

Youth Budget Commission Meeting

03/26/2021

Minutes

Commissioners in attendance: Commissioner Cates, Commissioner Crabb, Commissioner Flores, Commissioner Huelsmann, Commissioner Kazmi, Commissioner Krauss, Commissioner Maley, Commissioner Montorio-Archer, Co-Chair Shaver, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Vega, Commissioner Zumdahl

Children's Home & Aid staff and others in attendance: Aaron Albrecht, Jennifer Butler, Leslie Cortez, Cusey, Shontay Ford, Adam Groner, Paula Corrigan-Halpern, Kiara Jackson, Eric Mayo, Curt Clemons-Mosby, Carrie Patch, Kate Peterson, Tony Raden, Lily Rocha, Ali Schoon, Erinne Smith, Kelly Sparks, Claire Jones-Anderson, Jennifer Butler, Kristen Diaz, Tony Raden

1. Approval of the Minutes (Co-Chair Shaver)

Co-Chair Shaver welcomed Commissioners and guests. He called on Eric Mayo (Commission Staff) to do a roll call to which each Commissioner should state they are present, can see/hear, and if they allow for votes via voice calls rather than roll call. The following Commissioners were present and able to see and hear during the meeting: Commissioners Shaver, Kazmi, Vega, Zumdahl, Flores, Cates, Crabb, Krauss, Thompson, and Maley. Commissioners Villa and Lightford had proxies present. All Commissioners voted to vote via voice calls rather than roll call. A quorum was present. Commissioner Huelsmann joined the meeting after the roll call.

Shaver opens the floor for any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the minutes. Hearing known can I get a motion to approve the minutes. Zumdahl moved. Crabb seconded the motion. No opposition to the minutes and they were approved unanimously.

2. Budgeting for Results Program Reports (Curt Clemons-Mosby, Director, Budgeting for Results Unit)

Co-Chair Shaver introduced Curt Clemons-Mosby to review a Budgeting for Results (BFR) program report that can help inform the Commission's work. Clemons-Mosby expressed his excitement to share some of the reports their BFR unit has been doing. He stated they've conducted comprehensive program assessments through working closely with agencies to determine if the program is functioning according to design and producing positive results on investment. Clemons-Mosby reviewed some of the tools used during their program assessment to reach a final score which displays whether the program is effective or not. He reviewed an assessment the BFR did on the Department of Juvenile Justice's (DJJ) Therapeutic Communities Program for substance abuse. This program was determined to show a return of \$2.52 for every \$1 invested and showed the program was effective. Clemons-Mosby opened up time for questions.

Co-Chair Shaver asked how many of these reviews have been done for youth services programs? Clemons-Mosby responded that most of the reviews they've done that would pertain to youth services would be through DJJ program assessments. Adam Groner stated that they have done 3 reports with DJJ.

Commissioner Vega thanked BFR for this presentation and for sharing the information. She asked if there was a breakdown by community or demographics because that would be valuable to look at. Clemons-Mosby responded that the reporting data from agencies isn't broken down by demographic or community. He stated with a new law passed during last session (HB2170) that eventually agencies

will report with some of those demographics disaggregated. Once that data is available, it will be reflected in future reports.

Commissioner Zumdahl asked about the data from this report being from 2015 and if there were more recent outcomes. She also asked what the reports are used for after they are completed. Clemons-Mosby stated that this report uses older data because the DJJ reports out by cohorts. He stated that Commissioners can see updated information on the BFR's interactive performance dashboard. Clemons-Mosby stated that their reports are used throughout the Governor's budget process and for programs to determine where best to spend their budget. He stated that DJJ used some of their reports to display the effectiveness of community-based efforts and why DJJ should change their footprint from a detention center model to more community-based.

Commissioner Krauss asked how the optimal benefit number gets calculated. Clemons-Mosby stated that the number is derived from the benefit-cost model provided to BFR through the PEW framework. Adam Groner provided further details on the PEW framework.

Commissioner Kazmi asked that the benefit-cost results chart is BFR's estimate per individual of how much the benefit is. Groner agreed. Commissioner Kazmi asked how many individuals are in the program from this report. Adam responded that they had issues counting participants within this program because they move around and come in/out of the program at different points, so they had to work to get the appropriate count. Commissioner Kazmi asked if this program is specific to DJJ staff providing these programs or if it overlaps with therapy-based services that say the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provides. Adam responded that this is DJJ staff who are trained to administer this therapy to youth involved. He also stated that a team from BFR went to one of the facilities to see how they administered the therapy program compared to a typical substance abuse program which they found to be less effective. Commissioner Kazmi thanked them for providing this report for the Commission. He stated that this program is not a lot of money for how effective the program is. Adam added that they also looked at how other states implement this program as well which is helpful for determining effectiveness or possible improvements.

3. **Deep Dive Education Session (Kelly Sparks)**

Co-Chair Shaver introduced the next portion of the meeting as an opportunity to do a deeper dive into developmental goals. He stated that today Kelly Sparks (Consultant) will cover the developmental goals of safe, stable, and healthy. These education sessions will prepare the Commission to shift to thinking about the budget in developmental goals rather than by agency. Sparks reviewed that for fiscal year 2019, the developmental goals of safe, stable, and healthy for youth 8-25 years of age were invested in as 8.5% of the entire state budget.

Sparks then broke down each developmental goal by how much money from each agency feeds into that goal. \$2.3 billion goes towards stable which is defined by BFR tags as meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and increasing individual/family stability and self-sufficiency by the BFR. She stated that the agencies that have investments in this goal are Department of Human Services (DHS), DCFS, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), DJJ, IL Guardianship an Advocacy Commission (IGAC), and Department on Aging (IDoA).

Sparks reviewed that when looking at investment in service models delivered through the stable developmental goal, that 61% is in treatment/intervention, 35% in prevention, and the rest in smaller percentages below 3%. She asked Commissioners to think about how the programs in each service model and their investments contributes to their understanding of the fiscal scan and how else they would like it to be displayed in the report or what else could be included. She stated that

Commissioners should expect to see some changes in the 2020 data in this goal and others due to the pandemic. Sparks clarified that she will also be sharing the slides with the Commission.

Sparks then reviewed that \$40 million goes towards the safe developmental goal being less than 1% of total investments. Safe is defined through BFR tags as creating safer communities and Sparks clarified that it isn't directly related to being safe from violence in your home which is typically under stable. Additionally, she clarified that facility and management of facilities isn't included in the assessment of these goals because the Commission only looks at direct investments in youth safety. The agencies that have investments in this developmental goal are Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), DHS, DJJ, Department of Transportation (DOT), and Department of Corrections (DOC) with 72% of the investments in service models going towards prevention and 28% towards treatment/intervention. Sparks stated that while the investments are small compared to the other developmental goals, it has been increasing over the last few years.

Sparks reviewed the developmental goal of healthy defined through BFR tags as improving overall health of Illinoisans. She stated it doesn't include Medicaid investments because when the scan was originally constructed, it was decided that the fiscal scan should only focus on supplemental investments for children and youth. Sparks stated that if the Commission deemed it necessary, they could do a separate analysis on Medicaid. The agencies that invest in the developmental goal of healthy are Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) and Department of Public Health (DPH) with investments in service models being 73% towards prevention and 27% towards intervention. Sparks noted that investments in Healthy have remained relatively stable throughout the life of the Fiscal Scan. She also reviewed the individual programs in this developmental goal.

Mayo asked about the fact that there are children's mental health programs listed under healthy and under stable and if we know how much overlap there are between those programs. Sparks stated that she didn't know right now but that she guesses it has a lot to do with how it is tagged or how it is administered.

Sparks reviewed that many of these prevention programs overlap between stable, safe, and healthy and that it is important to look across departments to understand how developmental goals feed into each other.

Commissioner Krauss asked if it is possible to get this data mapped by geography. Sparks stated that we currently don't have that capability because it is the entire state budget data. Clemons-Mosby stated that they are interested in breaking down the data by demographic and potentially geographically as well with the implementation of HB2170 for agencies. He stated that geography will be harder to map out and that they have done some work with homeless programs and where they align with incidences of homelessness across the state.

Paula Corrigan-Halpern (Children's Home & Aid) asked Commissioners to consider how this background information contributes to their understanding of recommendations and what else the Commission would like to see from the fiscal scan.

Commissioner Krauss added that perhaps a Commission recommendation could be that state agencies collect, track, and report disaggregated data by demographic and geography. He acknowledged there is a cost associated with that, but it seems critical to consider this with an equity lens.

Commissioner Huelsmann asked if there are benchmarks for how to utilize the fiscal scan to inform policy decisions and tell the story of the state's budget. Corrigan-Halpern stated that is an important thing to consider and can provide more insight into that later.

Commissioner Krauss stated that amplifying how DJJ funds are used is important and that increases in the DJJ budget are hard because of how high it already is but it could be a recommendation to increase funds to certain programs or braid funding from other agencies.

Commissioner Maley agreed that it is important to learn more about the demographics of people being served through these developmental goals and what realistic costs are for the outcomes we want.

Commissioner Cates provided perspective that it may be helpful for the Commission to consider if they were on the Governor's staff how our recommendations around the budget would be most useful. She stated that a budget informed and moral/ethical recommendation on the debate about DJJ facilities may be pertinent. Commissioner Cates also stated that it would be helpful to place these facts into a story and make connections between the budget and the individual experience. She stated that if you aren't familiar with the way an agency operates it can be difficult to make that connection yourself, so the Commission needs to do that for people. Corrigan-Halpern agreed that making recommendations that are budget informed but also connect with real stories is crucial.

Corrigan-Halpern connected back with Commissioner Huelsmann's comment that the meeting in May will help the Commission evaluate those benchmarks by bringing in speakers who have done similar work.

Co-Chair Shaver thanked Sparks and the Commission staff for the work that goes into providing these reports.

4. Public Comment

Co-Chair Shaver opened the floor to public comment; there were no public comments.

5. New Business

Corrigan-Halpern stated that staff will send out the PowerPoint from Sparks and asked Commissioners to provide feedback on what might be helpful for future discussions.

6. Adjournment

Co-Chair Shaver asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Zumdahl moved and Commissioner Huelsmann seconded. The vote to adjourn was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.