



ANNUAL REPORT

**KANE
COUNTY
JUVENILE
JUSTICE
COUNCIL**

FISCAL YEAR 2018

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MISSION STATEMENT

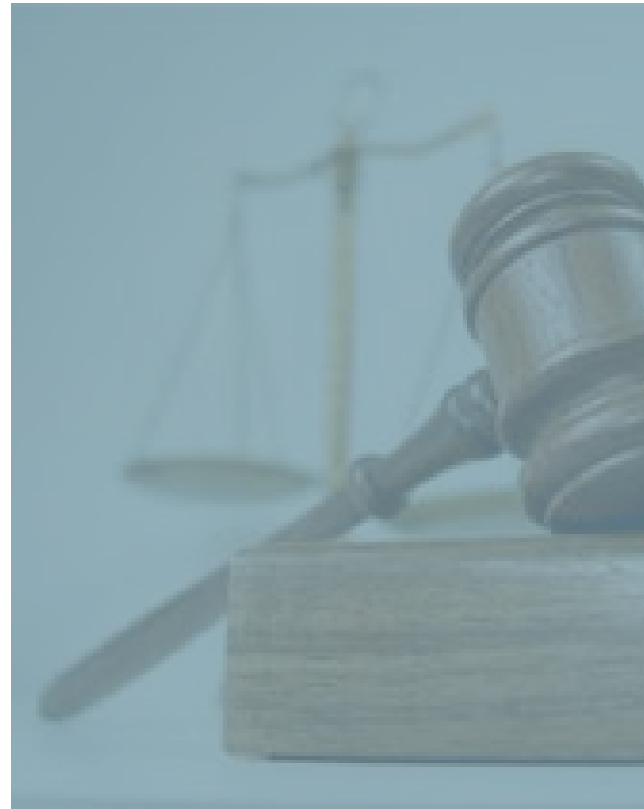
To facilitate communication and awareness of community resources for at-risk youth and families by establishing and maintaining partnerships across systems.

VISION STATEMENT

To serve as a collaborative resource to align effective services for the prevention, intervention, rehabilitation, and reintegration of juveniles in order to create a positive change for youth, families, and the community.

INTRODUCTION

Since 2015, the Kane County Juvenile Justice Council has worked to influence the juvenile justice system to improve the lives of youths in the system and to keep youths out of the system by formalizing its processes to ensure long-term success as a collaborative resource. The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission awarded the council with a delinquency prevention grant, totaling \$50,000, for fiscal year 2018. The council is fully grant funded and receives no funding from Kane County. The majority of the funding is used for the coordinator's salary, but additional funds help cover the cost of professional training.



FISCAL YEAR 2018 OVERVIEW

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

- Prioritized transparency and outreach by filling vacancies on the board of directors and increasing member participation.
- Established information-sharing protocols for partners about upcoming events and support requests for community grant opportunities.
- Improved efficiencies by expanding meeting schedules.
- Improved data collection and reporting practices and priorities to meet Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention requirements.
- Improved practices to support law enforcement who encounter crisis situations with youth and families, increase youth involvement, and create awareness around trauma.
- Continued to expand by launching initiatives and increasing member participation.
- Conducted an internal evaluation to assess the collaboration and integration across systems.
- Approved for community distribution an expungement packet to provide juveniles a second chance.
- Completed a Universal Needs Assessment to help alleviate barriers between families and accessing services.
- Continued development as a community resource for restorative practices by offering additional training and initiating consultation to support the expansion of the framework outside of schools.

COUNCIL STRUCTURE MEMBERSHIP

The board of directors meets monthly, while the full council meets quarterly. The State's Attorney serves as the council chairman. Only board members have voting power, but all members are encouraged to provide input. Quarterly meetings provide a forum for the 35 to 40 active members to gather, network and participate in discussions regarding council initiatives. In addition, the council has established subcommittees as needed.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, an informal partnership emerged with a University of Illinois–Chicago faculty member to continue enhancing capacity as an entity comprised of multiple systems. Measures were anonymously administered at the beginning of FY 2018 to assess the levels of integration and the team collaboration among the board of directors. The outcomes were then reviewed and used to develop an action plan, with strategies to improve the current level of integration and team collaboration.

COORDINATOR

The council coordinator manages the entity's many initiatives. The coordinator maintains communication with council members regarding the scheduling of meetings, prepares and distributes meeting agendas and minutes, and facilitates the implementation of the local juvenile justice plan. The coordinator oversees the program evaluation and outcome measures, data collection and analysis, and collaborates with community partners and council coordinators from other counties.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOSEPH McMAHON
State's Attorney

DONALD KRAMER
Sheriff

KELLI CHILDRRESS
Public Defender

LISA AUST
Director of Court Services

PATRICIA DAL SANTO
Regional Office of Education
Superintendent

JUDGE

LINDA ABRAHAMSON
Representative for Chief Judge
Susan Clancy Boles

JUDGE

WILLIAM PARKHURST
Presiding Judge of Juvenile
Delinquency

SUSAN STARRETT
County Board representative

ANDREW WIETESKA
Chiefs of Police representative
West Dundee Police Chief

KRISTEN

LOHRSTORFER
Juvenile Delinquency Officer

MICHAEL DOYEN
Kane County Bar Association
member



LOGO REDESIGN

COURTESY OF MAURICE MARTIN

In spring 2018, the council sought to update its logo to better represent its collaborative nature. The board asked council members to recommend a talented Kane County student to design an appropriate logo.

In the summer between his sophomore and junior years of high school, Maurice Martin dedicated approximately 147 hours to this project. With minimal direction, Maurice provided more than 20 variations for consideration. Maurice demonstrated patience, creativity, ambition and professionalism in working with council members on the final product.

In addition to his work with the council, Maurice had experience designing logos as he is responsible for developing the logo for a local nonprofit group, **Building Families Together**.

The council has included an explanation on a feature page of the Website to highlight Maurice's efforts. A picture of him presenting at the council annual retreat is available as well.



Maurice Martin presents logo options to Juvenile Justice Council members at the 2018 annual retreat.

An aspiring graphic designer, Maurice shared that he became interested in graphic design when he started drawing the world. Realizing that life is not always as nice as he had pictured it, he views graphic art as his opportunity to erase the mistakes.

Kane County Juvenile Justice Council Outstanding Student - 2018

VIOLET OLVERA

The council recognized Violet Olvera as the 2018 Outstanding Student. Violet was nominated by her teacher, Karen Tobin.

Wrapping up her junior year at Dream Academy in Elgin, Violet told her story of learning to share her authentic self. She described the painful journey to reveal her identity, which included enduring bullying, struggling with her mental health, and dealing with feelings of not fitting in. Although this took a toll on her school performance, Violet's perseverance and resilience led her to her first job and back on track with her academics. She returned to Elgin High School for her senior year with plans to attend college to study world languages in hopes of pursuing a career as an interpreter. On behalf of the council, Violet was given a plaque to commemorate her outstanding achievements. The Kane County Bar Association also provided a donation to the Kane Excellence in Education Partnership fund for Violet to put toward her future educational endeavors.



Pictured above: State's Attorney Joseph McMahon, Ms. Olvera, Violet Olvera, Council Coordinator Julia Schick, Dream Academy Principal Lourdes Baker, Regional Superintendent Patricia Del Santo, Kane County Board Representative Susan Starrett, and Dream Academy Teacher/Nominator Karen Tobin

The Council's Outstanding Student Award is given to a vulnerable student in recognition of that student's efforts and achievements. In spring 2018, the council asked Kane County teachers to identify a student who has demonstrated success in the face of adversity. The council received the names and stories of four students, which were assessed based on information from the nominator and student.

STRUCTURAL CHANGES

To establish structure, transparency, and increase consistency, two new policies have been established for partners to share information about upcoming events through the council and request formal support for community grant opportunities.

EVENT SHARING

Identifies a consistent process for community partners to request that their respective entity's event or other community event be shared through the council's email network and listed on the council's Website. Community events will be distributed through the network of partners and on the Website, provided that they have gone through an approval process and are in compliance with county policy.

GRANT SUPPORT

Identifies a consistent process for community partners to formally request support on behalf of the council and proof of their partnership. With approval from the board of directors, a letter of support outlining the partnership between requesting agency and the council and its purpose will be provided at the request of the agency applying for the grant.

TRAININGS

DIGITAL THREAT ASSESSMENT TRAINING

The Regional Office of Education hosted back-to-back opportunities for professionals to attend this training to increase understanding of how an individual's online activity through social media and web browsing can impact their risk for potential violent behavior. Participants engaged in hands on exercises that reviewed the most current social media sites and applications. The council provided scholarships for up to 10 participants to attend.

REDUCING TRAUMA AND BUILDING RESILIENCY

In collaboration with the Kane County Health Department, the council co-hosted and presented at this training for community professionals to address reducing trauma and building resiliency. The community event offered a variety of presentations by professionals to professionals in the community to create awareness about the work being done throughout the community to improve overall outcomes for families.

YEAR IN REVIEW - FY 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FACILITATING RESTORATIVE CONFERENCES

In summer 2018, the council hosted a Training for Trainers opportunity to license facilitators in the “Facilitating Restorative Conferences” curriculum, as provided through the International Institute of Restorative Practices. This training was offered to complete the initial Restorative Practices training, Introduction to Restorative Practices and Effective Use of Circles, that was offered in June of 2017. Restorative Conferences address behavior by providing an opportunity to increase understanding of the impact one’s own behavior can have on others and their relationships, while also offering the chance to repair any harm that has occurred. Rather than relying on consequences to correct a behavior and ultimately reinforce further separation, this response engages the wrongdoer in problem solving skills that require input from the individual who experienced the harm. The licensed facilitators are available to provide training to the Kane County community.

MENTAL HEALTH FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

The council provided funding to host three separate one-day Mental Health First Aid for Public safety trainings in the summer of 2018. Law enforcement agencies are joining the One Mind Campaign, which would entail certifying all personnel in the one-day Mental Health First Aid Program (including non-sworn personnel), and 20 percent of their sworn personnel in the 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training program. This training opportunity also provided support at a local level to fulfill newly implemented mandates for law enforcement officers in Illinois to participate in mental health trainings. Through this endeavor, approximately 54 officers were trained in Mental Health First Aid for Public Safety.

PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The council developed a resource card with phone numbers for youth crisis intervention to offer additional support to law enforcement officers while on emergency calls, particularly those involving mental health crises. Resources include contact information for the Screening Assessment and Support Services program and Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services program, in addition to a web based link for other behavioral health resources.

YEAR IN REVIEW - FY 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

In the fall 2017, the council coordinator received communication from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, requesting a connection to the Kane County community. The council board of directors approved a partnership with the Targeted Violence Prevention program, allowing the council to participate in an advisory group focused on violence prevention. The authority established the program to help communities in Illinois develop violence prevention strategies that can prevent individuals from engaging in ideologically inspired targeted violence. While this form of violence is rare, it can be seen in any community and have a far-reaching impact. Ideological refers to the common belief that violence is the best or only means of achieving the respective goal(s) and/or addressing grievances.

In Kane County, the TVPP program is working to establish a training program for community members to educate individuals about the risk factors associated with violence, the protective factors that foster resilience, and the warning signs that preclude violent behavior, while encouraging early intervention mechanisms to assist individuals in need of additional community support. The council's participation assists with connecting to various resources that may be able to assist with this early intervention and education, while also providing input around effective implementation of this training program.

ILLINOIS CHILDREN'S HEALTH FOUNDATION: CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

At the beginning of 2018, the Kane County Health Department submitted an application for this funding opportunity in collaboration with partners across the Kane County community, including the council. This grant begins with an opportunity to develop plans to address gaps in adequately addressing mental health needs among children and families living in the community.

COMMUNITY EVENTS / COLLABORATION

- Presenter: "Justice Moving Forward" Black History Family Festival at Gail Borden Library
- Aurora Cares partnership
- School District 300 Community Engagement Committee
- Kane County Behavioral Health Council
- Mid-Valley Mental Health Partnership
- Carpentersville Pregnancy Prevention Advisory Group
- Kane County Community Network
- Supporting East Aurora Victims of Community Violence

Subcommittees

INFORMATION SHARING

In December 2017, the council initiated the first pilot stage of the Universal Needs Assessment through Family Service Association of Greater Elgin. The Universal Needs Assessment can be utilized by a diverse group of organizations and branches of government for ease of sharing information about a youth, particularly regarding needs that may be presenting at the time of the interaction. At the end of this fiscal year, the second pilot phase was initiated through East Aurora School District's Supporting East Aurora Victims of Community Violence program. In addition, the subcommittee is collaborating with the county Information Technology department to put the assessment into an online format.

EXPUNGEMENTS

The council finalized an expungement packet, updating in December 2017 to align with new legislation that became effective January 1, 2018. As a result of the collaborative effort, the Public Defender's Office implemented a protocol to file petitions for cases that can be automatically expunged at sentencing in addition to the distribution of the countywide packet. Between January 2016 and October 31, 2016, 7 expungements were filed. After the adjustments mentioned above, 65 expungement petitions were filed between November 1, 2016 and April 30, 2018.

DATA COLLECTION (NEW FY 2018)

This subcommittee has been established to increase data collection and analysis for decision making purposes. This work group also provides an opportunity to engage community partners in accessing and reviewing additional data to increase understanding of community concerns and determine strategies to address them.

BULLYING PRESENTATIONS (REINSTATED FY 2018)

The council established a short term subcommittee to update and revise the bullying presentations that were once presented through the Kane County State's Attorney's Office. These presentations are available upon request through community agencies and schools.



"We cannot always build the future for our youth but we can build
our youth for the future."

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

KANE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCIL

For more information regarding the JJC and it's initiatives or to contact
the coordinator, please visit:

jjcouncil.countyofkane.org