

Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board
Outreach, Technical Assistance & Communications Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 2, 2016
1:00pm – 3:00 p.m.
At the following public site:
ICJIA, 300 W. Adams Street, 2nd Floor – Small Conference Room, Chicago

ARIOB by phone: Kathy Saltmarsh, Judge Radcliffe

Non-ARIOB present: Mary Ann Dyar, Cristin Evans, Lindsey LaPointe, Laura Scherkenbach

Welcome and introduction

Kathy Saltmarsh called the meeting to order at 1:10pm and facilitated introductions. It was determined there was no quorum thus no votes would occur.

Approval of minutes

The committee could not vote to approve the minutes due to a lack of quorum.

ARI status update and plans for SFY17

Mary Ann Dyar opened the discussion with the loss of three sites due to the state budget impasse: Kankakee and McLean dismantled their programs as of July 1st due to fiscal uncertainty while Kane dismantled their program as of December 31st, 2016. McLean has communicated an interest in returning to ARI, but must wait for its county board decision on November 15th. In terms of spending, the 19 operating sites, including DeKalb and Kendall, are spending at about 40% overall. Some are spending at 100%, but others such as DeKalb and Kendall are spending at almost zero, operating new problem solving courts that still need to be Administration of Illinois Courts (AOIC) certified before initial enrollment can occur. An application for Kendall will go to the Supreme Court this month and DeKalb will complete their application in the near future. Current ARI funds are broken into two pots, one of which expires on 12/31/16 and the other on 6/30/17. ARI is brainstorming how to use these funds in network-wide ways to invest in sites, and facilitate ramping back up through technical assistance.

Lindsey LaPointe stated that approximately 20 Illinois stakeholders have expressed interest in a *Moral Reconciliation Therapy* (MRT) training during the first week of December to be funded by the ARI administrative budget. In addition, ARI is also speaking with other expert technical assistance providers to offer other system wide trainings, such as cognitive-behavioral facilitator training, Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) training, and training on reducing barriers to employment through criminal records relief. Several counties have expressed interest in these topics, all of which aim to increase the literacy or capacity of jurisdictions and programs to ultimately provide stronger and more efficient services to their clients/participants.

ARI staff is now scheduling site visits for Boone, Lake, and Peoria Counties for December and January. Other site visits to schedule soon after include Cook, St. Clair and the 20th Judicial Circuit, Grundy, and Sangamon counties. Lindsey also discussed feedback from exit interviews: Three sites (Kane, Kankakee, and McLean) discontinued with the ARI program, and provided valuable commentaries on their experiences, reasons for exiting the network and what it would take to return. First, the unstable funding created difficulty in retaining staff; many individuals found new positions. Second, despite discontinuing, several sites noted a “spillover” effect, involving greater awareness, communication, and commitment to alternative sentencing, services, and programs. Third, many sites noted the reporting process as arduous; the grant and database reporting also has room for improvement. Fourth, sites expressed a desire for multi-year grants, which would create more consistency and confidence than 12-month grants. Finally,

there were multiple mentions of expanding program eligibility beyond nonviolent offenders. The concept of eligibility expansion has been discussed between Joe Bruscato and the Illinois State's Attorney's Association, emphasizing that (even with a statutory change) eligibility for ARI will remain a local decision and any change would not be a mandate. On the exit interview summaries, Mary Ann noted that the three sites remarked on strengthening the feedback loop to sites, especially with research staff and data collection and analysis. To summarize for the full board, Kathy Saltmarsh recommended providing a 1-2 page summary, including 3-4 salient points, which should include extending the grant periods.

Action Item: ARI staff will schedule the remaining site visits and notify interested parties.

Action Item: ARI staff will share information on exit interviews with the full board.

Lindsey provided planning grant updates: The first deadline was October 31st, and a second deadline was created for December 14th. Two responses have been received: LaSalle County and Adams County. There has been ample interest and questions regarding this planning grant, and counties have been urged to think creatively about these opportunities. An estimated 2 to 5 additional applicants are expected for the second deadline.

Mary Ann presented ARI's current information on recidivism data. Comparisons will be made with ARI's data and that of the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). Initial data analysis, with the help of the Research & Analysis Unit and the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) has been discussed internally, but more work and discussion is needed for accuracy..

Discussion of communications and media

Mary Ann opened this discussion, sharing that there will be an upcoming press release for the annual report. Committee members shared thoughts on how to best approach editorial boards and getting local sites involved in the media. Cristin Evans recommended creating a public list of implementing sites, involving site contact and program information; also, given the soon to be outdated annual report data, an editorial board should be approached once new recidivism figures are solidified.

Action Item: ARI staff will delegate appropriate representatives to approach the editorial boards.

Publications update

Due to a lack of time and the need for some members to depart early, the committee will discuss this at the next meeting.

Old Business/New Business

The committee did not have any old or new business to discuss at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

(Approved 2/21/17)