



Lake County Juvenile Justice Council Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2026 at 10 am

Meeting was recorded

Participants:

LCJJC Members:

Karen Levi, Lake County State's Attorney's Office
Sean Collins, Lake County Regional Office of Education
Michele Esser, Lake County Health Department
Courtney Curry, Lake County Regional Office of Education
Kate Stienberg, Interfaith Chaplain
Lisa LeBeouf, Lake County State's Attorney's Office
Molly Ryan, CYN Counseling
Adrienne Price, College of Lake County
Angel Lopez, Angel's Boxing Academy
Paola Martinez, NICASA

Other Participants:

Linsay Hale, Lake County Juvenile Justice Coordinator

Meeting:

Called to order at 10:00 am

1. Introductions
2. Approve the meeting minutes of the June 23, 2026 Juvenile Justice Council meeting.

LCJJC members present voted to approve the meeting minutes of the June 23, 2026 JJC meeting.

3. Linsay Hale recapped the 7/1/26 JJC Board meeting.
 - a. LCJJC membership list approved (pending quorum)
 - b. LCJJC Bylaws approved (pending quorum)
4. Election of Juvenile Justice Council Chair/Vice Chair.
 - a. ***LCJJC members present voted to approve Courtney Curry as the Chair of Lake County's Juvenile Justice Council.***
 - b. ***LCJJC members present voted to approve Angel Lopez as the Vice Chair of Lake County's Juvenile Justice Council.***

5. HB 4639 (Expansion of Restorative Justice Options)

Linsay Hale reviewed the changes made by the legislation, to include the expansion of the ability to form community mediation panels to State's Attorney's and courts handling juvenile cases (previously State's Attorney's only); and the requirement that courts consider restorative justice alternatives prior to sentencing juveniles. Bill has passed both legislative houses and has been sent to the Governor for signature into law.

- a. *Linsay will continue to seek out options for restorative justice trainings for Lake County practitioners.*
- b. *Linsay will work on creating an additional web-based resource for judges listing the County's restorative justice options. A draft will be presented to LCJJC members for review prior to posting.*

6. Review of Illinois Juvenile Justice Councils – Linsay Hale

There currently four Illinois Counties that receive grant money to establish and coordinate Juvenile Justice Councils: Lake, Peoria, St. Clair and Kane, each reporting ultimately to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Council (IJJC). There has been discussion about the goals and purpose of Juvenile Justice Councils in general, and some known discrepancies between the authorizing statute, the grant parameters and the established performance measures making changes to future grants applications and awards likely.

Linsay and Karen have a meeting scheduled with the JJC Coordinators and the new Executive Director of the IJJC on 7/30. The results of this meeting will be shared with the LCJJC at their next meeting in August.

7. LCJJC Youth Advisory Board

Further discussion was had about the establishment of a JJC Youth Advisory Board (YAB), who would assume responsibility for the coordination of the YAB, criteria for membership, and what the purpose of the YAB would/could be. The following suggestions were made:

- The group could be assigned topics relating to juvenile justice issues to develop reports of certain issues for presentation to the JJC/JJC Board.
- The group could assume responsibility for development and coordination of certain youth-centric events.
- The Chair of the YAB could also be appointed to the JJC or JJC Board.
- The group could be assigned or select topics to coordinate county-wide campaigns on issues affecting youth.

Linsay will continue to review the structure of other Youth Advisory Boards throughout the state and nation and will develop a few draft proposals for presentation/consideration at the next LCJJC meeting.

8. Additional Suggestions/Comments

Angel Lopez shared highlights of Angel's Boxing Academy and its work to provide mentorship and leadership development through boxing for youth throughout the County.

Further discussion was had about sharing the work of different agencies and non-profits and the services available at each JJC meeting. Linsay will work to coordinate presentations for each meeting.

9. Next Meeting – August TBD

A Google Form will be sent out to all Council members to set the date and time of the August JJC meeting.

10. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.