

Minutes from the Adult Redeploy Illinois Regular Oversight Board Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2013
1:30-3:30p.m.
JRTC, 100 w Randolph Street, Room 2-025, Chicago
IDOC, 1301 Concordia Court, ISU Building Lab Room, Springfield

Board members in attendance (CHI): Walter Boyd, Joe Bruscato, Jack Cutrone, Patricia Hayden, Grace Hong-Duffin (for Secretary Saddler), Tom Mahoney, Mike Pelletier, Angelique Orr, Jesus Reyes, Brent Stratton, Gladyse Taylor (for Director Godinez), Deborah White
Board members in attendance (SPI): Mike Torchia, Kathy Saltmarsh
Board members by phone: Ken Tupy (for Adam Monreal)

Non-board members in attendance: Jordan Boulger, Mary Ann Dyar, Esther Franco-Payne, Margie Groot, Rebecca Janowitz, Lori McCormick, Pete Medina, Lindsey LaPointe, Daynia Sanchez-Bass, Pam Rodriguez, Paula Wolff, Clint Wright

Call to order/Roll call/Introductions

Gladyse Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. and introduced Brent Stratton, Chief Deputy Attorney General, the new designee to the Oversight Board from the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. Introductions were made around the table, and it was determined there was quorum. Mary Ann Dyar noted that Kathy Saltmarsh and Mike Torchia were unable to access videoconferencing in Springfield due to a power outage; however, they joined the meeting by phone.

Approval of minutes from February 4, 2013 meeting

Grace Hong Duffin called for a review of the minutes from the February 4th ARIOB meeting. Joe Bruscato made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Tom Mahoney and passed.

Program Administrator report/Committee reports

Director Taylor asked Mary Ann Dyar to report on the latest quarter. Mary Ann noted the shift to more “real time” reporting on service numbers, from a cumulative total served to the number currently served in the latest quarter. During the January-March 2013 quarter, 689 individuals were served by 11 ARI sites, and this included 91 new enrollees. There were 45 successful program terminations and 14 terminations to IDOC. Jack Cutrone suggested a change in terminology from “terminated successfully” to “completed successfully” to avoid a negative connotation. The current program funds 11 sites which cover 12 counties; and, if all of the planning grant and ramp-up sites come on-board (including judicial circuits), the reach of the program will grow to 39 counties across the state. The ARI fact sheet is being updated to reflect this information and will be circulated.

Mary Ann briefly reported that the Performance Measurement Committee met on April 23rd, and the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee met twice to review funding requests (April 5th and April 26th). The Outreach, Technical Assistance & Communication Committee did not meet this quarter, but several media mentions were reported: a feature in the National Criminal Justice Association bulletin and stories in the Bloomington Pantagraph (McLean County ARI) and Galesburg Register (Knox County ARI).

McLean County ARI program presentation

Chief of Staff Hong Duffin introduced representatives from the McLean County ARI program including Clinton Wright, ARI probation officer; Pete Medina, Intensive Probation Supervision (IPS) supervisor; and Lori McCormick, director of McLean County Court Services. Since the start of the program, McLean County has diverted 25 high-risk, non-violent offenders from prison to intensive community supervision.

Clinton Wright gave a PowerPoint presentation on progress in the program, including number served and services offered. There are currently 18 individuals being supervised in the McLean County ARI program. ARI funds are used to contract for such items as: support services through The Center for Youth and Family Solutions (family advocacy, individual counseling, and employment assistance); electronic monitoring (for alcohol use); and medication assistance. Eligibility for the program is determined based on past failures on supervision, high LSI-R scores, and evidence of a current violation. ARI probationers range in age from 19 to 62. Most are repeat offenders. Clint explained the various phases of the program, which utilizes sanctions and incentives, cognitive behavioral therapy and other evidence-based practices.

Director Lori McCormick noted how the Adult Redeploy Illinois program is different from Intensive Probation Supervision (IPS), which tends to have a negative focus on the probationer with increased monitoring and sanctions. The ARI officer has a different attitude, wanting to find the reason for and address the issues underlying non-compliance, which has improved the rapport between the ARI officer and the probationers. Due to a strong working relationship with the judiciary, probation can better match the right probationer to the right caseload with the right programming. Director McCormick noted that the ARI model is receiving positive attention from other probation officers and the judiciary because individuals are not returning to court. It is also highlighting areas for staff training in the department.

Clinton talked about the partnership with the Bloomington Downtown Business Association to develop community service projects for ARI probationers. The projects promote job readiness and community involvement. In addition, the ARI officer works with probationers on an employment assessment, job skills development and pursuing job leads. Walter Boyd asked about the employment prospects for individuals with felony records in McLean County. The ARI program works with the Salvation Army to identify employers that hire individuals with felony records.

There are currently 18 people on the ARI caseload, with a capacity of 25 high-risk offenders. Seven of the 18 are women, many very young. Traditional probation caseloads are between 100 and 120 individuals, including minimum risk individuals; or 80-90 serving just moderate to high-risk.

Paula Wolff asked about how McLean County decided to participate in ARI after initial reluctance. Director McCormick noted that her initial plan to use ARI to reduce specialty courts' use of jail as a sanction for non-compliance encountered some obstacles, so she and the Chief Judge decided to start out small with probation cases and eventually expand. Director Taylor asked about public perception of the program. Director McCormick said that the one local newspaper likes to look at both positives and negatives of criminal justice initiatives, and the team is prepared for this attention. The Director meets monthly with the Oversight Committee of the McLean County Board and briefs it on ARI, and they are starting to see how the state is investing in programs like ARI that have community-based collaborations.

Jack Cutrone asked if more individuals could be diverted if program capacity could be expanded. The team suggested that two full-time ARI officers could bring program capacity to 50 by also increasing referrals into the program. Trust in the ARI program has slowly built up within the probation department as officers see ARI success with individuals who failed under traditional probation. Probation officers are beginning to see their jobs differently while maintaining public safety. The success of ARI is contributing to an overall system change, reducing reliance on incarceration. Jack Cutrone acknowledged the strong leadership of Chief Judge Elizabeth Robb in these efforts.

Discussion of FY13 spending and FY14 budget

Director Taylor called for a discussion of SFY13 spending and the SFY14 budget. Mary Ann noted that this is a discussion cut short at the February ARIOB meeting, about how ARI is doing SFY13 to-date and the plans going forward. She referred to the following documents: SFY 13 Budget vs. Actual document, Supplemental Funding document, and SFY14 Funding Scenario document.

In SFY13, ARI received a \$2 million state appropriation. In prior meetings, ARI staff reported approximately \$600,000 available for reprogramming, due to lower-than-budgeted planning grants and awards for continuing sites. The ARIOB previously approved a plan to offer \$450,000 of these undesignated SFY13 funds for one-time supplemental enhancements in data and technology, direct services, training, and evaluation. The Site Selection and Monitoring Committee met twice to approve awards in these categories totaling more than \$400,000. In light of a pending supplemental fund request from the 4th Judicial Circuit (for \$31,566) and projected unspent administrative funds, the total left undesignated at this point is approximately \$189,456.

Several ARIOB actions are requested. First, Mary Ann asked that the cap on supplemental funds for direct services be increased from \$200,000 to \$250,000 to accommodate a request from Macon County for additional treatment dollars.

Director Taylor asked for a motion on raising the direct service supplement cap. Jesus Reyes made a motion which was seconded by Joe Bruscatto.

Jack Cutrone asked about designating more money for supplemental funds to sites. Mary Ann noted that it is unlikely sites would request anything more in the short period remaining in SFY13. Director Taylor also noted that assembling agreements for supplemental funds between May 6th and June 30th would be extremely difficult. After discussion, Director Taylor called for the vote on Jesus Reyes' motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Second, Mary Ann presented the 4th Judicial Circuit's request for supplemental training dollars for 17 stakeholders to attend the National Association of Drug Court Professional's conference in July 2013. Normally the Site Selection and Monitoring Committee would approve this, but the request came in after the last committee meeting. Sean O'Brien asked if staff expects other supplemental training requests in SFY13 that would necessitate raising that category cap; however, no other requests are expected. Director Taylor asked for a motion to approve the \$31,566 in supplemental funds for the 4th Judicial Circuit for training. Jack Cutrone made a motion which was seconded by Patricia Hayden. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Third, Mary Ann noted that the ARIOB had previously set aside \$200,000 for planning grants in SFY13 with the goal of six to seven grants of about \$30,000 each. Six planning grants were awarded but at lower levels, totaling approximately \$80,000. ARI staff requests moving \$119,073 unspent planning grant funds into undesignated fund pot for spending flexibility. Sean O'Brien clarified that the motion should also include adding any unspent funds from current planning grantees to the undesignated funds. Director Taylor requested a motion to reallocate any unspent planning grant funds towards SFY13 grant extensions and other programmatic needs. Jack Cutrone made motion, Brent Stratton seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

Mary Ann reported on the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee's discussions to use all remaining undesignated SFY13 funds to extend current sites' grant agreements three months based on an understanding that funds may be used in a "lapse period." However, there has been conflicting information on whether this is possible. There was a discussion that if the funds are for services, the services have to be rendered by June 30th; and, if the funds are for goods, the procurement has to take place by June 30th. Jack Cutrone is going to seek a definitive answer from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) on behalf of ARI. There was a discussion of whether additional equipment or training purchases could be made by the sites up to June 30th. Jack Cutrone suggested providing a cap to ARI staff to make decisions on spending the undesignated SFY13 dollars; Mary Ann noted these decisions could continue to be run through the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee.

The Board discussed the implications of returning unspent SFY13 funds on future funding. It was agreed that all efforts should be made to reprogram unspent funds before the end of the fiscal year. Director Taylor that the program is growing and has proven success, so unspent funds at the beginning of a program may be less of an obstacle for obtaining future funding.

Chief of Staff Hong Duffin clarified the motion as the ARIOB will approve a certain dollar amount in undesignated funds, the use of which will be determined by the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee, and receive an update at the June ARIOB meeting on the designation for these funds. Director Taylor called for a vote to allow the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee to make a future designation on all remaining SFY13 General Revenue funds, and the ARIOB will be updated at the June 2013 ARIOB meeting. Jack Cutrone made motion, Tom Mahoney seconded, all in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Regarding SFY14 funding, Mary Ann presented funding recommendations for grant allocations for continuing sites. Sites submitted designation request forms with their projected expenditures over the next 12 months, summarized in the chart provided. The Site Selection & Monitoring Committee prepared funding recommendations based on an analysis of current site spending, elements added to programs, and cost-effectiveness based on individuals enrolled. Eight requests were recommended for full funding; one was tabled (Crawford County will roll into the 2nd Judicial Circuit's request); and the 9th Judicial Circuit's recommendation is less than requested due to a history of slow spending of Knox and Fulton Counties. Director Taylor asked if the 9th Judicial Circuit would be able to expand circuit-wide with the reduced allocation, and Sean O'Brien confirmed that the committee reviewed the scope of the current program and expansion needs vis-à-vis the request. Chief of Staff Hong Duffin clarified that the grants are for the state fiscal year, July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

Mary Ann suggested a unified motion for all of the funding recommendations provided by the Site Selection & Monitoring Committee, noting that the awards will be subject to the General Assembly's funding allocation. Director Taylor asked for a motion to approve the SFY14 continuing sites' designation requests with the exception of Crawford County. Brent Stratton made motion, Tom Mahoney seconded, all in favor, none opposed. Joe Bruscato abstained from Winnebago County; Patricia Hayden abstained from DuPage County; Tom Mahoney, Jesus Reyes, and Deborah White abstained from Cook County. Motion passes.

Mary Ann directed attention to the SFY14 Funding Scenarios document, with different appropriation levels for discussion. Appropriation levels of \$2 million, \$3 million and \$4 million will likely require program reductions of about 25%, whereas a \$5 million appropriation will allow for full funding of continuing sites, as well as the ability to bring on new sites. These scenarios are in comparison to this year's total program spending with state and federal funds of a little over \$3 million, which has supported tremendous expansion in the program.

Jack Cutrone was asked to provide an update on the SFY14 budget process. He reported that, in the process of developing the budget for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), the initial allocation from GOMB for ARI was \$2 million; however, after discussions, the allocation was raised to \$7 million of General Revenue funds in the Governor's budget. Jack Cutrone has laid a lot of groundwork in Springfield, with appearances before the Appropriations Committees over public safety in both the House and Senate, and through individual meetings with members of the General Assembly. He reported high levels of expressed support for ARI, noting that ARI is one of a few state programs able to demonstrate concrete, measurable, and substantial positive returns on investment. He will continue discussions in the General Assembly as the budget is finalized that ARI saves the state money in excess of program costs.

Director Taylor opened a discussion on the release of a SFY14 Request For Proposal (RFP) for new sites and the SFY14 planning grant process. Director Taylor asked for a motion to release a program expansion RFP and provide up to \$200,000 for planning grants in SFY14. Jesus Reyes made a motion, Joe Bruscatto seconded, all in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Director Taylor asked for old business or new business. Mary Ann said that she will be sending around notice of a special ARIOB meeting in the next week. The meeting will include a review of responses to the SFY14 RFP and an update of spending of undesignated SFY13 funds.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Jack Cutrone, seconded by Tom Mahoney, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.
(Approved 6/17/13)