

SB24-029 Alternative Metrics Working Group

Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2025 | 9:00am-12:00pm

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

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84129576135?pwd=eANCjwbToCyfpzWqleEle3h3MsLeQa.1>

AMWG MINUTES for 6/26/25

ATTENDANCE

Appointed Members: Kelli Burmeister (Division of Youth Services), Christie Donner (Colorado Criminal Justice Coalition), Whitney Leeds (Above Waters Project/Growing Home), Kate LeMasters (University of Colorado, Anschutz), Jack Reed (Division of Criminal Justice), Aaron Stewart (Division of Probation Services, Judicial), Dave Wolfsgruber (Department of Corrections),

Absent: Jon Caudill (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)

Guests: Erin Crites (Division of Criminal Justice), Linda Harris (Division of Criminal Justice), Yolanda Alvarez-Montello (Division of Criminal Justice)

OVERVIEW

The Alternative Metrics Working Group convened their regular meeting to finalize the group's report and next steps. The group reviewed draft report edits, structure, and additional information. Report edit suggestions included a need for clear terminology distinguishing criminal justice factors from broader systemic barriers and reference to a socioecological framework. Group identified that report recommendations for legislators should focus on utility/feasibility assessment, emphasizing continuity of care and legislative investment in research. Final draft of the report is to be completed by Monday, with a voting meeting set for Wednesday to finalize recommendations. Group agreed to treat the current output as an interim report, prioritizing research on metric implementation and practical aspects moving forward. Finally, the group discussed planning for the next round of working group meetings and objective scope.

NOTES

Meeting Setup & Updates

- Meeting called to order with acknowledgment of Dave chairing in Jon's absence
- Updated minutes from Whitney's input will be redistributed for another round of approvals
- LINC identified as a key entity for cross-system data integration; future studies on Medicaid 1115 waivers to be prioritized.

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- Extension for final report publication to August 1 confirmed due to governor's office 30-day review process; original publication deadline was July 1

Report Timeline & Approach

- Concern raised about meeting the report deadline and intent; suggested approaching the report requirement as an initial interim and a secondary report with more robust recommendations and research on metrics
- Group statute doesn't sunset until February 2026, allowing continued work beyond the initial report deadline
- Discussion of interim vs. final report approach; group supported a secondary (non-legislated) updated report to conduct additional research academic evidence for metrics, legal feasibility, practical implementation recommendations, and engage with additional department SMEs

Report Structure & Content Recommendations

- Draft report structure reviewed including background, literature review, and systems performance sections
- Debate over including full 200-metric list in appendices vs. summary approach for legislative audience
- Decision to include 8-page metric list in the appendix with a glossary as a separate link
- Whitney emphasized the need for clarity on 'system' references in the report and distinction between criminal justice system factors vs. broader systemic barriers.
- Suggestion to add socioecological framework alongside desistance theory to capture structural determinants
- Concern raised about recidivism definition to only count recidivism after supervision ends, creating potential gaps in supervision failure metrics
 - Clarification that agencies will continue reporting intermediate measures like technical violations and supervision completion rates

Metrics Organization & Evaluation

- Review of utility and feasibility scores for identified metrics, with averages calculated from SME assessments
- Discussion of missing feasibility scores for critical metrics
- Agreement to organize metrics into categorical 'buckets' rather than presenting an overwhelming 200-item list.

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- Categorical buckets: systems performance, individual stabilization, desistance, risk reduction, and client/staff input.

Recommendations Development

- Discussion of specific recommendations including focus on utility/feasibility assessment
- Proposal for a recommendation for increased legislative investment in research and evaluation capacity.
- Identify 'low-hanging fruit' consensus areas like housing and employment access
- Presentations/educational material on alternative metrics provided to the Joint Budget Committee and legislative committees were proposed to maintain momentum
- Discussion of data matching recommendation using entities like LINC for cross-system data integration.
- Agreement on recommendation for future studies on emerging policies like Medicaid 1115 waivers

Meeting Logistics & Next Steps

- Plan to have final draft completed by Monday morning for review before voting meeting
- Agreement to meet Wednesday at 10:00am for 30-minute voting session on finalized recommendations.
- Discussion of official legislative notification process for extension.
- Monthly meetings to continue instead of bi-monthly, allowing more in-depth exploration of content and metrics discussed

Administrative Closure

- Public comment period with James expressing interest in continued observation
- Meeting adjourned with confirmation of Wednesday voting session.

ACTION ITEMS

Erin Crites

- Complete final draft of report by Monday morning and distribute to all members
- Organize metrics into categorical buckets based on group discussions and send for review by tomorrow
- Create agenda for Wednesday voting meeting and send calendar invites
- Email John to check availability for Wednesday meeting and get his input on recommendations

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- Post Kate's research links to Google Drive and email to group members

Erin Crites & Whitney Leeds

- Finalize specific language for continuity of care and housing access recommendations

All Members

- Review final draft report when received Monday morning for Wednesday voting meeting
- Send additional rounds of approval for updated meeting minutes
- Attend Wednesday 10:00am voting meeting for final recommendations approval

Kate LeMasters

- Resend research papers and framework documents to group members

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: July 2, 2025, 10am - 10:30am**
Future meetings, as necessary: No further meetings currently scheduled.

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
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.

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- 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.