

OFFICE OF ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON

Healing-Centered Illinois Task Force (HCITF) Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Meeting Location(s)

Lincoln Conference Room – Fourth Floor
555 West Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60661

Main Conference Room
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Illinois State Capitol
214 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

A present majority of filled HCITF member positions shall constitute a quorum: i.e. at least 16 members present				
Member		Attendee		
EX-OFFICIO	OFFICE	IN PERSON	PHONE/ VIDEO	ABSENT
Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton	Office of the Lieutenant Governor	X		
Heather Dorsey	Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts or the Director's Designee			X
Karen Galbraith	Director of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority or the Director's Designee		X	
Victoria Gwiasda	Secretary of Human Services or the Secretary's Designee	X		
Jesse Lava	Director of Healthcare and Family Services or the Director's Designee	X		
Sophia Manuel	Director of Corrections or the Director's Designee	X		
Lisa Masinter	Director of Public Health or the Director's Designee	X		
Brian Pastor	Director of Aging or the Director's Designee			X
Verletta Saxon	Director of Children and Family Services or the Director's Designee	X		
Julia Strehlow	State Superintendent of Education or the State Superintendent's Designee	X		
Robert Vickery	Director of Juvenile Justice or the Director's Designee		X	
Dana Weiner	Director of the Governor's Children's Mental Health Transformation Initiative or the Director's Designee	X		
Jennifer Wooldridge	Chair of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board or their Designee			X

Representative Maura Hirschauer	Speaker of the House of Representatives	X		
Representative Tom Weber	Minority Leader of the House of Representatives			X
Senator Dale Fowler	Minority Leader of the Senate			X
NAME	REPRESENTATIVE CATEGORY	IN PERSON	PHONE/ VIDEO	ABSENT
Matthew Buckman	Expertise in trauma-informed policies and practices within health care, public health, public education, the criminal legal system, violence prevention, child welfare, human services, adult behavioral health services, or law enforcement			X
Karen Crawford Simms	Expertise in trauma-informed policies and practices within health care, public health, public education, the criminal legal system, violence prevention, child welfare, human services, adult behavioral health services, or law enforcement		X	
Lisa Daniels	Expertise in trauma-informed policies and practices within health care, public health, public education, the criminal legal system, violence prevention, child welfare, human services, adult behavioral health services, or law enforcement			X
Anquetette Perkins	Expertise in trauma-informed policies and practices within health care, public health, public education, the criminal legal system, violence prevention, child welfare, human services, adult behavioral health services, or law enforcement	X		
Cara Wiley	Expertise in trauma-informed policies and practices within health care, public health, public education, the criminal legal system, violence prevention, child welfare, human services, adult behavioral health services, or law enforcement			X
Marlita White	Representative from an organization that brings parents together to improve mental health and supports for children and families	X		
Mamie Cosey	Representative from an organization that brings parents together to improve mental health and supports for children and families	X		
Rosalia Salgado	Representative from an organization that brings parents together to improve mental health and supports for children and families	X		
Aydin Tariq	Representative from student and youth counsels or advisory groups focused on advancing awareness and resources for mental health and trauma-informed services in diverse communities across the State		X	

Mashana Smith	Representative from the Resilience Education to Advance Community Healing (REACH) Statewide Initiative	X		
Colleen Cicchetti	Representative of a statewide coalition addressing childhood trauma	X		
A. Gita Krishnaswamy	Representative of a statewide collaborative addressing trauma across the lifespan (birth through older adulthood)		X	
Andrea Hall	Representative who has been impacted by State systems, including the criminal legal system and child welfare	X		
Johnny Page	Representative who has been impacted by State systems, including the criminal legal system and child welfare			X
Shaan Trotter	Representative from a public-private partnership to support children's behavioral health	X		

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am.
- b. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established with seventeen (17) members joining in-person.
 - i. Five (5) other members attended virtually, and nine (9) members were absent.

II. Approval of Minutes from 5/28/2024 Meeting

- a. Moved by Dr. Verletta Saxon.
- b. Seconded by Dr. Colleen Cicchetti.
- c. All in favor.
- d. No oppositions.
- e. No abstentions.

III. Chairperson's Remarks

- a. Lieutenant Governor Stratton opened the space by briefly noting and celebrating the official launch of the Task Force's subcommittees in early June.
- b. The Lieutenant Governor uplifted Pride Month and acknowledged the resiliency and strength of the LGBTQIA+ community in the face of historic trauma and marginalization. The Healing-Centered Illinois Task Force recognizes the need to encompass all identities throughout the development of its work. By centering inclusive trauma-informed policies and practices, the Task Force is championing a more equitable approach to mental health, well-being, and well-becoming.
- c. Lieutenant Governor Stratton then proceeded to ask two questions: How do we promote self-awareness? How do we help people be in control of their healing journey?
 - i. She addressed some underlying truths to consider.
 - ii. When people's basic needs are not being met, it often results in trauma. Self-awareness means that we should approach these issues without our lens of having everything we need, which is a privilege. There are still various communities and populations that live on without the privilege of having their most basic needs met every day.
 - iii. She expressed a need for more voices of those with lived experience to be shared and infused throughout the development of this Task Force's recommendations. Andrea Hall also highlighted the importance of this task.

IV. Peer Presentation by Kim Miiller, Director of the Trauma Recovery Centers (TRC) at Advocate Health

- a. Kim Miiller serves as the Director of the Trauma Recovery Centers at Advocate Health.
- b. Director Miiller shared background on the Advocate Trauma Recovery Center's development and impact. These Trauma Recovery Centers (TRC) serve as a healthcare-based violence intervention program.
 - i. They provide services to numerous counties across the Chicagoland area, including Cook, Kankakee, DuPage, Kane, and McHenry.
 - ii. Their target population is primarily individuals who are underinsured or uninsured, typically starting at ages 10 and up. Their patients generally are survivors of intentional trauma and/or crime, and immediate family members of homicide victims.
 - 1. Director Miiller mentioned her organization having a partnership with the Chicago Police Homicide Department. This allows them to reach out and provide support to individuals who may be struggling with a traumatic experience.
 - iii. Trauma specific services offered by Advocate TRC are as follows:
 - 1. Behavioral Health services include Individual Therapy, Support Groups, Therapeutic Groups, Psychiatric Services, and Welcome Workshops.
 - 2. Social Services include Social Services Workshops, Street Outreach Collaboration, Case Management, and Referrals to Community Agencies to Assist with multiple social services' needs.
 - a. As a part of their street outreach, Advocate TRC started a Pre-Escalation team to ensure trauma-informed care is provided while patients are in the hospital. This team is based at Christ Medical Center.
- c. Their multidisciplinary team consists of psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, outreach workers, administrators, and trainees.
- d. TRC provides in-person, community-based, hospital based and virtual services at zero cost to the patient.
 - i. Director Miiller expanded on this by stating that their grant funding allows them the opportunity to not bill their patients.
 - ii. Jesse Lava inquired about any potential gaps in the grant funding. Director Miiller mentioned that about \$3 million was available in funding for staff, and since ARPA funding is going away, they can help people with more basic needs, such as utilities, food, housing, etc.
 - iii. Dr. Lisa Masinter asked about number of insured patients. Director Miiller shared that about 60% of their patients have Medicaid, but others haven't completed or even started their application.
 - iv. Karen Crawford Simms emphasized TRC's culturally responsive approach and expressed appreciation for the Responder Model because it includes members of the community embedded in the system.
 - v. Rosalia Salgado asked if TRC also served undocumented populations. Director Miiller assured her that they do, and they have team members who specialize in this work. She shared that the most common challenges for this population have been housing and language barriers. A challenge for TRC still remains identifying funding sources that allow money to be allocated for these particular items.
- e. Advocate Health's TRC is an evidence-based trauma focused model that assists with symptom alleviation and service connection.
 - i. In 2023, TRC served over 2178 patients from diverse communities, facilitated and conducted over 825 psycho-education groups which are workshops, and

awarded over \$925,000 to patients to assist with utility, homelessness prevention, food, clothing, and gas assistance.

f. Director Miiller highlighted the importance of Advocate Health TRC to empower their patients and to assist them on their healing journey.

g. You may access their website [here](#).

V. Peer Presentation by Ing Swenson, Director of Behavioral Health at the Center on Halsted (COH)

a. Lieutenant Governor Stratton introduced Ing Swenson, Director of Behavioral Health at the Center on Halsted (COH). COH is the largest LGBTQIA+ community center in the Midwest.

b. Director Swenson broke down the Behavioral Health Services offered at COH. These include but are not limited to individual, relationships/couples, family, and group therapy.

i. The Puerto Rican Cultural Center offers purely Spanish services.

c. COH also offers one-time appointments for Trans/Gender Non-Conforming/Non-Binary individuals who need a letter of support to access gender affirming surgeries.

i. Director Swenson shared his experience and perspective as both a clinician and a trans person. He mentioned that this initial assessment prior to any services or medical procedure can be a traumatizing experience for many individuals.

ii. Representative Maura Hirschauer and Lieutenant Governor Stratton both expressed concern for the invasive nature of this one-time appointment and began to consider ways in which legislation may be able to play a role in minimizing the harm caused.

d. COH prioritizes being trauma-informed and healing-centered by meeting people where they are.

i. For example, if someone has an addiction, COH does not immediately remove substances until identifying a new healthy coping mechanism/tool.

e. They have a tiered system to gather adequate information on their patients, and upon the initial screening, they make patients aware of all services available at the COH facility.

f. The healing-centered component is rooted in COH's structure as they utilize as a client-centered approach and strength-based and harm reduction models. COH focuses on life beyond treatment. They operate by acknowledging that all LGBTQIA+ people have experienced trauma. Director Swenson explained that there's a checklist of negative experiences that most LGBTQIA+ people will encounter at some point in their life. These may include being misgendered, legislation and policy, and bullying.

g. COH is housed within a community center which includes numerous activities for people to co-exist and be.

h. Director Swenson also emphasized COH's self-care statement. They conduct regular check-ins every two weeks with their clinicians. As they assist others on their healing journey, COH wants to be sure their staff is also well and healthy while providing services.

i. Dr. Anquenne Perkins stated that trauma is an ongoing experience, and it's important to have providers who are similar to you or look like you. She asked if the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation was helpful or causing more harm in terms of licensing, training, and its response timeframe. Director Swenson said it is not moving very quickly, and it is rather difficult to find LGBTQIA+ training to keep license status. He expressed that they are often the creators of the content.

j. Representative Maura Hirschauer mentioned that she would like to discuss further and share information on legislation pertaining to social licenses and DEI training.

- k. You may see more of the ongoing work at Center on Halsted [here](#).

VI. Member Updates

- a. Dr. Dana Weiner shared that Senate Bill (SB) 726 for Children’s Behavioral Health passed.
- b. Aydin Tariq shared that the Youth Advisory Council on the Illinois Children’s Mental Health Partnership completed their final recommendations.
- c. Dr. Mashana Smith shared that State Budget appropriation continued funding in the amount of \$2.5M for ISBE’s REACH program and \$1M for SEL. Dr. Colleen Cicchetti added that they hope it will serve as a funding model for others.
- d. Dr. Lisa Masinter stated that an opportunity for funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) will soon open.
- e. Lieutenant Governor Stratton shared the news of the successful passing of the Birth Equity legislation, its hope and further context.

VII. Public Comment

- a. No comments.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Moved by Julia Strehlow.
- b. Seconded by Shaan Trotter.
- c. All in favor.
- d. No oppositions.
- e. No abstentions.
- f. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 16th, 2024, 10:00am-11:30am.