

**MONROE COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE (JDAI)
STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR February 25, 2025**

In Attendance: Anthony Williams, Becca Streit, Becky Rose, Chris Herring, Christine McAfee, David Weil, Judge Holly Harvey, Jeff Hartman, Jeff Holand, Linda Brady, Matt Demmings, Morgan Richardson, Ody Ekwonwa, Payton Balasko, Ruth Aydt, Ryan Pedigo, Tyler Mason and Wyatt Lawson.

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome by **JDAI** Coordinator, Christine McAfee.

2. Case Processing Workgroup

Jeff Hartman, Juvenile Division Supervisor, proposed a benchmark of 45 days from when the juvenile referral was received to the informal adjustment (IA) signing. The breakdown, 15 days from the date the referral was received to the scheduled appointment Preliminary Inquiry (PI). The Preliminary Inquiry (PI) is an initial investigation into the facts and circumstances of the alleged offense and a recommendation is written to the courts with the outcome. Juvenile probation officers are given 15 days from the interview date to have the report submitted to the courts. The final 15 days is from when the report has been submitted and a voluntary agreement between the probation department and family without involving the court, also known as an Informal Adjustment (IA). Adjustments in timeline(s) can vary depending on the severity of the case and if further court intervention is needed.

3. Update on Revised Conditions of Probation

In July 2024, the conditions of probation were revised statewide to three standard conditions and up to five individualized special conditions. The new conditions aim to reduce technical violations and tailors' probation to the specific need of the juvenile. Challenges have arisen in data collection due to limited information. Monroe County Juvenile Division with the help of Impact Solutions will continue to collect and analyze all data collected.

4. Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

In 2022, Indiana legislation 1359, which established the Youth Justice Oversight Committee and outlined recommendations for youth justice system improvements. Full report can be found <https://www.in.gov/youthjustice/reports/> Diversion for Monroe County is aiming to keep young people and families out of the youth justice system. Informal diversion is where first responders can refer families to community resources such as The Warehouse or housing services. Formal diversion from Monroe County Circuit Court Probation can be made for resources such as parenting classes or Big Brothers, Big sisters and avoiding coercive court interventions.

A. Diversion Planning Grant

The Diversion Planning grant application is for \$20,000 and Monroe County applied in November of 2024. If allotted, a workgroup will be created to help identify where those

funds can be used to support community programs and services such as pro-social activities or mentorship programs.

5. JDAI- FY 26 Grant Application

Application deadlines were in February 2025. Discussion will be held at next JDAI Meeting, June 24, 2025. This will allow notice of all grant funds and awarded amounts for grant cycle, July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

6. COMMUNITY NEWS

- A. The Monroe Circuit Court Probation Department partners with People and Animal Learning Services (PALS) and will offer Spring and Summer programming for parents/caregivers and youth at no cost. There will be two (2) separate 12-week sessions: Wednesday's from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM and Friday's 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM. Participants should be between the ages of 12 and 17 and attend with parents/caregivers.
To register: Contact Christine McAfee at cmcafee@co.monroe.in.us or 812-349-2649.
- B. Family Solutions will again offer, The Parent Project. A grant amendment is currently under review, information will be shared once approved and finalized.
- C. The Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) will hold a Local State of the Child event for Monroe County on March 5, 2025, from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM at The Warehouse with registration available on their website. <https://iyi.org/events/>

7. 2024 MEETING DATES AND LOCATION

June 24, 2025, and October 21, 2025.

All meetings will be offered in- person and virtually from 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM, locations TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Morgan Richardson
Monroe County Circuit Court Probation Department
Juvenile Division Secretary