

JJAB MEETING

JJAB Chairperson: David Finke

Vice Chairperson: Kristy Flippins-Bartlett

April 17, 2026, 1PM – 4PM EST

LOUISVILLE URBAN LEAGUE LOUISVILLE, KY



April 2026 Meeting Summary

Date | time FRI, APRIL 16, 2026 | 1 pm - 4 pm | **Meeting Location** LOUISVILLE URBAN LEAGUE LOUISVILLE, KY

Meeting called to order by David Finke at 1:15 pm

WELCOME & MEMBER ROLL CALL – 1:15PM

Board Members in person: Tamar Israel, Angela Wilson, Laura Kareem, Deonte Hollowell, Cicely Cottrell, David Finke, Christina Weeter

Board Members online: Elzie Burgher, Harry Clark, Tiffany Mullis, Ashley Clark, Jansen Hammock, Kristy Flippins-Bartlett, Donna Simmons

DJJ Staff present: Tara Kelly, Carly Gill,

Guest Present: Thomas Jackson, Tonda Montgomery, William Codell, Dan Ray Cowan

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Approval of February's minutes:** Angela Wilson moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Harry Clark. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

FFY22 AND FFY23 SUBAWARDS - Carly Gill reported that the FY22 Title II subawards are progressing well across all funded programs. Throughout March, she conducted onsite and virtual monitoring visits to review spending, implementation progress, and documentation practices.

Operation Making A Change (OMAC)

Carly Gill and Tara Kelly conducted a site visit with OMAC in March to review implementation and spending patterns. As of March, OMAC had expended less than 2% of its total FY22 award for the period October 2025–March 2026. OMAC staff explained that this underspending is tied to the cyclical nature of their program model. When FY22 funds were awarded in October 2025, the program cycle had just ended, and services did not resume until January 2026. As a result, Quarter 1 (Oct–Dec) reflects minimal activity and limited expenditures, which aligns with their Q1 performance reporting. Carly noted that spending is expected to increase as the current program cycle continues.

Book Works

Carly conducted a monitoring visit with Book Works in early March. At the time of the visit, the program had expended approximately 27% of its FY22 award. Program staff shared that they intended to hire additional personnel earlier in the grant year but were unable to complete hiring until January and February, delaying planned expenditures. To align their budget with the revised staffing timeline, Book Works will submit a Grant Award Modification (GAM) to reallocate funds and reflect the updated

spending plan. With personnel now in place, spending is expected to increase as program activities continue.

Men2Be (Hopkinsville)

Carly conducted a monitoring visit with Men2Be in Hopkinsville. Their spending is on track, with approximately 40% of their award expended to date. There were no major findings. Identified items were administrative, primarily related to ensuring required documents are consistently maintained in the program's grant binder, whether physical or electronic. Carly also addressed staff concerns about the monitoring process, clarifying that monitoring is not an audit, but a supportive review intended to answer questions, strengthen documentation practices, and ensure programs have what they need to succeed.

Cross-Program Guidance on Spending & Budget Adjustments

During all March monitoring visits, Carly emphasized the importance of early communication when programs anticipate challenges with spending down their award. Programs were reminded that the grant administrator can assist with budget reallocations through a GAM when needed. Early notification allows adjustments to be made in time to support full and appropriate expenditure of funds. Carly reiterated that it is far better to alert the team during the grant year—when changes can still be made—than to reach the end of the cycle and be required to return unspent funds.

FY23 Title II Subaward Application Update

Carly Gill reported that the FY23 Title II subaward application period opened on March 28. Approximately \$380,000 is available for distribution under this funding cycle, with an individual program cap of \$150,000 per applicant.

At this time, the application is scheduled to close on Friday, May 8. Carly noted that application materials and guidance remain available to all interested parties, and programs are encouraged to reach out early with questions to ensure timely and complete submissions.

- **FFY25 TITLE II GRANT BUDGET** – Carly Gill reported that the FY25 Title II Federal Formula Grant application has officially opened. The proposed formula budget of \$771,582 was presented to the Board for review and approval.

The proposed allocation includes:

- **Planning and Administration — \$24,000 total (with \$12,000 Federal share)**
- **Program Areas — \$624,582, including \$524,582 designated for subawards**
- **SAG and R/ED Activities — \$75,000**

These allocations **total \$771,582**, consistent with the federal share amount.

A motion to approve the proposed FY25 formula budget was made by Cicely Cottrell and seconded by Donna Simmons. The motion passed.

- **FFY26 TITLE II GRANT NOFO-** Carly Gill reported that the FY26 Title II Federal Formula Grant application is expected to be released very soon. According to federal guidance, OJP has 90 days to release FFY26 formula funding, and the program is currently awaiting that federal action. Carly noted that while the team is hopeful for a timely release, the timeline ultimately follows the federal government's schedule.

FFY26 represents the final year of the current three-year State Plan, and once the application is released, Kentucky will proceed with preparing the final-year submission in alignment with the approved plan and federal requirements.

June Meeting Date Adjustment

Due to the June meeting falling on the Juneteenth holiday, an alternate meeting date of Friday, June 26 was proposed. A motion to move the June meeting to June 26 was made by Cicely Cottrell and seconded by Tamar Israel. The motion passed.

DJJ UPDATED:

- **R/ED Update:** During the R/ED update, members received an overview of the continued progress and national attention generated by Dr. Hollowell's listening-session work. These sessions have significantly increased awareness and strengthened community engagement across Kentucky. While measurable changes in R/ED data will take years to materialize, the qualitative impact has already positioned Kentucky as a leader in innovative, community-driven approaches. Several states have expressed interest in Kentucky's model, noting the state's strong collaboration with grassroots organizations and the creative strategies employed to elevate community voice. The partnership with DCBS—supported by Tiffany—to conduct foster-care listening sessions has further amplified Kentucky's visibility, particularly in work involving minority girls, foster-care youth, and dual-status youth. The committee was also informed that the SEJAY retreat is tentatively scheduled for June 12, with all reservation and approval requests submitted and awaiting final confirmation. Additionally, Georgetown University, OJJDP's national technical-assistance partner for R/ED, will present at the May 6 SEJAY meeting. Georgetown has recently highlighted Kentucky's contributions during a national presentation attended by Carly, Dr. Hollowell, and the R/ED Coordinator, underscoring the state's alignment with emerging federal priorities and its growing role in shaping national conversations on R/ED.
- **Juvenile Justice Specialist:**

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- **Executive:** Committee announced that the 2026 JJAB Retreat will be held July 16–17 at the Drury Inn on Brownsboro Road in Louisville. The retreat will span a day and a half, with a full day on Thursday and a half-day session on Friday. This year's retreat will focus on strengthening board capacity, including a review of the roles and responsibilities of the Board and a detailed walkthrough of the 33 statutory requirements outlined in the current three-year plan. These sessions are intended to support alignment, clarity, and readiness as the Board enters the final year of the existing planning cycle.
- **Grants:** The Grant Committee identified an error in the published FY23 Title II Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The document included program language referencing services for victims of violence, domestic violence, and sexual assault, which is not applicable to the FY23 Title II funding stream. The NOFO has since been corrected, and a revised version has been published to ensure applicants receive accurate program guidance. To allow applicants adequate time to review the corrected NOFO, the committee recommended extending the application closing date to Friday, May 22. A motion to extend the due date to May 22 was made by Cicely Cottrell and seconded by Laura Karem. The motion passed.
- **SEJAY:** The SEJAY Subcommittee reported that the February JJAB/DCBS partnership listening session held in Louisville was highly successful, generating strong engagement and meaningful youth and caregiver input. Additional listening sessions are working to be scheduled inside DJJ facilities to expand youth voice and ensure representation across secure settings. Dr. Deonte Hollowell also met with Ray Cowan and Demarcus Walker to support the development of a youth reentry program in Fayette County, where listening sessions will be incorporated as a core component of program design and continuous feedback. Following adjournment of today's meeting, Dr. Hollowell will conduct a

listening-session training for members who wish to stay and participate, further strengthening the subcommittee's capacity to implement consistent, high-quality engagement practices statewide.

- **Capacity Building:** No update
- **Emerging Leaders:** The Emerging Leaders Subcommittee report was delivered by youth member Jansen Hammock, who noted strong progress over the past several meetings. Kristy and Tamar have provided a solid foundation for the group's development, allowing members to engage more deeply with the question of how to effectively educate peers and communities about juvenile justice in Kentucky. Recent meetings have focused on reviewing the state's modern history of juvenile justice, including key policy shifts, landmark legislation, and current proposals under consideration. The upcoming meeting will center on newly passed legislation and its implications for the evolving landscape of juvenile justice in Kentucky, ensuring that youth leaders remain informed and prepared to contribute meaningfully to ongoing system discussions.

YOUTH VOICE: -

PUBLIC FORUM-

ACTION ITEMS:

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 21, 2025 @1PM TBA

ADJOURNMENT:

Kristy Flippins-Bartlett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Laura Karem. Meeting adjourned @3:35p