Kane County Juvenile Justice Council September 2026 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2026 at 12:15 PM

Kane County Juror's Lounge
37W777 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*

Board of Directors present: Rachele Conant, Judge Parga, Josh Axelsen, Christine Bayer, Vern Tepe, Mike Doyen
Board of Directors present virtually: Desi Avitia
Board of Directors absent: Lisa Aust/LaTanya Hill, Kristen Lohrstorfer, Patrick Eversole
Members present in person: Christi Smith, Carlos , Laura Sanders,
Members present virtually:

Call to order: 12:15pm

1. Introductions

2. Approval of minutes from August

Result:	**APPROVED as distributed**

3. JJC Chairman's report
   Financial – July expenses
   - **New fiscal year**
   - **YTD: $1600 (personnel)**

   As an informational financial update, there was a request to submit anticipated expenses for the first quarter (July – October). This is relevant to discussions around trainings/other expenses beyond personnel to help anticipate when these will occur.

4. Old Business
   - Racial and Ethnic Disparities
     - **The JJC is responsible for gathering decision point data and utilizing this to inform plans/priorities. This is part of the grant agreement as well as the statute. Historically, the JJC has compiled this data when requested and/or utilized**

support from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission to gather and review this data using statewide data systems. Due to inconsistencies in all processes, it has been proposed that the JJC set up a regular review process to collect the data. Explained what decision points are included as part of this process. As a status update, a plan has been drafted and submitted for review. Having this consistent format offers an initial baseline that can be used as a point of comparison to determine the impact of any initiatives.

- **Also reminded of discussions with the Health Dept over the last year around compiling a data report. This is still an ongoing discussion.**

- Collaboration with CSG
  - **Judge Parga provided an explanation and update. This has been an ongoing discussion based around the recommendations from the project with Council of Statement governments, as well as updates in legislation and brain science. A group of stakeholders (i.e. judge, attorneys, Court Services, Diagnostic Center, and detention) came together and explored opportunities to update existing processes in Kane County. The following updates have been made:**
    - **New notification process by Court Services to families regarding the filed petition and initial court date**
    - **New procedure for early termination expanding eligibility criteria**
    - **Updated dispositional forms to reduce the number of standard conditions and increase individualized sentencing. The forms should be done this week.**
  - **A report has been drafted to memorialize the work being done to share back with stakeholders, including CSG and the Juvenile Justice Commission.**

- Upstream Debrief
  - **Judge Parga provided a brief overview – bringing community partners together to explore what can be done to catch youth further *upstream*.**
    - **3 Priorities identified:**
      a. **Improved support for caregivers pre-court involvement**
         i. **This group has continued to meet and has put out a survey to gather additional information**
      b. **Improved support for families going through the court system (i.e. court navigator)**
         i. **This group has continued to meet and has a job description put together**
      c. **Improved coordination of resources within the community**
  - **The JJC is continuing to follow up on the progress of each of the workgroups. Still awaiting the report.**

- JJC Structure Updates
  This has been an ongoing discussion, even prior to Upstream, but this experience helped inform the discussion further. Looking to update vision and mission to help clarify the intention of the JJC, as well as potentially increasing membership onto the Board to

expand decision making. There are some other considerations being discussed as well. Will continue to have more information going forward.

5. New Business
    - **Reviewed training budget and areas of training to consider to begin discussion around training ideas. Share any new ideas with Julia.**

    Discussion:
    - **Reviewed how previous efforts to engage parents were received. One of the workgroups from Upstream is focused on caregiver engagement.**
    - **Suggested an idea around family engagement to help equip providers with skillsets to support families with system involvement and complex needs.**
    - **Consider a 3 part seminar, where there is a session for youth, caregivers, and professionals, as well as shared spaces.**
    - **Have approximately $24K + $20K specific to family engagement to spend before June 30**

6. Department/Agency Updates
    - **CASA hosting fall conference on October 15. Will share information with Julia to be shared out.**

7. Trends/Legislative Updates/Other updates

8. Adjournment – **12:58pm**
    Next JJC Quarterly Meeting: December 1, 2026 at 12:15pm, Juror's Lounge
    Next JJC Board of Directors meeting: October 6, 2026 at 12:15pm, JJC Training Room