



OFFICE OF THE  
 JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
 69 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1110  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
 TELEPHONE 312-603-1133  
 FACSIMILE 312-603-9974

**MINUTES**

Meeting of the Justice Advisory Council  
**November 10, 2022**  
 8:30 am-10:00 am  
**Virtual & In-person**

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Justice Advisory Council met on 11/10/22. Justice Advisory Council Board Member Honorable Justice Hyman called the meeting to order at 8:31am.

<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	
Aeria Charles	X	

**Members of the Public:** Annie McGowan (Civic Federation) Audrey Harding (Cook County 1<sup>st</sup> district) John Houribhane (OCJ) Tyrone Ward, Michele Hall, Julia Epplin Zaph (DHRE), Camela Gardner, Jusrice Michael

**I. Remarks:** Justice P Scott Neville: Together we must continue to form that more perfect union. That is what the work of the JAC is ultimately trying to achieve.

**II. Review and approval of Minutes:** We do not have a quorum. Minutes from the 9/9/22 meeting will be approved at the January advisory board meeting.

**III. Council Discussion:**

**Operations Update - Avik Das**

a. Staffing - New staff member, Aeria Charles – grant monitor.

The JAC staff is growing as our work grows. We ended 2021 with 5 staff now at 12. We plan to hire more grant monitors, an assistant grants director, and positions focused data and research, financial control and reentry services. Some staff have new titles (grants director and director of policy.)

The JAC will be looking to the advisory board to help socialize open positions as recruitment continues in a competitive environment,

- Advisory Board request for an updated organizational chart.

b. ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funded Initiatives

i. Future Initiatives – Housing & Wraparound Services for Returning Residents.

ii. Ongoing Initiatives - Cook County Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grants: The JAC shared an executive summary for the grant initiative summarizing the grant opportunity and the application process and outcomes. The JAC received more quality applications than we were able to fund under the initiative. Looking at options to support additional applicants via unspent ARPA funding from other sources or from JAC's corporate county funded grants budget.

Domestic Violence Intervention & Support Services - RFQ process is ongoing. From that, a pool of service providers will be identified. Initial delivery of services is anticipated in Spring 2023.

iii. JAC Grantmaking – In 2021 the grants budget was approx \$14 million for county funded investments. In 2023, we are hopeful to have \$24 million budget for grants, focused on violence prevention and services for returning residents. This increased will fill gaps and supplement ARPA grant initiatives.

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

a. Supporting planning for implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act (Jan. 1, 2023). Next week begins the first veto session and all parties would like to see some language amended in trailer bills. JAC supports amendments that clarify but maintain all aspects of the law and avoid changes that would diminish progress. Disinformation campaigns have been acknowledged in public discourse which helped with negotiations. Nov 16 is day of action organized by the Coalition to End Money Bond to bring communities down to Springfield to show support for the PFA.

- b. PFA Implementation Work: New forms are approved or in final review. Walk throughs are taking pace at different court locations. Hiring efforts are ongoing but hiring challenges nationally are impacting progress.
- c. Legislative Coordinator – The JAC is recruiting for this role which will increase our active involvement in legislative work. Plan is for coordinator to be onboard in advance of the next general legislative session in January 2023.

**JAC Communications Update- *Laura Grossman***

- a. PFA Media Summit held on Oct. 14, 2022 – The event was organized collaboratively by the Cook County criminal justice communications group but planning was led by the Public Defender’s office with major support from the JAC. Major goals were to educate members of the media on the PFA and dispel myths. The 4-hour event included presentations, panel discussions and a fireside chat. 28 journalists attended. Reporters were engaged and asked constructive questions. Positive coverage was generated including multiple headlines and ripple effect on coverage.
- b. We will continue to support communication related to the Pretrial Fairness Act, utilizing social media to connect with the public and communicating any changes to the law.

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

- a. Kim attended the SJC conference in Georgia and presented on Cook County’s model for community engagement. Received a lot of questions from fellow sites.
- b. JAC is welcoming new members to the SJC Community Engagement Committee. First in-person meeting since the pandemic was held at the 345 Gallery in Garfield Park; the event included a well-received presentation on the PFA from Chicago Community Bond Fund.
- c. SJC Equity Cohort – Currently reviewing applications for fellows (community members impacted by the justice system) who will begin their work January 2023. To recruit fellows, the JAC held public information sessions in the 6 target communities from prior community engagement work (Austin, Garfield Park, Englewood, Roseland, South Suburbs). 5 CBOS are being recruited to mentor fellows throughout the equity cohort. JAC is continuing to build out year-long Equity Cohort curriculum which will include equity framework, facilitation & restorative justice etc.

*Justice Neville* – thank you for that report and for leading this work. Supporting and centering community is the reason the JAC exists.

*Edith Crigler* – Can individuals be nominated for the Equity Cohort?

*Kim Davis Ambrose* – Yes, but there are some guidelines about how we need fellows to apply. Please connect to discuss.

**Opportunities for Advisory Board Members**

- a. Input on ARPA Initiative (NT764--Housing and Support Services)

JAC is designing an ARPA initiative with Housing authority of Cook County to provide rental assistance and wraparound services and support for returning residents. Project launches in spring of next year. We plan to serve approx. 300 individuals consistently on mandatory supervised release. (Population is about 450 individuals without sex offender pop due to housing constraints.) The JAC is developing the RFQ – will need to gauge the most critical needs for the population (ex. transportation, behavioral health etc.) JAC will benefit from Advisory Board insight.

- b. Site visits with grant monitors can be organized to bear witness to our work.
- c. The JAC will be planning convenings for the cohort of Gun Violence Prevention & Reduction Grant service providers. Support in planning or presentations leveraging board expertise are welcome.

*Justice Neville* – Where will these be held?

*Avik Das* – TBD. They can be hosted at organization sites here in a Cook County building, at a university we partner with etc.

**IV. New Business:**

- a. JAC to send out a questionnaire to members of the board to gauge preference for in-person or virtual meetings.
- b. Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 – Save the date for a holiday celebration to thank all those who volunteer in any capacity with the JAC.

**V. Public Comment:**

- a. *Annie McGowan (Civic Federation)* – EM report organized by the JAC was released which is helpful to inform the public of system practices and possible improvements. Civic Federation recently released a bond court watching report which will be shared with the JAC. Report is meant to be educational ahead of PFA implementation and should support accuracy in discussing current processes.

**VI. Adjournment:**

At 9:45am a motion to adjourn was called for. Justice Hyman motioned adjourned. Lisa Stephens seconded the motion.