



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 18th, 2023 | 6 PM to 8 PM

Held Virtually Via Zoom and In-Person Meeting at the Sheriff's Training Room

25 S. Martin Luther King Jr Ave. Waukegan, IL 60085

Attendees:

John D. Idleburg	Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO)
Celeste Flores	Faith In Place
Holly Kerr	Coalition to Reduce Recidivism
Bruce Johnson	NICASA
Donna Jo Maki	LCSO
Eric Rinehart	Lake County State's Attorney Office
Fritz Gelin	Independence Center-Living Room Wellness Center
Jamie Oliphant	PTBS/ Probation
Joy Gossman	Lake County Public Defender
Kania Robinson	LCSO
Kevin Kuehmeier	Justice System Partners
Letitia Monreal	19th Judicial Circuit Court
Linda Bartmes	League of Women Voters
Margaret Fontana	19th Judicial Circuit Court
Monique Johnson	LCSO
Sandra Bankston	Lake County State's Attorney Office
Sara Knizhnik	Lake County Board
Gene Marceron	Independence Center-Living Room Wellness Center
James Yanecek	LCSO
Nicholas Kalfas	LCSO
Jackie Cunngham	Safe Illinois
Fred Wilson	Panelist
Charles Conkle, Jr.	Panelist
Carmecia Hawthorn	Panelist
Melissa Siegel	Panelist
Chris Huber	Panelist
Dure Shellie	Panelist

Wayne Bailey	Community Member
Rick Heineman	Community Member
Matt Stanton	LCSO
Brandon Ewing	BCU/Waukegan Public School District 60
Martice Wright	Independence Center-Living Room Wellness Center
Desiree Walker	Community Member
Jesse Janetta	Urban Institute
Travis Reginal	Urban Institute
Bertine Nixon	Community Member
Steve Spagnolo	Lake County State's Attorney Office
Todd Schroeder	19th Judicial Circuit Court
Debra Williams	Community Member
Sam Johnson	Lake County Health Department
Shai Ambro	Community Member
Linda Bartmes	League of Women Voters
Cassandra Hiller	Lake County Admin

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
Welcome (Sheriff Idleburg)	Sheriff John D. Idleburg started the meeting thanking everyone for attending our CJCC meeting in person and virtual	N/A
Urban Institute Case Study Introduction – Jessie Jannetta: Senior Policy Fellow, Urban Institute Justice Policy Center (Zoom)	The goal of the case study is to increase attention to racial equality to change jail population and how we think about jails and racial equity. The case study will include a series of confidential interviews to describe Lake County's efforts. Historical jail data is also included. The timeline is interviews conducted in February, first draft of the case study by June or July and publish in August 2023. Sheriff Idleburg encouraged continued partnership and dialogue to work on racial equity of our jail population. Anyone interested in participating in the case study were encouraged to contact Sheriff Idleburg.	N/A

	<p>For additional information on the study, email: Jesse: jjannetta@urban.org Travis: treginal@urban.org</p> <p>*See case study overview document below</p>	
<p>Community Engagement Vital Voices Panel</p> <p>Jackie Cunningham, Melissa Siegal, Fred Wilson, Charles Conkle, Chris Huber, Dure Shellie, and Carmecia Hawthorn Co-Moderated by Holly Kerr & Gene Marceron</p> <p><i>This panel discussion will include people with lived experience discussing topics that affect our local community from their unique perspectives</i></p>	<p>Community members shared their experiences with the criminal justice experiences. Experiences included: “Go in with nothing – released with nothing” Desire for aftercare programs Mental health issues never addressed or looked at. Experiences and frustration in applying for jobs and going through the process to get hired and start working but let go (fired) 30-45 days due to backgrounds coming back reflecting 20-year-old charges The desire for employers to be more upfront and just not hire. Certifications while in jail but not able to utilize them upon release due to being a felon and not aware of places willing and accepting felons “When you get out of corrections, the word is correction. You’re not supposed to come out and get treated differently. You did your time. You made a mistake and a lot of us go back because we’re treated like we’re still making that mistake.” Ensure recently released people are okay Provide recommendations for jobs Need a list of Felony Friendly Employers Increase re-entry support Increase jail program education When released a person needs a job, phone, ID/Social Security card</p>	<p>N/A</p>

	<p>Lack of transportation or unaware of bus pass assistance</p> <p>The Lake County Sheriff's Bridge program was discussed. Lack of safe housing for previously incarcerated persons is non-existent. Community member Melissa Siegal provided her experiences after her son was shot, mental health issues, loss of income, and losing home. Victim assistance was unavailable or not timely. She described the support from the Kids Above All's Camp Sheilah Program helping children heal from homicide-related trauma.</p> <p>A discussion ensued on the \$150/day cost to incarcerate someone, need for more funding to provide resources. Reinvest funds in the community from jail population reduction cost savings.</p> <p>Vocational assistance is offered by Independence Center however barriers exist to hire peer support specialists in health care facilities. Bruce Johnson described the Nicasa peer support specialists and SJC Jail High Utilizer program.</p> <p>CJCC members were encouraged to increase outreach to the private sector on the need to hire previously convicted felons. Community members were asked to connect with Workforce Development and the College of Lake County for employment assistance.</p> <p>A discussion ensued on the State's Attorney's Office being more intentional on who they seek for felony convictions.</p>	
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	State's Attorney Rinehart advised that his office doubled their diversion program since he took office and is developing a domestic violence program.	
CJCC Membership Contact Information Update	Sheriff Idleburg encouraged all to provide current contact information for the CJCC membership list.	N/A
Upcoming Lake County Study: Failure to Appear – Sheriff Idleburg	Justice System Partners, Kevin Kuehmeier described the Lake County Study on failure to appear in court with expected release in the Spring of 2023.	N/A
Next Meeting: Wednesday March 15, 2022, 6 PM to 8 PM	<p>Sheriff Idleburg thanked everyone for attending.</p> <p>All were encouraged to attend the next meeting on Wednesday March 15th, 2023, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. and to bring a friend or two to the next meeting.</p>	The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Safety and Justice Challenge Implementation Site Case Studies

Description: The Urban Institute, in collaboration with the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance (ISLG), is documenting the work of the Safety and Justice Challenge Implementation Sites with a series of single-site and thematically focused multi-site case studies. The goal of these case studies will be to document and amplify the work of the Implementation Sites, including successes, challenges, and impact. We hope these case studies will assist other jurisdictions in adapting and applying SJC strategies in their own contexts and spur jail population reduction efforts. Specifically, Lake County has been identified as a site to feature in a thematic case study on efforts to integrate racial equity work with collaborative approaches to reducing jail populations.

Timeline: Data collection will begin in early 2023, with analysis and writing during the late spring, and publication by August 2023.

Data Sources: We will use several data sources for the case study including 1) qualitative interviews with key SJC strategy stakeholders, 2) analysis of jail population trends data and any additional strategy-specific data provided to ISLG, and 3) program and strategy documents (as relevant). Urban will lead all research activities except the analysis of jail population trends data, which ISLG will lead.

Support Requested from Sites: We will require a small amount of support from sites to complete the case study, including:

- Assistance in identifying a list of key SJC strategy stakeholders for qualitative interviews
- Sharing of program and strategy documents (as relevant)
- Willingness to be candid in sharing information
- Review of case study in draft for accuracy prior to publication

Protections for Participants: As required by Title 45, Part 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Urban has an established Institutional Review Board (IRB) to ensure that our research practices and procedures protect the rights and welfare of human subjects. The Urban IRB reviews all research involving human subjects to ensure that data collection procedures and data security plans comply with federal regulations and effectively protect the rights and welfare of human subjects. All data collection protocols and instruments will be reviewed by the IRB. Access to project data will be restricted to research team members who have signed a confidentiality pledge. Participation in qualitative interviews will be voluntary and confidential. Stakeholders may decline to

participate in an interview, may decline questions they are not comfortable answering, or stop the interview at any time. Stakeholders' decisions regarding participation will not be shared with anyone outside of the Urban research team.

Example Case Studies: The Urban Institute released a number of SJC case studies in 2022, using the same methodology that will be employed for the 2023 case studies:

- [Thematic case study on cross-system collaboration](#) (East Baton Rouge Parish, LA; City and County of San Francisco, CA; and St. Louis County, MO)
- [Thematic case study on using data to inform jail reduction efforts](#) (Charleston County, SC and St. Louis County, MO)
- [Thematic case study on pretrial risk assessment and structured decision-making](#) (Lucas County, OH and Charleston County, SC)
- [Single-site case study on Pennington County](#)

Case Study Team

Jesse Jannetta, Co-Principal Investigator, jjannetta@urban.org

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