

SB24-029 Alternative Metrics Working Group

Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2025 | 9:00am-12:00pm

Hybrid Locations: Zoom & 3rd Floor DCJ Conference Rm., 700 Kipling

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Appointed Members: Kelli Burmeister (Division of Youth Services), Whitney Leeds (Growing Home), Kate LeMasters (University of Colorado, Anschutz), Jack Reed (Division of Criminal Justice), Aaron Stewart (State Judicial), Dave Wolfsgruber (Department of Corrections).

Absent Members: Jon Caudill (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs), Christie Donner (Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition).

Guests: Linda Harrison (Division of Criminal Justice), Kaylynn Duncan (Division of Criminal Justice), Lindsay Saunders-Velez (Criminal and Correctional Reforms Consultants), Jolene [Last name not provided] (Intern with Criminal and Correctional Reforms Consultants)

Staff: Erin Crites (Division of Criminal Justice)

Overview

The Alternative Metrics Working Group meeting focused on various aspects of procedural justice, stages of change, reentry challenges, and metrics for measuring system functioning beyond recidivism. Key updates included a switch to minutes-only posting on Google Drive, while issues related to access and financial compensation for participants were addressed. The group engaged in discussions about the importance of fair processes, measuring consumer perceptions, and challenges faced during reentry, especially regarding continuity of care and housing. Concepts for tracking were brainstormed, including employment, housing, and civic engagement, with an emphasis on the need for measuring features of early reentry planning. Participants deliberated on metrics related to employment, income quality, financial literacy, and benefits, while also proposing a scoring system for these metrics based on utility and feasibility. Action items were assigned for follow-ups and further refinement of the discussed concepts, ensuring input from individuals with lived experience is included in future surveys.

Notes

Welcome and Introductions

- At the start of the meeting only appointed members were present.
- Meeting is being recorded
- Firefly AI used for notetaking
- Jon is ill, Dave and Jack to manage the group
- No quorum reached for voting, therefore meeting minutes from Jan 9 will be voted on at the February 13 meeting.

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Meeting Updates and Google Drive Access

- Switching to minutes-only posting, with transcripts available upon request due to limits of transcription programs to manage hybrid meeting well.
- Google Drive access issues discussed and resolved for those present
- Financial compensation for non-appointed participants inquired about and discussed. Discussed like being able to reimburse presenters following the federal consultant rate of \$80/hour. Would require the individual to submit some documentation to receive reimbursement.

Follow-ups From Previous Meeting and Updates

- Jon and Erin coordinating information sharing and meeting planning
- Kate met with Jon regarding media strategy for universities to build up additional interest for public participation in the group. Will likely have something ready for mid-February. Jack also connected with the DCJ communication team to work on getting a release out early to mid-February.
- Whitney unable to reach out to contacts due to competing commitments, others in the group will follow up.
- Jack followed up with his contacts and one may join the meeting later.

Procedural Justice and Transtheoretical Model (TTM)

- Discussion on procedural justice concept
- Process matters almost more than outcome in some instances
- Perception of fair processes important even if outcome is disliked
- Conversation about false convictions and plea deals
- TTM is an individual construct. Would want to look at this in the context of structural challenges—consider using a socio-ecological models.

System Functioning and Measurement

- Discussion on measuring system functioning beyond recidivism
- Importance of understanding consumers' perceptions of system services
- Consideration of socioecological model for health

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Reentry and Continuity of Care

- Challenges with continuity of care upon reentry discussed
- Issues with sober living environments and medication-assisted treatment
- Need for better communication between jails and community providers

Brainstorming Concepts to Measure

- Discussion on various concepts to track and measure
- Employment, housing, social relationships, and civic engagement mentioned
- Importance of reentry planning from day one of incarceration
- **Housing and Reentry Planning**
 - Debate on securing housing within one month of release
 - Discussion on case-by-case approach to reentry planning
 - Importance of hope and thinking about reentry from the beginning of sentence
- **Employment and Income Metrics**
 - Discussion on measuring income and employment quality
 - Consideration of hourly wage vs annual income
 - Importance of opportunities for advancement
- **Financial Literacy and Reintegration**
 - Discussion on importance of knowing how to file taxes
 - Need for proper banking solutions beyond Cash App and Venmo
 - Importance of life admin work in reintegration process
- **Employment Retention and Type**
 - Discussion on measuring employment retention
 - Differentiation between retention with single employer vs in same industry
 - Consideration of primary and secondary sector employment
- **Benefits and Social Security**
 - Discussion on measuring presence of benefits in employment
 - Consideration of assistance for chronic medical conditions

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- Need for help with Social Security and Medicaid reconnection

Scoring System for Metrics

- Proposal to score concepts based on utility and feasibility
- Discussion on using a 10-point scale for scoring
- Consideration of research-backed indicators with high utility

Refining the List and Next Steps

- Plan to clean up and refine the list of concepts
- Discussion on creating a survey tool for scoring
- Importance of including feedback from those with lived experience
- Introduction of Lindsay's intern, Jolene

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

WRAP-UP AND ACTION ITEMS

Jack Reed

- Send Lindsay Saunders-Velez access to the Google Drive spreadsheet

Erin Crites

- Clean up the list of concepts and create a scoring system
- Send follow-ups to the group in the next week

Kate LeMasters

- Send reference list for public health models to Erin

Dave Wolfsgruber

- Inquire about data on individuals waitlisted for various programs in DOC

Lindsay Saunders-Velez

- Ask clients about their thoughts on the discussed concepts during jail visits

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ADJOURN

- [Alternative Metrics Working Group website](#) will house information, agendas, minutes, and meeting links for this working group. Feel free to share this site with any interested stakeholders so they can stay informed.
- Meeting adjourned at Noon
- **Next Meeting: February 13, 2025, 9am - 12:00pm**
Future meetings, as necessary: 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24, 5/8, 5/22, 6/12, & 6/26.

MANDATES

Pursuant to 24-33.5-535, C.R.S. (Senate Bill 2024-029) the working group shall:

- Be appointed no later than November 30, 2024.
- Convene first meeting by February 1, 2025
- Meetings shall allow for remote participation
- Submit a report by July 1, 2025 that summarizes the efforts of the working group and any recommendations

The working group is required to:

- Study metrics and methods, other than recidivism, to:
 - Supplement current measures including those related to desistance (severity and timing) and risk reduction.
 - Comprehensively measure successful outcomes that consider various aspects of life (e.g. employment, housing, education, mental health, personal well-being, social supports, and civic and community engagement).
 - Enhance measures of criminal justice system performance and adherence to best practices in supervision program design and implementation.
- Identify methods to obtain information from those involved or recently involved in the system regarding supervision experiences.
- Identify gaps or barriers in data collection, measurement and data matching, and recommendations on addressing these gaps or barriers.
- Create an implementation timeline for these metrics and methods that addresses any data limitations and necessary resources.
- Identify customization of measures to account for age, gender, race, ethnicity, or risk of a cohort.