

Minutes from the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board
Friday, January 29, 2010
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
JRTC, 100 W. Randolph, 4th Floor Conference Room

Board members in attendance: Joe Antolin, Walter Boyd, Jack Cutrone, Angelique Orr-Gordon, Thomas Mahoney, Jorge Montes, Michael Randle, Michelle Saddler

Via videoconference: Judge James Radcliffe (East St. Louis)

Via conference call: Michael Pelletier, Jesse Reyes, Michael Torchia, Rob Vickery, Deborah White

Board members absent: LaSalle County State's Attorney Brian Towne, designee from the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (TBD), Cara Smith, designee from the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

Non-Board members: Brianna Baker-Carvell, Deanne Benos, Lindsay Bostwick, Lisa Braude, Rebecca Campbell, Christine Devitt, Grace Hong Duffin, Mary Ann Dyar, John Fallon, Kelly Gilroy, Shelith Hansbro, Rick Krause, Marilyn Mazewski, Mike McCotter, Mark Myrent, Josh Newkirk, Karrie Rueter (via phone), Paula Wolff

Welcome and Introductions

Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board co-chair IDHS Secretary Michelle Saddler welcomed the group. Co-chair IDOC Director Michael Randle determined there was a quorum and welcomed the four new members, representatives from non-governmental organizations:

1. Joe Antolin, Vice President and Executive Director, Heartland Human Care Services
2. Walter Boyd, Director of the Ex-Offender Opportunity Program, Protestants for the Common Good
3. Angelique Orr-Gordon, Associate Director, TARGET Area Development Corp & Coordinator, Developing Justice Coalition
4. Judge James Radcliffe (retired), Associate Director, Lawyers' Assistance Program (LAP)

Overview of Adult Redeploy Illinois RFP Process Options and Timeline

Director Randle reviewed the statutory charge to the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board. He discussed the \$2 million that has been allocated from the Governor's discretionary budget for the Adult Redeploy Illinois program in FY10. There is a challenge to distribute the money effectively in an open RFP process given the short timeframe. There was a point of clarification that the FY10 funds have to be spent and services rendered by June 30, 2010.

Director Randle and Secretary Saddler presented three options to the group for distributing the funds:

1. Amend existing IDHS contracts with Juvenile Redeploy Illinois sites that wish to participate, to expand services to adult population
2. Release an RFP for pilot site implementation grants
3. Use a portion of the funds to provide non-competitive planning grants

The Board discussed an approach or combination of approaches to effectively distribute the funds. ICJIA Director Jack Cutrone informed the group that, in addition to the \$2 million in FY10 state funds, another \$4 million was requested from the ICJIA Budget Committee for Adult Redeploy Illinois in funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). These funds are good until 2013, allowing for a multi-year funding approach for the program. The Budget Committee voted to approve the request, which will be effective in the absence of any opposition by the full ICJIA Board (within 15 days).

The Board discussed the option to amend agreements with existing Juvenile Redeploy Illinois sites for FY10 funding, which has been reviewed by IDHS legal counsel, and how this might affect who can apply for future funding for Adult Redeploy Illinois, e.g., Cook County, which is not currently a Juvenile Redeploy Illinois site. The Board reviewed a list of the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois sites provided by IDHS, including names of applicant counties/groups of counties/circuits, start dates, and reduction results for IDJJ commitments.

There was a discussion about how the eligible population for the program is defined, particularly for the purposes of determining the baseline from which the 25% reduction in IDOC commitments is calculated. The law states that the 25% reduction is calculated based on the average level of commitments over the past three years of “eligible non-violent offenders.” The Board requested a legal review of the statute to provide clarification concerning eligibility.

Upon a motion by Jack Cutrone, seconded by Jorge Montes, the Board voted to pursue a combination of the three options. The Board will determine how the \$2 million will be divided among the three options.

Given the short timeframe and that a new RFP process will likely delay fund distribution until May 1st (see below), the Board discussed distributing FY10 funds to existing Juvenile Redeploy Illinois sites which are familiar with the program requirements and which have much of the infrastructure in place to spend funds by June 30th. An example of programming would be to extend Juvenile Redeploy Illinois services to the 18-, 19- and 20-year old offenders in the adult system. The Board also felt that the planning grant option provided the opportunity to release funds expeditiously while laying the foundation for solid implementation proposals for subsequent RFPs, i.e., utilizing the ARRA funds through ICJIA. There was a discussion whether the planning grants would be competitive or non-competitive. If competitive, the RFP would have to include selection criteria as defined by the Board, which would take more time. If non-competitive, the process would require releasing a letter announcing the availability of planning grants to all counties, but the Board would have to set aside a portion of the funds – e.g., \$1,020,000 for \$10,000/county for 102 counties – to accommodate all requests. If there is a cap on the amount for planning grants, the Board will have to decide whether groups of counties can apply for an amount equal to the cap multiplied by the number of counties in the group. There was also discussion of creating a tier system with larger planning grant caps for larger counties. Receipt of a planning grant is not a commitment for future implementation funding. It was decided to go forward with a non-competitive planning grant process.

IDOC Assistant Director Deanne Benos also suggested that there may be counties or jurisdictions that are ready to implement an Adult Redeploy Illinois program right away, for example involving expansion of successful drug, mental health or veterans’ courts. It was suggested that ICJIA assist in ensuring that the language in the draft RFPs is consistent with the use of federal grant dollars.

There was a question about which entity would be issuing the RFP and whether IDOC has granting authority through the Crime Reduction Act. Staff will examine this.

Review of Draft RFPs and Policy Questions

Director Randle presented a draft RFP timeline that had been prepared in consultation with procurement staff. Board members were asked to review the draft RFPs and provide their comments to IDOC staff by February 10th. The plan will be to reconvene the Board on February 17th to approve the RFPs for release by the end of February. With a deadline 30 days out, the goal is to reconvene the Board on April 10th to make final funding decisions with contracts commencing May 1st. This timeline applies to the FY10 funding. It is anticipated that there will be another RFP deadline further out for planning grant recipients to submit their local plans for consideration with ARRA funds. Director Cutrone noted that there are certain federal requirements regarding the use of ARRA funds and ICJIA will prepare a memo to advise the Board on this matter. The timeline was approved unanimously upon a motion by Jorge Montes, seconded by Joe Antolin.

Secretary Saddler led a discussion around some of the policy questions arising from the RFPs drafting process for Board review and comment.

- Eligibility – how will eligibility be determined? Staff will request legal review of the statute to define some parameters. Based on the legal review, staff will work with applicants and use information from ICJIA to determine eligible population that will help meet goal of program
- Priority populations – within the eligible pool, does the Board want to highlight priority populations, e.g., low-level drug offenders, women with children, certain geographic areas? Angelique Orr-Gordon suggested offering standards in the RFP; others felt that flexibility should be given to applicants. ICJIA offered to provide information on-line for applicants about model programs to consider implementing. It was noted that the pilot

site implementation RFP includes a requirement of using evidence-based practice or programs that are proven to work.

- Data – what data will be required by applicants given the inconsistency of criminal justice data across the system? ICJIA will also provide county-level risk factor, demographic and criminal justice data for use in preparing local plans. Individual-level data, such as that collected through pre-sentence investigation (PSI) reports, will be the responsibility of the applicant and where qualitative information will be useful.
- Local consortium membership – should the Board recommend stakeholders to be included in the group overseeing the local plan? Director Randle noted that sheriffs and local law enforcement should be and want to be included in this process. It was suggested that this group address community capacity issues to provide Adult Redeploy Illinois services. The RFP lists examples of stakeholders from whom letters of support can be secured.

Update on Staffing and Budget

Based on experience with the juvenile program, there was a recommendation to hire a dedicated full-time program manager as soon as possible. Joe Antolin suggested hiring someone to act as a “systems delivery integrator,” to focus on connecting criminal justice providers with human service providers in Adult Redeploy Illinois sites. In addition, it was determined that there is a need for at least a part-time data analyst to facilitate data collection with the sites during the RFP process and the evaluation process. Director Cutrone mentioned that data support would also be available in conjunction with the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council, which will be housed at ICJIA. The Board approved staffing at 2.5 full-time equivalents upon the motion of Jorge Montes, seconded by Thomas Mahoney.

Director Cutrone announced that ARRA funds will be used to conduct two long-term evaluation projects, one of which will focus on the Adult Redeploy Illinois program.

John Fallon of Corporation for Supportive Housing recommended the Board look to the Florida model of creating a technical assistance center and providing planning and implementation grants for local programs in criminal justice and mental health.

Selection of Future Meeting Dates and Other Business

Per the RFP timeline, the Board will reconvene on February 17th and April 10th. Director Randle expressed gratitude to Director Cutrone and his ICJIA staff for support of the Board with this new initiative. The meeting was adjourned.

(Approved 3/2/10)