



# Justice Advisory Council Newsletter

November 2016

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The Justice Advisory Council newsletter is a communication platform to disseminate information to Cook County stakeholders on efforts being made to reduce the overreliance on incarceration for adolescents and adults.

## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It has been a busy season for the Justice Advisory Council, from preparing for the FY17 Budget, to gearing up to release our upcoming Request for Proposals for grants in our Violence Prevention, Recidivism and Restorative Justice portfolio. Although we've had some key wins in shaping a more fair and equitable criminal justice system, there is still much more work to be done. We are ever mindful of the continued death toll in some of our hardest hit communities and the real fear that permeates many of our families across the county. Never has there been more of a sense of urgency in the policy and legislative work that we do than now.

JAC Legislative Coordinator Floyd Stafford recently had the opportunity to attend a community event at Ogden Park in West Englewood. "Chess Moves Against Violence" was sponsored by Not Before My Parents, a faith-based organization dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by violence.

The following narrative is by founder Raydell Lacey. We hope sharing her story inspires you to take action in whatever way you can to be a part of the solution in reforming our broken criminal justice system. Investing in our residents and our communities are the building blocks for safe and thriving communities where **ALL** of our children are able to play basketball without fear of being struck by a stray bullet.

On behalf of President Preckwinkle and the Justice Advisory Council, we hope you have a safe and healthy holiday season.

Lanetta Haynes Turner

## Upcoming Events

SCY Quarterly Meeting  
Violence Prevention  
Policy: SCY's Policy  
Agenda Progress and  
Update for 2017-18

Join SCY and partners to discuss the policy change efforts that can reduce violence and promote health and well-being for all Chicagoans. Roll up your sleeves and help us shape this work in 2017-2018.

Tuesday, November 22,  
2016

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of  
Chicago

225 E. Chicago Avenue  
11th Floor Conference  
Center

**Registration required**

Youth and Resilience  
Professional Development  
Training Series

Co-Sponsored by: The Night  
Ministry and The National  
Runaway Safeline

Creative Approaches to  
Engaging Youth

Wednesday, December 14,  
2016

12:30 pm – 4pm

National Runaway Safeline  
3141 N. Lincoln Ave  
Chicago, IL 60657

## Not Before My Parents

*Raydell Lacy*

After watching the news reports about some of the senseless murders in my community, I decided I could no longer sit idly by. Especially after being a victim myself experiencing the loss of my daughter and my grandson to violence. I started reaching out to the families of victims. Through conversations the reigning theme was that no parent should have to bury their child. That's where the organization's name comes from: Not Before My Parents.

Recent events in Chicago put me in the mind of what a war zone must feel like. Witnessing these tragedies brings out feelings of fear, mistrust, frustration, anger, disappointment and shock. To live in this type of environment is unbelievably disconcerting as an adult. I can only imagine what feelings this evokes in a child. When a child has to worry about violence when undertaking simple, ordinary things like walking to school, catching a bus, or merely going to the candy store, it is stealing the innocence of their childhood.



The idea for the chess tournament came to me, to get the community to brainstorm in a strategic manner - as used by chess players - to promote an end to the violence. The chess tournament will serve as an activity that will promote healthy competition. Also, we want to initiate dialogue with youth who might be interested in participating in an ongoing activity such as this.



## Did You Know?

### REENTRY SUPPORT: LESSONS LEARNED FROM COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

In 2014, the Reentry Program, one of three components of Illinois' Community Violence Prevention Program (CVPP) receiving funds through the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), provided services to youth and young adults on parole and aftercare in 21 Chicago area communities in order to assist with their compliance with parole board orders and other aspects of successful community reintegration, such as educational enrollment and employment.

Reentry Program clients were overwhelming male (95 percent) and Black (83 percent). The average age of IDJJ clients was 17 years old, while IDOC clients were older (22 years old, on average). However, the most common age for both client groups was 20 years old.

To see the full report click here:

<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/articles/reentry-support-lessons-learned-from-community-based-programs>

## Grant Highlights

The Cook County Justice Advisory Council's Grant Capacity Building Workshop will be held on Tuesday November 29, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Loyola University. If you would like to attend to learn more please RSVP by Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> to [JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov). Here are some helpful suggestions that can be used as a guide when preparing to submit a response to a JAC Request for Proposal (RFP).



- ✓ **Do** register with the Cook County Procurement Office, via their eProcurement web page and receive email alerts when RFP's are released.
- ✓ **Do** read the RFP immediately and make sure you understand the size and scope of the project and what you need to do to prepare.
- ✓ **Do** gain a clear understanding of what the process is for evaluating your proposal.
- ✓ **Do** attend the bidder's conference so you have an opportunity to ask/submit questions.
- ✓ As you read the bid, **do** consider whether you should collaborate with other agencies to meet all requirements.
- ✓ **Do** have a final proofreading by someone other than the writer to eliminate typos, errors, or miscalculations.
- ✓ **Do** establish realistic budgetary parameters and make sure that this information is conveyed in the proposal.
- ✓ **Do** submit all of the required documentation on time!

## Did You Know Cont'd

### Gun Violence in Cook County

For YTD (January 1, 2016-October 31, 2016), there have been 661 gun homicides in Cook County, with 590 occurring in Chicago. Of Cook County homicides, 528 are black victims, with 474 black deaths occurring in Chicago. Of the 661, gun homicide victims in Cook County, 100 were Latino victims, with 91 of those deaths occurring in Chicago.

Currently, there have been 3,896 shooting victims in Chicago, as compared to all of 2015 where there were 2,988 shooting victims.

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### Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is the official source of nationwide crime data and can be used to examine current patterns and trends over time. The Illinois UCR Program provides state-specific data.

Some recent reporting developments in Illinois:

Between 2005 and 2015, the number of reporting agencies dropped 34 percent, from 1,119 to 741, due to a number of law enforcement agencies closing, merging with one another, or being unable to comply with reporting requirements.



- ❖ **Do not** ignore significant requirements of the RFP.
- ❖ **Do not** assume the reviewers already know your organization's mission or track record. You must clearly demonstrate your ability to achieve your proposed scope of work as written.
- ❖ **Do not** propose goals or objectives that are not realistic, trackable or achievable by your organization.
- ❖ **Do not** omit references, citations or data that supports your proposed problem and solution.
- ❖ **Do not** wait until the last minute to gather pertinent information and required documents.
- ❖ **Do not** arrive late to submit your proposal, it will not be accepted!

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## Criminal Justice Reform

### Presidents' 2017 Budget Address

The Justice Advisory Council is pleased to report that President Preckwinkle mentioned one of our program partners, the Center for Companies that Care, in her budget address.

President Preckwinkle remarked that the Center has “done a wonderful job of getting corporate partners to extend new opportunities to young people.” She described how students earn “a stipend while exploring career opportunities they previously did not know existed”. The President further remarked that “As a teacher I have to admit that I was pleased to learn that they are also teaching responsibility by holding participants accountable for their actions.”

## Did You Know Cont'd

### Obama Foundation Inclusion Council

In October, the Obama Foundation announced the creation of the Obama Foundation Inclusion Council. The mission of the new Council is to ensure that the ongoing work of the Foundation is informed by a diverse set of views and opinions and in line with the values of diversity and inclusion.

The Council will bring together a diverse group of Chicagoans who will play a key role in helping to guide and advise the Foundation's strategic goals and ensure a broad range of opinions and experiences are represented as the Foundation's work moves forward.

The Council will provide detailed input, analysis and recommendations for developing, monitoring and executing diversity and inclusion initiatives and strategies. The Council will also regularly communicate with the community, ensuring that it is held accountable to high standards and transparency in its recommendations and the progress towards fulfilling those recommendations.

For more information click:

<https://www.barackobamafoundation.org/news/entry/inclusion-council>

Marci Koblenz, Executive Director of the Center for Companies that Care responded “we were thrilled to be recognized by Toni Preckwinkle, a community leader and someone who has always appreciated the value of every child and cultivated their strengths. We look forward to continuing our community, corporate and government partnerships and helping every student find a fulfilling career.”

## South Suburban Safe and Thriving Communities Project

In September, the Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention awarded Cook County \$1 million dollars under the Safe and Thriving Communities Project. The project involves planning and implementation to address youth violence in the targeted South Suburban communities of Ford Heights, Harvey, and Robbins. This initiative will be led by the County Board President through the Cook County Justice Advisory Council.

Cook County will work with a broad and diverse stakeholder collaborative on a strategic planning process that will result in three comprehensive place based plans that are trauma informed and provide linkages to 300 youth ages 10-24 in the areas of prevention, intervention, and workforce development. The plans will leverage and strengthen existing work in these communities and also develop a continuum of evidence based strategies and trauma informed services designed to reduce violence and improve the educational, behavioral health, employment and pro-social outcomes for local youth.

The JAC will also be hosting a kick off meeting on December 12, 2016 at the Ford Heights Community Service Organization located at 943 E. Lincoln Highway from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. President Preckwinkle and Commissioner Deborah Sims will offer brief remarks and more details about the grant will be shared. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by December 2<sup>nd</sup> to [JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov) .

## Updates

As part of an overall effort to revamp Cook County's website, the JAC has revised and added content to our webpage. The new website is now live at:

<https://www.cookcountyl.gov/>

The next Justice Advisory Council Meeting will be held January 13, 2017

Location 118 N. Clark  
4th Floor Conference Room A, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

The next Justice Advisory Council Capacity Building workshop will be held on Tuesday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Loyola University Kasbeer Hall 25 East Pearson St 15th floor. Please RSVP to [JAC.info@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:JAC.info@cookcountyl.gov) by Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Be on the lookout for the next Justice Advisory Council Newsletter to be released in February 2017.

## Community Triage Center

The Community Triage Center (CTC) officially opened Tuesday November 1, with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting in Roseland. A primary goal of the CTC is to reduce the number of detainees in the Cook County Jail and emergency rooms who have an identified behavioral health condition by connecting them with care in the community. It is estimated that on any given day, approximately 20% of the detainees at Cook County Jail have a behavioral health issue which may have contributed to their detention.



Dr. Kenya Key and President Preckwinkle

The CTC provides crisis stabilization, treatment, and evaluation for patients presenting with psychiatric and/or substance-related crises, and works closely with the local hospitals and outpatient mental health services to best meet patient needs 24 hours a day, 7 days week, 365 days per year. Additionally, Cook County Health and Hospitals System will work closely with the Chicago Police Department to allow police officers to drop off individuals, as well as provide walk-in services for residents and for those released from the Cook County Jail needing follow-up care.



Pictured in Photo from left to right: Dr. Shannon, President Preckwinkle, Commissioner Sims, Mayor Emanuel, Dr. Kenya Key, Rep. Robin Kelly, Commissioner Moore.

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## Legislative Reform

The JAC is presently working on shaping the President's 2017 legislative priorities. Please look for future updates in the next JAC newsletter which will be released in February of the new year.

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