Godinez noted that while many commitments are for non-violent offenses, this is misleading because they may be the result of serious offenders with lengthy criminal histories pleading to lesser charges. IDOC also sees returning parolees on technical violations (which are not ARI-eligible because they are in IDOC custody).

Director Godinez discussed the high numbers of probation violators entering IDOC. Sean O'Brien noted that probation violators are the second most targeted population for ARI sites after drug court-eligible. Angelique Orr and Joe Antolin commented that this analysis of target populations (particularly probation violators) is helpful for the ARIOB and should be expanded to guide where to target ARI funds – where are offenders coming from, what impact ARI can have, and where gaps still exist. Kathy Saltmarsh noted the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) collected data directly from counties on IDOC commitments, but the data do not show how many are for technical violations of probation. SPAC has produced a series of research reports on “Drivers of the Sentenced Population” with Dr. Dave Olson, which will be shared with the ARIOB. In addition, ICJIA has a lot of data on criminal histories and recidivism. Joe Antolin suggested that the Performance Measurement Committee analyze the target population data and bring back for discussion with the ARIOB in November. Mary Ann said that some of this information can be incorporated on an expanded ARI dashboard for management purposes. There was a discussion about taking into consideration what resources other than ARI are available to the counties. For example, Cook County has a plethora of diversion options and problem-solving courts in addition to its ARI program which focuses on probation violators.

Secretary Saddler asked for clarification on Winnebago County's unallocated funds from its SFY14 renewal grant. ARI staff explained that Winnebago carried SFY13 dollars into the lapse period an additional month, so they had 11 months of expenses, instead of 12, to cover, leaving approximately \$30,000 unallocated.

Approval of implementation grants – Response to RFP

Secretary Saddler opened a discussion on the approval of new sites based on responses to the second RFP for implementation grants that was released in light of the increased appropriation with a deadline of August 30th. The Site Selection & Monitoring Committee was not able to meet due to a lack of quorum, so the proposal summaries provide an overview of the funding requests but do not include specific funding recommendations from the committee. It was suggested that the ARIOB as a “committee of the whole” review and vote on each proposal individually. The proposals consist of three responses to the second RFP (Kane County, Cook County-second program, and Winnebago County-second program) and one carryover from the first RFP (LaSalle County). All proposals are for the nine-month grant period, October 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

Kane County

Kane County received a planning grant in the spring of 2013 and submitted a request for a 10-month grant (which will have to be decreased to fit the nine-month grant period). The program targets Class 3 and 4 probation violators. Kane’s proposal results from a case-level data analysis during the planning grant process, which was completed by hand due to a lack of a functioning probation case management system. Kane is in the midst of replacing its case management system, which will be a welcome improvement and help with reporting. A local non-profit social service agency, Transitional Alternative Reentry Initiative (TARI), Inc., will provide a wide range of services for the grant: behavioral health treatment, cognitive behavioral treatment, job training, and community service opportunities. Sean O’Brien confirmed that TARI is a non-profit organization.

Kane requested \$327,340.20 for 10 months to enroll 104 individuals in a probation violator/intensive probation supervision (IPS) program and divert at least 26 for the 25% reduction goal. Cost per person calculations for both numbers were provided, \$12,500 based on number diverted and \$3,150 based on number enrolled. Joe Antolin asked how these numbers compare to the other grantees. In general, Mary Ann said that \$15,000 per person diverted is the maximum but it depends on different factors and is ultimately up to the ARIOB as to what is acceptable on the basis of cost-effectiveness. ARI staff noted that client support services are integrated into services provided by TARI, Inc. including treatment and supportive housing. ARI staff recommended a funding level of up to \$300,000 for a nine-month grant. Secretary Saddler asked how many sites provide supportive housing. St. Clair County specifically budgets for crisis and recovery housing; other sites may provide it on an as-needed basis. Mary Ann noted that supportive housing is an area where more ARI funds may be directed in light of treatment funding changes with the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Joe Antolin made a motion to approve up to \$300,000 for Kane County. Angelique Orr seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Kane County approved for up to \$300,000.

LaSalle County

LaSalle County completed a planning grant process in SFY13. The LaSalle County State’s Attorney, Brian Towne, briefly served on the ARIOB and was involved in the planning process. LaSalle County is conservative in terms of providing alternatives to incarceration, and the proposal discusses a lack of diversion programs for drug-involved offenders. The proposed probation violator/intensive probation supervision (IPS) program is unique in that the judge is the “gatekeeper” rather than the State’s Attorney. The program includes job training and cognitive behavioral therapy (*Moral Reconation Therapy, Thinking for a Change*).

The Site Selection & Monitoring Committee reviewed the LaSalle proposal at its June 6th meeting and recommended full funding of this proposal. The inclusion of the workforce agency began during the planning process in which Business Employment Skills Team (BEST), Inc. participated. Joe Antolin requested that a specific performance measure for BEST, Inc. be included in the grant because it is subject to other performance measures as a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funded programs which may or may not align with ARI goals. The amount recommended by the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee was clarified as \$281,263. Mary Ann reported that ARI staff has been in communication with LaSalle to address issues raised by the committee around equipment costs, staff training, judicial involvement vs. a team approach, and adding incentives and support services.

Joe Antolin made a motion to approve up to \$281,263 contingent on LaSalle addressing the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee’s concerns and including the employment agency performance measures. Chairman Monreal seconded. All in favor and none opposed. LaSalle County approved up to \$281,263.

Cook County ACT Court

The Cook County ACT Court stakeholders went through a high-quality planning grant process, including an outside national facilitator, which led to a specific high-risk and high-need target population for its drug court-type program, the Cook County Access to Community Treatment (ACT) Court. One of the main goals of the program is to connect participants to Medicaid-funded services in the community in conjunction with the ACA. Joe Antolin suggested revisiting this program in 10 months to see the impact of ACA implementation on the substance abuse and behavioral health services available to this population. Secretary Saddler commented that the capacity for the expanded access to substance abuse and behavioral health services will likely lag behind funding (particularly in Cook), so it is appropriate to include some treatment dollars in the proposal to fill the gap. Mary Ann commented that this proposal could be a prototype for ARI around the state where expanded Medicaid may change how ARI funds are used (for example, from treatment to relapse prevention services). Joe Antolin noted that what is considered “medical necessity” and therefore covered, will change as the ACA gets fully implemented.

Deborah White described Cook County’s enrollment efforts with the early waiver. Director Jesus Reyes reported that Cook County Probation has been working with TASC for awhile to plan for ACA implementation. It is expected with the Medicaid expansion, the proportion of probationers that qualify for assistance will go from one in ten to nine in ten. Mary Ann highlighted that the Cook ACT Court proposal is focused on data collection, technology and evaluation. They will be working with the National Center for State Courts and the Center for Court Innovation to monitor ACA implementation in order to be able to share information around the state and country. Director Reyes noted that it was a good time to focus on technology because Cook County is looking at a modernized case management system. ARI should consider investing increased administrative funds in database upgrades for the benefit of the program and sites.

Secretary Saddler asked how often ARI works with sites on developments such as ACA. Mary Ann said that we communicate with sites through ongoing reporting mechanisms, an annual All Sites Summit, a regular listserv distribution, and daily phone calls. Mary Ann noted that Administrative Office of Illinois Courts (AOIC) is doing a lot of work in training probation departments about ACA implementation. Margie Groot from AOIC reported that ICJIA and AOIC sponsored eight regional collaborative conversations facilitated by TASC about implementing ACA within probation, which were very well received. Another two conversations will occur at the end of September 2013. Many counties are collaborating with local health departments who received grants to enroll participants. Margie Groot also talked about general concern about provider capacity.

Joe Antolin commended Cook on an aggressive proposal with a difficult target population and significant reduction goal. Mary Ann discussed the award amount based on a relatively high cost per diversion at \$13,800, or \$6,400 per enrollment. The proposal includes \$56,000 in expenses related to planning the technological upgrade, which impact the cost per person served. Joe Antolin asked if it is possible to separate these fixed costs from the grant, but it was determined that with an immediate need to get started, it did not make sense to move them into a separate planning or supplemental grant. Secretary Saddler asked if staff remove questionable expenses from proposals before submitting them for review, and Mary Ann noted that sometimes changes are negotiated with sites prior to review, but generally any adjustments are made by the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee or in the drafting of the grant agreement (when the ARIOB has approved an “up to” amount).

Sean O’Brien noted that total requested funds exceed available funds by \$40,223. Joe Antolin suggested that the Cook ACT Court grant might be reduced by 5% – from \$828,230 to \$786,819 – to stay within budget and take into account the inevitable ramp-up period, to help avoid unspent funds in the future. It would be up to the site to determine where the 5% reduction would occur, and they could come back at a later time for additional funds if available. Angelique Orr made motion to approve up to \$786,819, and Adam Monreal seconded. All in favor and none opposed. Deborah White and Jesus Reyes abstained.

Winnebago County TIP Court

ARI currently funds Winnebago County’s drug court. Staff encouraged Winnebago County to submit a request in response to the RFP for support of its mental health court (known as the Therapeutic Intervention Program, or TIP, Court) because its federal funds are expiring. The request is for \$296,313 (which can be reduced by the \$30,000 in unallocated funds in the existing budget). The current Winnebago TIP Court treats the seriously mentally ill and is staff-intensive.

About 40% of the TIP Court budget is funded by county dollars. Not all individuals currently served by this mental health court are ARI-eligible; some are misdemeanants and others have non-ARI-eligible backgrounds. Chairman Monreal noted Winnebago County has high numbers of individuals in the criminal justice system with mental health needs. State's Attorney Joe Bruscato provided background that the TIP Court is well-established and regularly produces successes. Judge Janet Holmgren, who is in charge of the drug court, also presides over the TIP Court.

Patricia Hayden, who serves on the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee, commented that, with an established program, it would be helpful to have evidence of its success to consider as part of the funding recommendation. State's Attorney Bruscato offered that this data is likely available since Winnebago County specialty courts have administrative personnel dedicated to running these programs and maintaining data. Mike Pelletier agreed that data on the TIP Court must exist due to previous Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funding where reporting and data is required. If this request to cover expiring federal funds is not funded, the current court will be severely hindered. ARI staff will request TIP Court performance measurement data to share with the ARIOB, and will add a request for such data in the application process.

Winnebago County has pledged in the proposal to expand the ARI-eligible population served by the program and funding non-ARI-eligible participants with county funding. Joe Antolin asked how the individuals already in program will be counted as of the grant start date, and ARI staff clarified that these clients will be carried over and counted as diversions as long as they are in the program as of the grant start date. State's Attorney Bruscato reported that his office will be starting a deferred prosecution/second chance program, which will impact how offenders, and particularly ARI-eligible offenders, access diversion programs.

Mary Ann recommended the ARIOB approve up to the requested amount (minus the \$30,000 already approved in Winnebago's renewal grant). ARI and ICJIA staff will work out the logistics of the separate funding streams for ARI and non-ARI-eligible participants with the site through the grant agreement drafting process. ARI funds will not be used for non-ARI eligible individuals. Joe Antolin made a motion to approve up to \$266,313, seconded by Angelique Orr. All in favor and none opposed. State's Attorney Joe Bruscato abstained.

Strategic planning process

Mary Ann discussed the upcoming ARI strategic planning process, which has been endorsed by the ARIOB co-chairs and which will address questions such as those that arose today: What will the impact of ACA be on ARI? What does bringing ARI to scale look like? How do we prioritize geographic and target population expansion? ARI staff will convene a small advisory committee with ARIOB representation and outside stakeholders. The process is being conducted in conjunction with pro-bono strategic planning technical assistance from the National Criminal Justice Association, which was accessed through ICJIA, an NCJA member. The goal is to have a strategic planning document by February 2014 for state budget conversations. All ARIOB members are invited to participate in the advisory committee which will meet three times between October and February. A one-pager on the proposed strategic planning process was included in the meeting packet.

Old business/New business

The next ARIOB meeting is set for November 4th and will include a site presentation from Jersey County and a discussion of supplemental funding contingent on availability of funds.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Chairman Monreal, seconded by Joe Antolin, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30p.m.
(Approved 11/4/13)