

**Minutes from the ARIOB Site Selection & Monitoring Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 22, 2014, 1:00pm – 3:00pm**  
**ICJIA small conference room, 300 W Adams, Suite 200, Chicago, IL**

ARIOB in attendance: Walter Boyd, Patricia Hayden, Simeon Kim (for Jack Cutrone), Sarah Kooperman (for Tom Mahoney), Angelique Orr

ARIOB by phone: Mike Torchia, Ken Tupy (for Adam Monreal)

Non-ARIOB members: Mary Ann Dyar, Lindsey LaPointe, Mystik Miller

Mary Ann Dyar opened the meeting at 1:20pm and provided general information on the recent site visit to the St. Clair County Adult Redeploy Illinois (ARI) program. At 1:30pm, the final committee member arrived and it was determined there was quorum.

**Discussion of site monitoring activities - site visits**

The July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> site visit to St. Clair County included meeting with various treatment providers in the county, current and former clients of the ARI program, three members of the new Community Restorative Board, and the Chief Judge of 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. This site works with high risk and high needs offenders dealing with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. The program has grown substantially in the last year. The site created a coordinator position and brought on two additional probation officers, and it utilizes a jail intervention worker employed by a local treatment provider to screen people at the jail. In conjunction with a community treatment provider, they added a specialized co-occurring disorder treatment group. They also added randomized drug testing in combination with graduated sanctions to deal with ongoing problems of client substance use.

ARI staff reported a few areas where improvement could continue to be made such as expanded judicial involvement, more graduated sanctions, clearer written program phases, and a further reduction in probation caseload size.

A member inquired about judicial involvement in the program and ARI staff noted this has been raised to the team and the Chief Judge. ARI staff suggested examining research on the difference between multiple judges versus a single judge's involvement in a program and possible effects on consistency with multiple judges. The Chief Judge is reviewing the information.

A committee member asked about sanctions for testing positive on a drug test and ARI staff responded that the sanctions are mainly administrative, and could include writing an essay or increasing frequency of drug testing. Mary Ann noted the importance of stabilizing the clients in order to limit their use of illicit drugs.

**Approval of previous meeting minutes**

Since quorum was achieved, Committee Chair Angelique Orr asked members to review the minutes for approval from the May 13<sup>th</sup> committee meeting. Simeon Kim made the motion to approve, seconded by Patricia Hayden. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

**Update on SFY15 Funding**

Mary Ann Dyar explained the current funding picture for ARI. Initially a significant increase was expected in SFY15: the Governor recommended \$17 million for ARI, the Senate recommended \$13.5 million, and the House recommended \$10.2 million. Such increases depended on action extending the income tax increase. ARI prepped budgets for all of the above scenarios; however, without the income tax increase extension, the final SFY15 budget was funded at \$7 million, flat funding from SFY14. In the future, ARI staff will include budget scenarios with flat funding.

Mary Ann Dyar noted that the increased funding levels would have allowed for expanded grants to continuing sites and new implementation grants for SFY14 planning grantees. One SFY14 planning grantee, Pike County, withdrew from the planning grant due to the resignation of their State's Attorney who was the primary contact for planning activities.

Although flat funding at \$7 million can be considered "a gift" since many other worthy programs were cut, it has placed downward pressure on site grants due to having to fund more sites over the full 12 months. ARI staff directed continuing sites to provide "maintenance" budgets, without any out-of-state travel or one-time expenditures, which resulted in a 15% decrease in overall requests. Further cuts were needed to accommodate the \$7 million total ARI budget, so an additional 10% reduction was made across-the-board in site grants. The Oversight Board encouraged ARI and Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) staff to pursue supplemental funding in the fall veto session, if possible.

A committee member inquired if there was any pushback on funding because of the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative (NRI) audit. ARI staff stated that they were not aware of any connection; but noted that after the NRI audit was released, the ARI program proactively reviewed its internal procedures to see if there were similar issues to address (there are not).

A committee member asked about the impact of funding on being able to bring on additional staff. ARI staff noted that ICJIA will help cover the utilization of ICJIA staff for ARI work. The priority with ARI funds is to hire a dedicated grant monitor who can help examine the local programs to ensure they are working as planned and according to evidence-based practices.

The committee and ARI staff agreed that alternative plans to spend any additional dollars should be put into place in the event supplemental funding becomes available later in the fiscal year that would need to be spent by June 30, 2015.

#### **Discussion of site monitoring activities - corrective action plans**

ARI staff provided an update on the Jersey County corrective action plan where the site was at risk for failing short of their SFY14 reduction goal. The site submitted a corrective action plan on which they will report progress quarterly. The basics of the corrective action plan include more communication with neighboring Greene County to increase referrals, creation of an additional program phase, and internal use of the Texas Christian University assessment. The corrective action plan process vetted by the Performance Measurement Committee and utilized by Jersey County is a strong template for other sites to use when necessary.

#### **Review and approval of local plans - SFY14 planning grants**

Lindsey LaPointe opened the discussion on the review of local plans.

#### Will County

- Proposal to enhance and expand current problem-solving courts (drug, veterans, mental health), and create a new ARI docket for individuals with identified risk but without substance abuse or mental health needs.
- Funds to hire 1 FTE Mental Health Professional, 1 FTE Case Manager/Employment and a part-time data staff.
- Emphasis on screening, risk and clinical assessments to inform service plans and cognitive-behavioral group treatment.
- Emphasis on new elements to fill in current service gaps such as mental health treatment, cognitive groups, transportation and medication assistance
- Committee discussed proposed services to address criminal thinking for individuals not eligible for drug, mental health or veterans court.
- Although funding is not being voted on, the program is cost-effective.

Mary Ann Dyar noted that ARI staff can discuss the ambitious timeline with the grantee contact. Angelique Orr called for vote to recommend approval of the Will County local plan in substance. Sarah Kooperman motioned, Patricia Hayden seconded, all in favor, none opposed. Motion passed to recommend approval of Will County's local plan in substance only.

#### Kankakee County

- Proposal for an intensive probation supervision program with service enhancements.
- Funds requested for two new IPS officers with reduced case loads and use of the effective casework model.
- Proposal includes mental health treatment, drug testing, and cognitive-behavioral groups.
- Strong targeting of high-risk offenders, strong use of assessment (LSI-R) on program's front end, and strong coordinator role.
- Clear and comprehensive pathways into the program including sanctions, new misdemeanor offenses while on probation and immediate placement.
- The committee has concerns about cost-effectiveness with the current target population and proposed reduction goal; they may need to expand target population to reflect those who directly enter program, not via probation.
- It is not clear if Iroquois County is involved and integrating the neighboring county into target population could increase cost-effectiveness.

The high cost per person diverted of approximately \$17,000 was discussed. It was determined that all applicants should include a cost per person served calculation in their proposals to highlight this concern of the Oversight Board. Angelique Orr called for a vote to recommend approval of the Kankakee County local plan in substance. Simeon Kim motioned, Walter Boyd seconded, all in favor, none opposed. Motion passed to recommended approval of Kankakee County's local plan in substance only.

#### 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

- Funds requested for two distinct programs in one grant to cover two of five counties in 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (where St. Clair, an ARI site, is located).
- Funds requested for one FTE ARI Specialist (employed at treatment provider) to provide case management, medication management, cognitive-behavioral groups, and referrals/linkages. Staff collaborates with court team (Monroe).
- Funds requested for medication, drug testing, transportation, and incentives (Monroe).
- Funds requested to implement four-phased 12 month Second Chance Citizen program in partnership with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) for up to 20 participants (Randolph).
- Funds requested for two FTEs through LSSI: Program Coordinator/Case Manager and Employment Skills School Educator (Randolph), building on current employment program.
- *Moral Reconation Therapy* provided in conjunction with robust employment program at LSSI (Randolph).
- Assessments in both programs/counties will inform service plans.
- Funding for substance abuse treatment.
- Development of community restorative board (Monroe) and community services through LSSI (Randolph).

The committee discussed the local plan in detail, including the high cost per person at \$20,000. ARI staff noted that the total program eligible IDOC number for both counties totals 39 while the program capacity goal is 40. Given the small number of eligible individuals going to IDOC, it may be difficult to fill the proposed program slots with truly IDOC-bound individuals. It was noted that there is a lack of phases in the Monroe program.

The committee discussed the plan to hire FTEs in these small programs and how it may not be as cost-effective as a fee-for-service model. Such positions should also be assessed as to whether they are consistent with caseloads and if they directly relate to criminogenic needs in line with ARI goals (e.g., employment services alone). Strengths of the proposed program include a strong integration of evidence-based practices, use of assessments and ability to enter the program through both revoked probation and immediate placement. ARI staff noted that the expansion to a circuit wide model increases access to diversion programs in rural areas.

Simeon Kim suggested tabling this proposal in order to get more information on per person program cost and assurance that the program serves the IDOC-bound. Sarah Kooperman added that it would be good to see numbers described more fully before moving to recommend approval of the plan. Committee Chair Angelique Orr stated that the proposal is tabled.

### **Old business/new business**

Angelique Orr asked for old/new business. Lindsey LaPointe suggested planning for the next meeting which should be in advance of the November 10<sup>th</sup> Oversight Board meeting. The committee set a tentative date in the first half of September.

### **Adjournment**

Simeon Kim made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sarah Kooperman seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

**(Approved 10/31/14)**