



OFFICE OF THE  
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**MINUTES**

Meeting of the Justice Advisory Council

**Sept 9, 2022**

8:30 am-10:00 am

**Virtual**

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Justice Advisory Council met on 9/9/22 virtually.

Justice Advisory Council Board Member Honorable Justice Hyman called the meeting to order at 8:34am.

<b>JAC Council Board Member Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Honorable Justice P. Scott Neville	X	
Honorable Justice Michael Hyman	X	
Dia S. Weil	X	
Edith Crigler		X
Lisa S. Stephens	X	
Ed Tivador	X	
Dr. Marlon Everett		X
Prof. Samuel Jones	X	
Rebecca Janowitz	X	
<b>County Staff Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
President Toni Preckwinkle		X
Avik Das, JAC	X	
Ali Abib, JAC	X	
Wynetta Scales, JAC	X	
Kim Ambrose Davis, JAC	X	
Laura Grossman, JAC	X	
Juandalynn Johnson, JAC	X	
Faith Hong, JAC	X	
Katherine Fuchs, JAC	X	
Andrew Tonachel, JAC	X	
Shuaverta Miles, JAC	X	

**Members of the Public:** Annie McGowan (Civic Federation), Audrey Harding, Anthony Scalise, Brian Ceci, Hannah Firele, Anthony Scalise, Stanley Moore, Mallory Blazetick,

- I. Remarks:** Justice P Scott Neville: We are in a critical period for democracy in our country. We all possess gifts and talents, and as public servants, we must share our gifts with others.
- II. Review and approval of Minutes:** No amendments or corrections to minutes from 7/8/22 meeting. Motion to approve by Dia Weil seconded by Ed Tivador.
- III. Council Discussion:**

#### **Operations Update - Avik Das**

- a. Staffing - We are currently at 11 staff but continue efforts to add staff including an assistant grants director, grant monitors, and a new member of the policy team. We hope to have new staff to introduce in the next advisory board meeting in November. New staff will support expanded areas of work in policy, grants, community engagement.
- b. ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funded Initiatives
  - i. Current Initiative - Cook County Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grants - 34 grant awards, totaling \$75 million were awarded in June & July.
  - ii. We are currently in the grant award period which officially began September 2022. We are working on orienting awardees and the administration of grant awards including a new electronic system for grant management.
  - iii. This work is alongside collaboration with the city and state.
  - iv. We received 190 applications, reflecting \$500 million in requested funding. We acknowledge that our JAC county funded grants portfolio will be responsive to what we have learned from this grant solicitation. We hope to support additional applicants in 2023.
  - v. We had a press conference and gathering on 8/11 to announce grant awards and bring the cohort of service providers together.
  - vi. The JAC plans to host a quarterly convening focused on networking, support, training for our cohort of service providers. We will ask the Advisory Board to support in the development of these convenings.
  - vii. At the end of Sept 2022 a more detailed executive summary of grant awards will be released publicly.

R Janowitz – Training grant recipients on the new electronic grants management system will be important.

*The JAC is working with the vendor to ensure there is quality.*

Ed Tivador – Application process was transparent. I commend the JAC and Juandalynn Johnson for incorporating the rubric for performance metrics in the application materials.

R Janowitz - There is an unprecedented amount of funding out right now (from the JAC and other sources). Is there a way to measure the impact across funding initiatives/entities? How much coordination is there between the county and the city?

*A Das - The Intergovernmental Violence Prevention working group led by Lanetta Haynes Turner is a regular time state, county and city leaders discuss programming and impact including an external academic review of programs and metrics. Shared metrics have been developed for CVI (community violence intervention) The goal is to collect these for all ARPA funded programs.*

JAC hopes to expand our corporate funded grants portfolio to complement and ultimately build on the ARAPA Gun Violence Prevention investments that were just awarded.

**c. Future Initiatives – Avik Das**

- i. Programs and Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, anticipated to be announced in Fall 2022
- ii. Housing Services & Wrap Around Support for Returning Residents
- iii. Alternatives to Policing in Crisis Response - Behavioral Health Initiative

Ed Tivador – How do we support smaller organizations that do valuable work in communities but do not have much grant writing capacity?

*Kim Ambrose Davis – Avik and Kim have been meeting with some orgs to discuss what they need and plan to provide some level of capacity building to address this issue.*

Justice Neville – Is there a way to encourage partnerships for smaller org to work with larger organization or referrals to other funding sources?

*Avik Das – We are working to balance getting the funding out the door quickly but also building a supportive framework for applicants and service providers. The institute to innovate, a new initiative being led by the City of Chicago will be open to applicants for Cook County Programs. Seed support grants may be a part of this.*

**Legislative & Policy Update – Kristina Kaupa & Ali Abid**

- a. JAC has participated in and followed collaborative planning for the implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) in January 2023. County agencies and partners have been meeting regularly over the last year. There is now a plan for new courtrooms to be open to allow for expanded number of anticipated hearings under the PFA. New required forms have also been developed. The President’s upcoming budget announcement will include funding for these plans.
- b. The Cook County Criminal Justice Communications Group made up of communications staff from different agencies is planning an educational Media Summit on the Pretrial Fairness Act. This is an unprecedented level of proactive media education for the county. We hope this event promotes a higher level of understanding from the media as we prepare to move into the implementation period of the PFA.

Dia Weil – Is there a crisis response plan?

W Scales – is there an effort to educate the public?

*L Grossman - Yes, the communications group has regular meetings to discuss response needs and has a general crisis response plan. The JAC and the communications group has developed some public facing*

*materials including fact sheets. Advocacy groups and partners have engaged in public education via social media. We believe the media summit will provide accurate information support public awareness.*

R Janowitz – Fear based misinformation is dominating discourse.

K Kaupa – A key message right now is that the PFA has not taken effect at this time and is scheduled to be implemented on January 1, 2023.

- c. Alternative Health Intervention Taskforce – the taskforce has produced a final report which is currently posted for public comment and will be submitted as part of the September Cook County Board meeting. Major recommendations are that every jurisdiction should have a non-police crisis response team and a workforce and referral systems are needed to support that level of response. Capacity, training and appropriate compensation should be priorities.
  - i. The taskforce learned crisis response is a rapidly emerging landscape that is somewhat fragmented (17 mobile units already working in Cook County). The taskforce is hoping to support establishment of a more cohesive and accessible network of crisis response services.
- d. Electronic Monitoring - CGL Companies and Appleseed Center for Fair Courts report reviewed Cook County’s EM landscape and provided analysis and recommendations. The report will be presented at the Cook County Board of Commissioners this month. Report will be shared with stakeholders, partners and made available on the JAC website. A summary of the report will also be released and made available.
  - i. Major observation is that Cook Co relies heavily on EM as a condition of pretrial release which is not a common practice in other large jurisdictions.

#### **JAC Communications - Laura Grossman**

- a. On August the JAC held a press conference and inaugural convening of service providers to formally announce the Gun Violence Prevention Grant awards. President Preckwinkle, several Cook County Commissioners and approximately 75 individuals from service provider organizations participated. Grant awards were covered by Block Club Chicago and WGN.
- b. Over the next several month the JAC is focusing on strategic communication related to the Pretrial Fairness Act including an internal awareness campaign for county staff and external campaigns to inform and educate the media and the public starting with a half day educational Media Summit planned for October.
- c. The JAC will also be promoting an upcoming American Rescue Plan funding opportunity - Services for Victims & Survivors of Domestic Violence

#### **Safety and Justice Challenge & Community Engagement – Kim Davis Ambrose**

- d. Equity Cohort Grant from MacArthur Foundation – 2 year grant focused on deepening the community engagement work led by the JAC as part of the Safety & Justice Challenge. Equity Cohort will address inequities that are perpetuated in the system. Project will center on connecting fellows (individuals directly impacted by the justice system) with reps from

each of the criminal justice agencies in a co-learning environment. CROAR – Chicago Regional Organizing for Anti-Racism (nationally called Crossroads), is providing training to fellows and internal system representatives. We are recruiting 10 Fellows who will receive a \$10 thousand stipend over a year.

- e. The JAC is planning a series of community Forums to be held in October. Information on the Equity Cohort will be the focus but we will leverage the opportunity to talk about the PFA in communities. The law garners a lot of interest but there is a need for accurate accessible information.
- f. SJC Warrants Strategy – old misdemeanor warrants being quashed but we have to adapt materials and strategies to meet the needs of the community. A community survey was developed to help understand how residents would feel most comfortable learning about outstanding warrants.
- g. Frist in-person community engagement committee meeting coming up. This group is evolving, welcoming new members while some have retired. JAC will work to maintain engagement and leverage the committee for meaningful projects.

#### **Opportunities for Advisory Board Members**

- a. Board members will have an option to join site visits with grant monitors.
- b. As we move forward with developing a cohort of engaged gun violence prevention service providers, the JAC hopes to leverage the support of the board for developing or providing programming at Quarterly Service Provider Cohort Convenings. The JAC is open to board members' ideas and recommendations for areas of support, presentations etc.
- c. JAC and the Cook County Alternative Health Intervention Response Task Force is looking for public comment on the alternative response models [final report](#). JAC Advisory Board is encouraged to review and submit a comment via Kristina Kaupa.

**IV. New Business:** none.

**V. Public Comment:**

Annie McGowan, Civic Federation – Civic Federation is interested in supporting sharing information on PFA, implementation work and the Media Summit. Communications Subcommittee for AOIC are interested in how they can support or build off of the work of the Media Summit.

**VI. Adjournment** – VI Justice P Scott Neville called for a motion to adjourn. Ed Tivador motioned to adjourn and Dia Weil seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:51am.