



Kane County Juvenile Justice Council Board of Directors August 2025 Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2025 at 12:15 PM

Kane County Juvenile Justice Center Training Room
37W655 IL Route 38
Saint Charles, IL 60175

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87400717824?pwd=bzl5SVpRRmtwNzMxbzlwZmRBeTV2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0071 7824

Passcode: 097584

Phone: (312) 626-6799 (Chicago)

***Voting Members:** State's Attorney (chair), Chief Judge's Office, Juvenile Delinquency Court Judge, Public Defender, County Board, Sheriff's Department, Court Services, Regional Office of Education, Kane County Chiefs of Police, Juvenile Officer's Association, Kane County Bar Association*

Members present: Rachele Conant, Josh Axelsen, John Jonak, Mike Doyen, LaTanya Hill, Dana Fortunato, Vern Tepe, Yesenia Saldana

Members present virtually: Judge Karayannis

Members absent: Sheriff Hain, Kristen Lohrstorfer

Vacancies: Chiefs of Police Association

Call to order: 12:16pm

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from July

Result: APPROVED as distributed

3. JJC Chairman's report
 - **We have a vacancy on the board and are in need of a representative from the Chiefs of Police Association**
 - **Rachele will send a letter as the Chair of Council**

4. Old Business
 - Racial and Ethnic Disparities
JJC RED Team:
Updated provided: scheduling a follow up meeting to continue discussion. Met to identify data that would be helpful and access points for the data.

Discussion – how close are we to accomplishing objective?

- **Reviewing data is not easy/quick – need to determine what we want to know and how it can benefit.**



- Challenging because no one entity holds the data, so we have to explore the available sources of data and compare other data that is currently available.
- Once compiled, data will be helpful for grant writing
- Next step is to work to create a mock/pilot report of the data points that were discussed

IRJEC – Chairs are trying to convene a meeting to determine next steps

ADB – The house bill that has passed both houses is still waiting on governor’s signature. Julia is continuing to monitor and consider the need for reconvening the workgroup to discuss implementation needs.

- Collaboration with CSG
 - **The CSG workgroup had been working on some options to help reduce court processing times. With parallel conversations simultaneously occurring around this, it was determined to bring this to the System Players meeting in July. This meeting had to be rescheduled to August.**
- Collaboration with Dream Academy
 - **Dream Academy has confirmed October 28th as the date – Julia can send out a calendar hold**
- Truancy Workshop

Josh provided an update: based on initial outreach to gauge interest, Josh has estimated over 100 attendees based on responses from 4 districts and some districts mandating attendance. Mentioned that there is a new law requiring universal mental health screenings for the 2026/2027 school year, so Josh is hopeful that this workshop may also assist with setting up systems and ensuring appropriate interventions/responses are in place by school districts.

 - **Josh and Julia will be working to secure space that accommodates and finalizing dates with Dr. Graczyk.**
 - **Discussed potential venues: Q Center, Kane County Cougars stadium, Eaglebrook, Aurora University, Judson College**
 - **Have reached out to: ECC, Waubensee, Northern IL Food Bank, FONA, and libraries**
- JJC Structure
 - **Julia provided an update regarding the grant opportunity that was previously brought to the Board to secure funding for additional assistance from CSG; unable to fund the match.**
 - **Board is being asked to consider utilizing JJC funds as an alternative. Stephanie is willing to come and have a discussion around how the Board wants to move forward based on conversations that have occurred as a result of the recommendations and IJJC site visit.**
 - **Next steps: invite Stephanie to the next Board of Directors meeting to discuss what can be done and the cost.**

5. New Business – **nothing new to report**

