



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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Lieutenant Governor

JUSTICE INVOLVED WOMEN PANEL

Meeting Date: January 3, 2025

Meeting Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Meeting Place: Microsoft Teams (Virtual Meeting)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

On Friday, January 3, 2025, at 1:10 pm Chairwoman Kyle Pelletier called to order a meeting of the Justice Involved Women Panel. Advance notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with the open meeting laws. A quorum of the membership was present, and roll call was taken.

	Membership	Present	Absent
1	Chairwoman, Kyle Pelletier	X	
2	Rebecca Brink		X
3	Dr. Nancy Connolly		X
4	Sarah Ruiz	X	
5	Corinn Crowinshield	X	
6	Rep Chynah Tyler		X
7	Senator Liz Miranda	X	
8	Colleen Stocks	X	
9	Meghan Winston	X	
10	Daisy Hernandez	X	
11	Sunindiya Bhalla	X	
12	Vacant		

EOPSS Staff: John Melander and Lisa Caputo

Chairwomen Pelletier welcomed new member, Sunindiya Bhalla, and panel members introduced themselves.

2. JIWP Goals and Objectives

Senator Miranda shared her focus at Legislature this year and would like to concentrate on a smaller amount of criminal justice bills as an interest area compared to last session. Senator Miranda suggested two goals be reproductive and maternal health and education and programs. She would like to explore the possibility of partnering with area colleges and learn why certain programs that were in the facilities are no longer offered for long term incarcerated women such as the cosmetology program which was very well regarded pre-Covid.

The Panel would like to see an opportunity to enhance communication. The panel agreed that there are cross-system challenges with incarcerated mothers. As a first step, the panel is interested in learning data points of women in a custody setting and will request data points from Parole, Probation, DCF, DOC and Counties. Reviewing the data will assist in building support in different regions. The panel would also like to learn more about women who are on probation or community supervision to understand the needs such as recovery and mental health resources and family stability.

After discussion, the panel decided that two goals, one that is “behind the walls” and one that is in the community, will be the focus. Maternal health and cross-system communication aligns with continuing the work with the recommendations from 2024. Opportunity to enhance communication within by different agencies and begin more work with Roca on all fronts with individuals returning to the community should be a priority.

The panel throughout the year will invite the Department of Correction and Sheriff’s Department to present on what enrichment programs and employment development programs are currently offered; the college collaboration; and organizations such as Recovery Education Collaborative and Roca to invite women with lived experience to share their experience with cross-systems. Both Daisy Hernandez and Sunindiya Bhalla will facilitate the listening sessions. Daisy also shared the Technical Assistance -Recovery Education Collaborate might be a tool that this panel could benefit from.

The Panel will move from a bi-monthly schedule to a monthly meeting so that presentations and progress on goals can be achieved.

3. Member Comment

Deputy General Counsel Melander expects that the 2024 Annual Report will be filed after the Governor’s Office had some clarification questions.

4. Public Comment

No public comment.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.