

SB24-029 Alternative Metrics Working Group

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2025 | 9:00am-12:00pm

Hybrid: Zoom & 700 Kipling, 3rd Floor DCJ Conference Room

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Appointed Members: Jon Caudill (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs), Jack Reed (Division of Criminal Justice), Aaron Stewart (Division of Probation Services at Judicial), Kelli Burmeister (Division of Youth Services), Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky (Division of Criminal Justice), Christie Donner (Colorado Criminal Justice Coalition), Whitney Leeds (Above Waters Project/Growing Home), Kate LeMasters (University of Colorado, Anschutz)

Absent: Dave Wolfsgruber (Department of Corrections)

Guests: Linda Harrison (Division of Criminal Justice), Kaylynn Duncan (Division of Criminal Justice), Yolanda Alvarez-Montello (Division of Criminal Justice), Melissa Smith (Director of Prisons, Department of Corrections), Sunshyne Harris (Mental Health Program Administrator, Department of Corrections), Adrienne Sanchez (Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs, Department of Corrections), Laura Imm (Behavioral Health Supervisor at San Carlos Correctional Facility and Trinidad Correctional Facility, Department of Corrections), Siobhan Burtlow (Deputy Director Division of Adult Parole), Lindsey Compton (Department of Corrections), Jason Guidry (Chief of Behavioral Health (Department of Corrections), Laura Caile (Community Behavioral Health Administrator (Department of Corrections), Morgan Jackson (Department of Corrections)

Overview

The Alternative Metrics Working Group convened with introductions and updates. The meeting involved DOC representatives and experts who discussed the available data related to alternative outcome metrics available in their system. Current shifts in practices to improve risk assessment fidelity and transition to a new data system are a priority. The group identified data gaps, especially concerning perceptions and qualitative measures. Action items were established for refining data metrics, preparing for future meetings, and coordinating a detailed report due by the fiscal year's end, with the next meeting scheduled for April 24th to further engage with judicial data.

Notes

Introductions and Updates

- Meeting called to order with introductions of working group members and DOC representatives

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- Jack Reed presented information about LINC data integration project at DU, the benefits of using LINC as a trusted broker to facilitate data matching across agencies and he highlighted how LINC could help implement recidivism studies and alternative metrics tracking to further the work of this group

DOC Data Feasibility Discussion

Working Alliance Inventories

- The group discussed the utilization of working alliance inventories - DOC stated they currently are not using these specific tools, although Morgan stated that she will evaluate if similar questions are being used via other questionnaires or assessment tools.

Use of Risk and Needs Assessment

- Morgan identified the use of risk and needs assessment instruments at DOC
- DOC is conducting process and outcome evaluations to improve assessment fidelity

Case Planning Data

- DOC explained that they collect numerous data points within case planning that is captured in multiple spreadsheets but being integrated and reorganized into an Oracle database within the next 3 months
- Morgan added that the case planning data is tracked if the offender is on parole.
- DOC implementing RESTORE case management for people within 180 days of release
- Collecting extensive data on reentry planning including housing, identification, medication, etc.
- Plan to create dashboards to track outcomes for people leaving facilities
- Whitney raised questions about assessment consistency across agencies
- Christie noted different agencies use different cut points on same assessment tools

Sanctions

- DOC clarified that the term of “graduated sanctions” does not accurately reflect their accountability measures of for violations code of penal discipline (COPD).

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- DOC explained they are currently facing limitations in detail of parole violation reporting and efforts of implementing enhanced metrics for parole incident reporting, from around 18 to 65+ options in the next year
- Morgan explained DOC's initiative to better track harm and circumstances of parole violations

Behavioral Health Metrics and Wait Times

- DOC captures treatment matching data, particularly for substance use treatment
- DOC can track time between assessment and treatment but caveats that sentence lengths and upcoming release dates are the biggest factor in considering treatment priority
- Jason Guidry explained there's not technically a waitlist for mental health treatment as clinicians follow guidelines based on coding that dictates treatment frequency
- Jason added that there are weekly mental health groups

Housing and Vocational Data

- DOC tracks multiple housing categories and levels of stability: permanent, stable, long-term care, transitional, temporary, short-term, motel/hotel
- Siobhan noted fluid factors in housing placement that are difficult to track
- Discussion of balancing what's achievable vs. ideal in reentry planning
- Limitations in vocational program access data - depends on classification and custody level

Supervision Completion and Returns Data

- DOC does track completion of supervision, early parole discharge, successful completion, release on MRD, and technical returns
- Morgan noted that she is unsure if individual violations of supervision are tracked

Perceptions and Quality Measurement

- Group discussed limited measures of staff and participant perceptions of programs with challenges of having numerous programs to measure- DOC prioritizing assessment and staff training fidelity first

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- DOC conducting training effectiveness evaluations and skill assessments
- Implemented field officer training program with knowledge and proficiency testing

DOC Data Systems and Limitations

- DOC explained that case planning data quality is a current challenge
- Morgan noted case planning currently lacks strong metrics and requires improvement
- Many parole metrics currently stored in text fields making data extraction difficult
- Whitney raised questions about capturing 'what should be' vs 'what is' in reentry planning
- Group acknowledged importance of qualitative data to supplement quantitative measures

Community Corrections Data Gaps

- Christie inquired about Community Corrections (ComCor) data sharing with DOC
- Discussion about limited information on why people get rejected from community corrections
- DOC receives limited data on termination reasons from community corrections
- Linda Harrison noted DCJ data on ComCor reasons is also vague
- Whitney suggested involving facility-level ComCor representatives in future discussions
- Group will include ComCor SMEs for discussion in upcoming meetings

WRAP-UP AND NEXT STEPS

- Erin to clean up DOC metrics spreadsheet and send to DOC representatives for review
- Next meeting (April 24th) will focus on Judicial data with courts and probation representatives
- Report must be completed by end of fiscal year - tight timeline
- Group may need to handle some work via email to meet deadline

Planning for May Report Development

- Christie suggested longer in-person meeting in May to finalize recommendations
- Proposed all-day session to wrap up the work and prepare for writing

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- Christie offered to host the meeting at her location
- Group will coordinate scheduling to accommodate members' availability

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ACTION ITEMS

Erin Crites

- Clean up the DOC metrics spreadsheet with feasibility ratings and send to DOC representatives for review
- Continue working on creating specific measures from broader concepts for future meetings
- Draft initial structure of the final report before May meeting
- Send out scheduling options for a longer in-person meeting in May
- Coordinate with judicial representatives for the April 24th meeting

Jack Reed

- Continue working with LINC to explore data integration opportunities
- Share LINC information with the working group members

DOC Representatives

- Review the metrics spreadsheet that Erin will send and provide feedback on feasibility
- Consider where qualitative measures could be valuable to supplement quantitative data

Christie Donner

- Arrange space to host the all-day intensive meeting in May

Working Group Members

- Review metrics spreadsheet when distributed and provide feedback
- Prepare questions for next meeting on April 24th with judicial representatives

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ADJOURN

- [Alternative Metrics Working Group website](#) houses 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: April 24, 2025, 9am - 12:00pm**
Future meetings, as necessary: 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.