

**Minutes from the ARIOB Outreach, Technical Assistance & Communications Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 10:00a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
ICJIA, 300 W. Adams Street, 2nd Floor – Small Conference Room, Chicago**

ARIOB in attendance: Cristin Evans (for John Maki), Nate Steinfeld (for Kathy Saltmarsh)
ARIOB participating by phone: Kathy Saltmarsh
Non-ARIOB in person: Mary Ann Dyar, Lindsey LaPointe
Non-ARIOB by phone: Judge Thomas Sumner (Ret.)

Welcome and introductions

Committee Chair Kathy Saltmarsh determined there was not quorum; however, since no votes were required, the meeting moved forward for discussion.

Approval of minutes

Due to a lack of quorum, the approval of previous meeting minutes was deferred.

Brief review of technical assistance provision to sites

Lindsey LaPointe provided an update on technical assistance provision to sites. One formal site visit occurred since the last committee meeting, a 2.5 day site visit to Effingham County and Christian County which comprise the 4th Judicial Circuit ARI site, February 25-27, 2015. The site visit report is forthcoming. Several informal site visits or participation in site trainings occurred in recent months, including an informal meeting with Sangamon ARI stakeholders. These informal visits are valuable and cost-effective, especially when comprehensive site visits are not possible.

Two sites are currently working under corrective action plans (CAPs), and Jersey County recently completed a CAP. LaSalle County and Cook HOPE have recently submitted progress reports on their CAPs. A visit to Cook HOPE will occur in August to provide technical assistance and check on progress.

Several trainings that ARI helped facilitate in one way or another occurred in recent months. Eight ARI site representatives from rural areas (2nd Judicial Circuit, 9th Judicial Circuit, and Jersey County) accessed a free *Moral Reconciliation Therapy* (cognitive behavioral therapy) train-the-trainer session provided by the Department of Mental Health and coordinated by the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health and Justice. ARI staff recently provided a webinar titled “Maximizing the Affordable Care Act in your ARI Site,” which was co-presented by the Center for Health and Justice at TASC with participation from the Cook County ACT Court and the 9th Judicial Circuit ARI site. Nate Steinfeld noted that ARI sites should be employed to train other sites since peer learning leverages content for both the trainer and the audience. The ACA webinar was a good example of this.

Lindsey shared information on a national conference she participated in recently that was convened by the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), a national entity with local offices including Chicago. Four sessions within the two-day conference were relevant to criminal justice. Lindsey shared information on the Frequent Users of System Engagement Model (FUSE) and reminded the committee when opportunities for this topic come up, in particular with housing, CSH and FUSE are established resources and models. Lindsey will look into outcomes of the FUSE model.

Discussion of outreach activities – media coverage and publications

Mary Ann opened the discussion about outreach efforts noting difficulties with communications in the absence of a SFY16 state budget, yet wanting to be prepared for all possible budget situations. The ARIOB directed staff to release a Request for Applications (RFA) for possible new sites. Three responses were received from the three SFY15 ARI planning grantees: DeKalb County, DuPage County and Kendall County. A sufficient appropriation for ARI is necessary to accommodate any possible RFA

responses. DeKalb and County would be new sites from the same judicial circuit, and DuPage County would be an expansion or enhancement of their current ARI site.

Lindsey shared an outreach document that was developed to provide tips for planning grantees in a systematic way. She noted that the participation of ARI staff in jurisdictions' planning grant processes has been critical. Judge Sumner suggested adding information on the background of ARI.

So far, one of the ARI implementation evaluation reports being produced by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) has been released, on DuPage ARI. The report's key findings are included in the meeting materials. The full reports will be available on-line. Mary Ann noted that ICJIA's Research & Analysis staff has offered to present on findings to local stakeholders, including county board members. Cristin notes that media could be tied into this. The group also discussed outreach about the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) award that ARI received.

Review of 2014 Annual Report

Mary Ann talked about the delays in releasing the 2014 annual report (even though there is no deadline). The report provides an opportunity to emphasize the positive track record that already exists for ARI. High-level messages include maintenance of the 18 current sites, five recent planning grants, and all but one site meeting their SFY14 reduction goals. There were also efforts of note to "fine-tune" the ARI model and institutionalize the approach, such as through the strategic planning process and the creation of a policies and procedures manual.

In terms of feedback, committee members offered that ARI could start to articulate "high-risk/high-need" offenders in communications rather than just "non-violent." Committee members provided feedback on some of the charts and asked for more clarity.

Committee members recommended that the conclusion emphasize the amount of funds spent, number of people diverted, and cumulative savings to the state. The maintenance of community safety should be emphasized early in the report since this is a critical component of ARI although not yet verified by data. We do know that the evidence-based practices utilized are proven to reduce recidivism in high-risk and high-needs individuals, which will lead to less crime. Committee members noted that including the success stories in the annual report (and perhaps in a separate publication) is very important.

Mary Ann inquired about who should receive the Annual Report and the following ideas were provided: Sun-Times, Commission Members, budget staff, substantive committees (of ILGA - Illinois General Assembly), all ILGA members, Governor's Office, and budget and capacity subcommittee representatives from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB).

ARI staff asked committee members for input on how to publicize the NCJA award. In addition to the normal ICJIA announcement, the NCJA award could be publicized in conjunction with the release of the annual report. Committee members encouraged a communication on the NJCA award to county board presidents. Other ideas to emphasize include the Illinois experience with performance incentive funding (PIF), ARI and diversion as part of the solution of dealing with mass incarceration, and the success of local programs and individuals. Cristin will assist with talking points.

Old business/new business

Committee Chair Kathy Saltmarsh asked for any old business or new business, and there were none. The meeting was adjourned.

(Approved 5/16/16)