

## **Illinois Youth Budget Commission Meeting, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Commissioners in Attendance: Crabb, Huelsmann, Kazmi, Krauss, Montorio-Archer, Thompson, Zumdahl.**

**Commissioners in Attendance Via Proxy: Vega, Villa**

**Others in Attendance: Eric Mayo, Nikki Wegner, John Gordon, Paula Corrigan-Halpern, Hannah Keller, Jennifer Butler**

Commissioner Thompson, who filled in a chair of the meeting for Co-Chair Mike Shaver who was absent due to illness, started the meeting. She handed the floor over to John Gordon, who took the roll call.

After the roll call was taken, Thompson asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the January Youth Budget Commission meeting. Commissioner Montorio-Archer made the motion, Commissioner Zumdahl seconded the motion and after taking the roll, the minutes were approved.

After taking the roll, Commissioner Thompson handed the meeting over to John Gordon with Children's Home & Aid, who spoke about the youth event the commission held on April 11<sup>th</sup>. He gave a brief overview of the event and spoke about what lessons were learned in order for the event to be held in person at the Capitol next spring. Acting chair Thompson and the other commissioners thanked John for his work in organizing the event.

Thompson then handed the meeting over to Kelly Sparks, who put together a slide show presentation based on her preliminary findings for the FY 2022 fiscal scan. Kelly went through the basic dynamics of how the scan works and what data she uses to put the scan together. The top line numbers she found were as follows: \$7.3 billion went towards youth programming in FY 22. This is a slow but steady increase since FY 18. The state also spent \$1.4 billion in COVID relief funds on youth programming. The combination of standard funds and COVID relief funds led to 10.2% of the state budget being spent on youth ages 8-25 in Illinois in Fiscal Year 2022.

Kelly showed the agencies that spent funds on youth programming, which increased from 21 to 23 due to the inclusion of two new state agencies in FY 22, the State Police and the Secretary of State's office. Four state agencies comprised 90% of the youth programming funds: State Board of Education, Department of Human Services, Department of Children and Family Services, and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. The biggest increases for ISBE were Child Nutrition and Special Education services; for DHS it was the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). She also demonstrated that smaller programs saw bigger percentage increases.

After going more in-depth with her findings, Commissioner Krauss asked about the nature of the federal funds the state receives that can be used for youth programming. He brought up that, since these funds are mandated for specific purposes by the federal government, it did not necessarily reflect a judgment by the state on the importance of investing in youth. By showing how much of the FY 22 investment was made by the federal government, it can reflect the state's true commitment. Kelly agreed that this is important, but also that the state does have some say in how some of the federal funds are spent. Commissioner Thompson mentioned that some federal funds are pass-through funds, while other are matching funds grants. Commissioner Zumdahl asked if there was any way to differentiate between the different federal funds in the scan. Kelly said she would check with the Office of Management and Budget if that was possible. Commissioner Hueslmann asked if there was a comparison between Illinois and other states on this matter; Kelly did not have that information.

Kelly presented a slide that showed where each agency was in relation to the six developmental goals. Commissioner Crabb interjected that this part of the scan frustrated her, as she said placing the different agencies under the different goals was subjective in nature and that she knew that funds for a certain agency were used for programs in a different developmental category than the agency had been assigned. Kelly mentioned that this fiscal scan would include secondary goals that would address that concern, but that the current data she was presenting was still in draft form and needed to be cleaned up. Paula Corrigan-Halpern stated that the assigning process that led to these placements is a limitation of the scan and Jennifer Butler of the Governor's Office of Management and Budget stated that, while there are limitations to the kinds of data G.O.M.B. can produce, seeing that there was a desire for that kind of change could lead to an effort to make that possible.

Kelly moved on to an examination of the four service models. The four service models are separated into two categories: Expenditures and Investments. The two service models that fit into the investments category saw a big jump in funding, with most of the increase found in the prevention service model. The positive youth development also saw an increase, which is consistent with the trend line. When examining how agencies invest in these categories, positive youth development has the most agencies contributing to its funding.

Kelly then went into what can be expected in the June presentation, when she will have the final analysis for fiscal year 2022. Acting commissioner Thompson asked Kelly about the difference between appropriations and expenditures in the scan. Kelly told her that the scan only looks at appropriations and that it is very possible that some amount of the appropriated funds were not spent. Kelly also mentioned that the state routinely over-estimates the amount of money they will receive from the federal government in a given fiscal year so that the appropriation will accurately cover what's coming in, rather than having to adjust later on if they under-estimate. Jennifer confirmed this.

Kelly finished her preliminary scan presentation and acting commissioner Thompson thanked her for her continued work on the scan. The meeting was then opened to comments from the public. Since there were none, acting commissioner Thompson called for a vote to adjourn.

Commissioner Zumdahl made the motion, commissioner Hueslmann seconded the motion, and after receiving all “yes” votes, the April meeting of the Illinois Youth Budget Commission was adjourned. The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.