

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
 State Relations and Assistance Division
 State Advisory Group Members Call
 April 28, 2021**

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, Center for Coordinated Assistance to States (CCAS)

All right, welcome to the State Relations and Assistance Division call for State Advisory Groups. We are glad you're here. Before we get started, we do have a couple of items to note. First, this states that the American Institutes Research, which operates the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States under a cooperative agreement with the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention, does recordings of audio of all participants and other information sent, verbalized, or utilized during meetings like this one. By joining the meeting, you automatically consent to such recordings. Any participant who decides to not share, which you all can't share cameras right now, you do have the option to only share in the chat box or to reach out to us directly separate from the meeting at CCAS@air.org.

Attendance – Taken from Chat Box	
OJJDP	Name
	Chyrl Jones
X	TeNeane Bradford
	Keisha Kersey
	Nicole McCrae
X	Diamond Lewis
X	Tina Borner
	Didier Moncion
X	Keith Towery
X	Marisa Harris
X	Ricco Hall
X	Cara Blair
X	Alyssa Malcomson
X	Ashley Washington
X	Sarah Leder
CCAS	
X	Lisa Hutchinson
X	Okori Christopher
X	Katie Penkoff
X	Cassy Blakely
X	Kia Jackson
X	Kenya Roy
X	Mark Ferrante
State	In Attendance/Mark with X
1. Alabama	Buffy Smelley, Brian Forster
2. Alaska	Nichel Saceda-Hurt
3. American Samoa	
4. Arizona	

5. Arkansas	
6. California	Timothy Polasik
7. Colorado	Kelly Abbott
8. Connecticut	
9. Delaware	Monica Celli
10. District of Columbia	Frank Petersen, Melissa Milchman
11. Florida	Dionne Anderson, Jackie Helms-Singleton
12. Georgia	Haley Dunn-McKinney, Polly McKinney, Lauren Bell
13. Guam	Danielle Camacho
14. Hawaii	
15. Idaho	
16. Illinois	Andrea Hall, Rick Velasquez
17. Indiana	
18. Iowa	
19. Kansas	Brock Landwehr
20. Kentucky	Sara Redfield
21. Louisiana	
22. Maine	Linda Barry Potter
23. Maryland	Jessica Wheeler, Eric Ford
24. Massachusetts	Jim Houghton, Samantha Frongillo
25. Michigan	Melinda Fandel, Bob Higgins
26. Minnesota	
27. Mississippi	Emberly K. Holmes
28. Missouri	Chris Yeager, Michelle Parks
29. Montana	Rachel Gemar
30. Nebraska	
31. Nevada	
32. New Hampshire	Pam Sullivan
33. New Jersey	Kelly Hourigan
34. New Mexico	Bill Kearney
35. New York	
36. North Carolina	Adonicca McAllister, Toni Lockley
37. North Dakota	Lisa Jahner, Terry Traynor
38. Northern Marianas Islands	
39. Ohio	
40. Oklahoma	Laura Broyles
41. Oregon	
42. Pennsylvania	Greg Young
43. Puerto Rico	
44. Rhode Island	
45. South Carolina	Trevon Fordham, Kayla Capps, Amanda Whittle
46. South Dakota	
47. Tennessee	Vicki Taylor
48. Texas	
49. Utah	Kayley Richards

50. Vermont	Elizabeth Morris, Kreig Pinkham
51. Virgin Islands	Jacqueline Freeman, Riise Richards
52. Virginia	
53. Washington	Alice Coil
54. West Virginia	John Stigall, Stephanie Bond, Brenda Thompson
55. Wisconsin	Allison Budzinski, Sabrina Gentile, Heather Kierzek, Katie Hawkins
56. Wyoming	Brandon Schimelpfenig, Logan Christie

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Perfect. Thank you so much. All right. Let's take one more moment for a couple of housekeeping components. We do have all of our attendees in listen-only mode. If you are having any technical issues, please contact us using the chat or CCAS@air.org. And we will be doing roll call through the chat. So, if you have not already, please feel free to put your name and your state in the chat box so that we can account for who we have on the call. So please take a minute to do that.

Okori Christopher, Project Technology Specialist, CCAS

Cassy, may I say one thing really quick? I'm sorry. And for everyone signing in and saying hello, and checking in, one thing, by default, WebEx has it set to the host as a primary communication. So, I'm the only one seeing most of the messages you guys are checking in with. So, if right above the message you click the drop down menu, where it says send to, hit everyone or all attendees, then it's in the public chat for all to see. That is all. Thank you so much, Cassy.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you so much, Okori. And I wish I could be on camera for you all but I'm going to cut it off just to make sure that the bandwidth can stand up to this meeting. So, I appreciate your all's understanding with that. Thank you for everyone that is chiming in the chat. We're so glad you're with us today. One more housekeeping thing, you're probably all very used to these virtual spaces but WebEx is a little different. So please take a minute to familiarize yourself with all of the functions, and you should be able to share with us. Again, if you have any trouble, please reach out to us at CCAS@AIR.ORG.

We want to know your name, state or territory, and if there is anybody else with you, please pop that into the chat box. We do want to make sure you're accounted for. In today's call, we really are here to get some feedback from you all, and share some opportunities that we have coming up for you as a State Advisory Group to provide insight and input to OJJDP or add thoughts to training and technical assistance opportunities coming down the pike. So we will really be looking to you all to offer your thoughts and feedback again, through the chat or if you would like to be unmuted just let us know via the chat and we can unmute you, if necessary. Before we dig into this agenda, I do want to start by giving Ms. Marisa Harris an opportunity to open today's call. Marisa, if you're talking, you're muted. There you are. Hello.

II. Welcome & Updates from OJJDP

Marisa Harris, Program Manager, OJJDP

Hello. Hi. Good afternoon. Can you hear me?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Yes, ma'am.

Marisa Harris, Program Manager, OJJDP

Good afternoon and happy Wednesday. On behalf of the State Relations and Assistance Division, and on behalf of Dr. Bradford, I just want to welcome you all to today's call. We look forward to dialogue and engaging with all of you SAG members. And I want to turn it back over to CCAS.

III. Discussion: Continued Impact of COVID on SAG Activities

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Wonderful. Thank you so much, Marisa. So we want to jump right into conversations with you all. As you've been working over the last year, 18 months, and continued to meet and do your work as a State Advisory Group, we want to see how that's going. And so, if you haven't found the chat box yet, find it now, because we have some questions for you. So first, we are curious about how your state or territory's COVID response and reopening plan has or continues to impact your State Advisory Group. Are you still doing virtual things? Have you had to pause things? How's it going for you all? I'll give you folks a second type in the chat box.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

And Cassy, we're starting to see some responses coming in.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS – I see still virtual, in New Mexico, or in Illinois. Continuing to meet via Microsoft Teams, but seeing solid attendance. Vermont has shared that they're meeting virtually and maintaining their monthly meetings, they've actually seen participation increase and will probably continue to meet virtually at least for the short term. Pennsylvania is conducting virtual meetings. And the meetings have been very productive. And it's actually improved meeting attendance. So, I'm seeing a theme here that we're getting more folks to come to meetings and participate in meetings without that travel time. All right, we see meeting via Zoom, relatively good attendance. SAG subcommittees are also meeting virtually.

Chatbox Comments

- **Andrea Hall, IL** – Everything is still virtual in Illinois
- **Rick Velasquez, IL** – Still virtual
- **Greg Young, PA** – Pennsylvania has been conducting virtual meetings. The meetings have been very productive and has improved our meeting attendance.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS – And again, I'll remind folks, when you do pop in the chat box, if you could select all participants, that will allow everybody to see your responses. And with those virtual meetings, has that been allowable because you all have had extensions of open meetings? How have you worked around those regulations?

Virgin Island said a combination of both for training, and then had their last board meeting via Zoom. And committees have been meeting via Zoom. I want to pause for any others that are still typing.

All right. What shifts have you had to make how you structure your meetings to transition to the virtual meeting space? Has it changed the structure, frequency, duration of your meetings?

Chatbox Comments

- **Riise Richards, VT** – In the Virgin Islands, we did a combination of both for the purpose of training. Our last Board meeting was virtual using Zoom. Our Committees have been meeting via Zoom. In the Virgin Islands, the shift has been good for us, because of the geographical locations of some members. We are on two different islands and the meetings have been shorter and more concise. The virtual engagement is a major plus for us.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Just a quick reminder, too, if you want to let us know in the chat if you'd like to speak orally, just let us know your name and that you'd like to be unmuted. And then our host, Okori Christopher, can work to unmute you so that you can share with the group.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

All right, Washington has been meeting virtually since March of last year. I'm curious, are there any lessons learned from meeting virtually? We've heard that attendance has increased. Are there other things that you've learned by getting your members together in a virtual space? Tools are tricky, moving forward.

(Reading chatbox comments) We've shortened meeting time in Washington from five hours to three hours. Five hours would be a long time to be on the computer. I will say in a lot of the technical assistance and training efforts that we have provided, particularly around three-year planning, and especially when the State Advisory Group is involved, we've seen those meetings be shorter, and sometimes just have multiple meanings rather than one long time together. And that's improved engagement and I think, stamina for folks sitting in those long meetings.

Any other contributions on lessons learned or how COVID has impacted your meetings?

(Reading chatbox comments) Virgin Islands says the shift has been good to them because of the geographical locations of some of their members. With two different islands, meetings have been shorter and more concise. It's been a plus for them. Glad to hear that. Alright. We really appreciate hearing this information. Thank you, Vermont. Thank you, Craig. I think that Vermont has thought more about meeting process during the past month. More deliberately, folk facilitated conversations and discussion using platform tools to facilitate discourse.

So Kreig, correct me if I'm wrong, but it sounds like you were using some of the tricks like breakout rooms, maybe some of the reaction buttons that allow us to show applause or celebrate a comment that someone has made within your meetings. Also, I've seen others do that as well to facilitate voting or to have a small group discussion. Wonderful. Thank you, Craig.

IV. State/Territory Highlight: SAG Involvement in Three-Year State Planning

All right. Just take a look then at our next set of conversations. We're actually going to get two states to share with us how they have been working with their State Advisory Groups during three-year planning.

As you all know, coming up with the next Title II solicitation will be a requirement to submit a new three-year plan. And part of your role as a State Advisory Group is to collaborate with your Designated State Agency to create and implement your three-year plan. And so, I'm going to ask Okori to help me ensure that Judge Schneider from New Mexico is unmuted. And that Andrea Hall from Illinois is

unmuted. Andrea, let me know if we should also unmute Rick.

Andrea Hall, Executive Director, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Yes, please.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Yes. Wonderful.

Andrea Hall, Executive Director, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Yes, you can unmute Rick. Yeah.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

If you could unmute Rick, that would be appreciated, Okori. Thank you. Wonderful. And then Judge Schneider, do we have you unmuted?

Okori Christopher, Project Technology Specialist, CCAS

I'm sorry, I'm pulling his name from the list. Give me one second.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you, Okori, so much. While Okori is unmuting these folks, I will share that our hope is that by having New Mexico and Illinois share their experiences, that there may be some tricks, tips, tools, strategies that you can pick up for use in your state or territory as you move towards three-year planning. Miss Richards, we see that you are unmuted. Could you please mute yourself?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

All right. Do we have Rick or Judge Schneider unmuted?

Okori Christopher, Project Technology Specialist, CCAS

Rick is unmuted. I'm having a difficulty tracking down Judge Schneider's name.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Wonderful. Rick, do you want to share how Illinois has worked with the State Advisory Group to do their three-year planning? You all have had quite a process over the last year.

Rick Velasquez, SAG Chair, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Yes. Thanks, Cassy. Thanks for the invitation joining this meeting today. I'm going to ask Andrea to really kind of kick this off as our executive director. I really kind of look to her to help lead this kind of conversation. But just to kind of set the stage about how we got to this point of engaging our entire SAG, our commission, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, in this work really came about under some changing conditions that were occurring in Illinois. First of all, we had the retirement of our prior chair of the Commission that took place almost two years ago, and actually was kind of in-transition already. Judge Timberlake had served as chair and of the commission, and a very forceful leader in Illinois for almost 10 years. Actually, I joined the commission the same time Judge Timberlake was appointed chair and as a commissioner, also.

So judge was beginning, at that point, to make a transition away from the commission, and was making plans to step down simultaneously. Then, we had a significant change in administration in Illinois with the election of Governor Pritzker in the governor's house. And this kind of then had a ripple effect

throughout the entire state, not just in terms of the juvenile justice commission in our work, but all elements of the state. At that same time, as Judge Timberlake was also retiring from the commission, I was also stepping down as a CEO of a community-based organization working in Cook County in Chicago for 44 years. And so, I anticipated moving toward retirement at that time of which lasted about two weeks.

And following my retirement in July, I was approached to the governor's office to ask if I would step in and serve as the chair of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission. And because I think I hear the passion for this work and the history in here, I said, "Yeah, I'll give it a whirl." I knew something about operating organizations, I learned a lot about strategic planning, and about engaging community and boards in that process. So, I kind of stepped in at that time knowing that the Commission had two things that I had to begin to look forward to. One is actually re-engaging and redeveloping the Commission itself, its members, that the committees in which we were operating, and really have a firm focus and purpose kind of going forward.

As we know that our membership was dwindling, the committees were not necessarily working as effectively as they should at that point, and we really needed to, kind of, start a new and kind of began this journey of Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission 3.0 as we kind of stated at that point. And started several conversations in terms of how we were going to get there, and how would we be to move forward. Moving forward from that is that we then had a change in our executive director.

And within probably four, six months after I was appointed, we had to change our executive director of the Commission. And prior to that had said, "We really need to find a way to blend together this need to build a strategic plan going forward, our three-year plan as it's known here, as well as developing this new course for its members, and really strong engagement of our commissioners in this process." Unfortunately, and we are lucky to have Andrea Hall join us as the executive director. So, I'm going to ask Andrea, you're online now. Why don't you begin to share a little bit about that experience for you, too.

Andrea Hall, Executive Director, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Okay, thank you. So, one thing I'll say is that CCAS was really instrumental in our process for our three-year plan development. So, we actually partnered with CCAS in April of last year. And as Rick stated, we had new SAG members. We had a new chair. I was new at the time, and then it was the midst of a pandemic. And so, we decided that we wanted to have CCAS provide TTA support. And they started off by doing a SAG 101 training. And so, because of the new members on our SAG, we wanted to make sure everyone was on the same page. How can we create a plan together if people are on different pages, or people are not aware of the issues?

And so we did a SAG 101 training for everyone. SAG members help lead and present on the history of our SAG. So as Rick mentioned, we have a 1.0, 2.0, and a 3.0. We're in 3.0, and that's just groupings of years together. And then the next phase is stakeholder engagement. And so, once we kind of engage in ourselves, the SAG, and we learned together, and we talked about what's important to us, we then went and engaged our stakeholders. So, we had a session in summertime where we brought together sister agencies like DCFS, I think, which is the Criminal Justice Authority, DJJ, Department of Juvenile Justice, and other agencies that work with our youth. And we also brought in policy organizations and direct service providers.

We looked at data, we talked about new information, and we were presented on juvenile justice

priorities that could help inform our own process. And then we actually drafted our goals and objectives. December, we started drafting our goals. And so, we decided that we wanted to keep our four overarching goals, and a lot of it is in-line with the compliance work that we do. And then, we decided to get into small groups and draft objectives. And see CCAS really was instrumental in that process, too. We had a three-hour session where we had people in small groups finalizing the objectives, and then reporting out. And then we had our planning and grants committee take it from there, because we know that not everyone's able to be in on this three-year process, and that's what we wanted to do. And then just last week, we voted on our goals and objectives and they were passed. That was our progress.

Rick Velasquez, SAG Chair, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

I think it's important to add to this that as we are going through this, we had to kind of come up with a new strategy and philosophy or approach of how to do this. We didn't have the experience of using Zoom meetings and using virtual meeting technology of doing this. So, we're doing this simultaneous learning on the fly, which actually helped us create the necessary muscle memory and the internal strength to be able to become more adaptive using the technology in all of our work over that period of time. So even though it was a little of a struggle in the first couple of months, working with CCAS and with Cassy around, this was really extremely critical element in terms of having to not just discover a process and do this virtually, but also having to figure out this technology. And in some ways that had really benefitted how we then were able to successfully work in those subsequent months up to today. And I think that was a big piece of that, too.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you so much, Andrea and Rick. I will say something very unique to Illinois' processes, the way that you all spaced it out. Because you have some members, as most State Advisory Groups do, that are highly involved in lots of ways throughout your state. And so, getting them to be able to commit to a large planning time just wasn't realistic. And I think the level of engagement you saw and being able to help bring aboard the new members slowly was really beneficial. I think one thing I also appreciated from a TTA perspective, and working with Illinois, was we adapted, right? How many times did we adapt the three-year planning process in response to states?

Rick Velasquez, SAG Chair, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Yeah, and I think that willingness to go back to the drawing board was something that we always checked ourselves on, always saying, "Hey, is this really going to work? Is this an obstacle at this point? And having to say, again, to adapt and say, "Now, let's kind of change this up and try it this way." And I think that became an important piece of this. I just want to add, Cassy, you talked about this as a way of engaging new commissioners. I think it was also a very effective way of re-engaging those commissioners that were half in and half out. It really forced that decision saying, "Are you going to be here or not?" And then by providing this opportunity to do that, it reinvigorated those people that have been around for several years and re-engage them. So, I think it served not just for the new members, but also in re-engaging those existing and existing members that were critical to have this kind of history, this kind of a history of who we are, where we come from, which is so important as we begin to look forward.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you, so much. I think keeping in touch with each other in this engaging time is a great note there. I want to hear from Bill Kearney in New Mexico, and then we'll definitely take a minute for other attendees to ask you a question. So, Bill, I'm going to kick it over to you if you could talk about New Mexico's process.

Bill Kearney, Juvenile Justice Specialist, NM

Right. Thank you, Cassy. And I'm going to start by asking can you hear me okay with this microphone?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

It's pretty quiet.

Bill Kearney, Juvenile Justice Specialist, NM

Let me change microphones. Is this microphone better?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Slightly, just be loud and proud, my friend.

Bill Kearney, Juvenile Justice Specialist, NM

Okay, is this one better?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

That's beautiful. Thank you.

Bill Kearney, Juvenile Justice Specialist, NM

Okay. And I'll still be loud and proud because we're in New Mexico. So, the New Mexico Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee has responsibility for federal and state funds. So, there's a number of states that also have that experience, as well. And while we received approximately 400,000, in federal funding per year, our JJAC also manages approximately three million per year of JJAC money. And all of that, whether it's the federal or the state funding, we use the same process. And, we then make that funding available to what we call our County Continuum of Care. We use county fiscal agencies, local governments, or tribal governments to provide the services and either provide directly or have sub-grantees.

So with that as a backdrop of our system, that we're administering with the JJAC funding, last summer, our JJAC was reconstituted with new members, JJAC then decided ... The new JJAC, approximately 11 of the 20 members were new members, nine continued. But they decided to reorganize, and as they were doing that, they developed a planning work group so that we began the strategic planning process by July, August last summer. And the first thing that this work group was interested in was doing a statewide survey. And we did that statewide survey in English and Spanish. We had 1,200 responses statewide, 800 from community stakeholders, 400 from youth and parents.

So, as we were getting that great information, we now had a new subcommittee structure created. And, we had a planning and legislative subcommittee that was organized that, under JJAC, took the responsibility from this work group and took on the overall responsibility. So, they started to define their role, managing the process and managing the timeline for developing the plan with Children, Youth, and Family Department, which I work for the Designated State Agency. And we identified an interest in holding a planning retreat, even if it was virtual, and making sure, excuse me, that all JJAC members had shared information and shared data to plan from.

So they also were interested in having technical assistance from CCAS and receiving facilitation support with the process as well as with the retreat. So with the help of Cassy, with our planning and legislative subcommittee, we came up with doing two Lunch and Learns as a way of providing the data, letting

them see last year's, I mean, last plan's priorities and the progress on it to date to set that base before going into then a two-day, two session per day, two and a half hours for a total of 10 hours across two days, planning sessions that we held April 15th and 16th. Cassy did an amazing job facilitating our board members. We had 16 out of 21 board members available and able to participate.

And from that, they were able to draft goals and objectives and begin their action planning, as well, on a number of those items. So, as next steps, we're now at that stage of finalizing goals and objectives of which they'll vote on. And then, as we have that, we will then work to align with federal priorities and federal funding, how it impacts our state funding as well. So, that's our next step, and then our planning and legislative subcommittee will continue with their responsibility monitoring the implementation of the plan, and I would project seeing quarterly updates on progress with implementation of the plan.

Chatbox Comments

- **Riise Richards, VI** – In the Virgin Islands, we have formed Committees and each Committee had the responsibility of formulating Goals and Objectives for each respective Committee. Our next step will be to meet to review and approve these goals and objectives. The final product will be presented during a press conference to the community for their input. Based on their response, we will assess the input and incorporate their input into the elements that will become part of the 3-year plan.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you so much, Bill. I will say one wonderful strategy that New Mexico took that's slightly different than what Illinois or New York ... Goodness, New Mexico took that's different than Illinois is utilizing that planning and legislative committee to drive it, the social capital that the group had with other members, the ownership that they had. And then also leveraging the expertise of your Designated State Agency staff as they really do have a solid understanding of the data, of the statutes, both for your state and your federal expectations. And so you were able to be quick with the answers that prevented the SAG from getting stuck in their processes.

And so, having those experts at the table to be partners with the SAG I think helps move your all's process together. Not to mention the expansive survey that you did with stakeholders across the state and how that can really inform the work. So, I want to say “thank you” to New Mexico and Illinois for sharing. And then, also “thank you” to Ms. Richards in the Virgin Islands for sharing what the Virgin Islands are doing.

Chatbox Comment

- **Riise Richards, VI** And they've formed committees, and each committee has a responsibility for formulating goals and objectives for their committee. Then they'll meet to approve those goals and objectives, and the final product will be presented during a press conference to the community for their community.

Yeah, I love that idea. What a wonderful way to get the voice of all of those that might be interested. And then based on their response, you'll assess the input and incorporate it into your three-year plan. Thank you so much. Others are welcome to share. I also want to invite others to ask questions of our two folks that are sharing what their state has done, or to share your own experiences in your respective states and territories. Any questions for our speakers? Thank you, Rick, Andrea, and Bill for your commitment to working together as DSA and SAG staff. And I know I can say this, for each of you please feel free to reach out to any of them directly. I have no doubt that they'd be happy to share their processes and any of the stumbling blocks or successes they experienced along the way.

V. Feedback: SAG Chair/Member Certificate Program

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

All right, I am going to switch gears a little bit here and actually transition from asking you all for feedback to sharing some opportunities that are coming down the pike. And then get a little bit of your ideas around ways that technical assistance and training can continue to support the work that you all do as State Advisory Group members. So first, we want to share a little bit about the State Advisory Group Chair Certificate Program that will be offered next fiscal year. However, we are beginning to build the certificate program, and want to make sure that the certificate program that is being built fits the needs of State Advisory Group members and chairpersons.

And so, we have offered currently certificate programs for juvenile justice specialists, and compliance monitors. We will offer at our RED Coordinator certificate program in the next several months, and then we'll be able to offer this one. And those are opportunities for regular training calls and support from peer mentors to really tackle your role as a State Advisory Group chairperson. And so, as we begin to build this program, we look to you all as current State Advisory Group members to help us think about what information, tools, or discussions would be helpful to you and your fellow State Advisory Group members within the certificate program. So again, please take a minute to put that in the chat box or asked to be unmuted and share it out loud.

We also welcome you to take that question to your State Advisory Group or your State Advisory Group executive committee and reach back out to CCAS with those thoughts and questions. We will happily take that feedback now or in the future. So, I will pause and give folks a minute to share their suggestions in the chat box. Thank you, Katie for putting the link to [OJJDP's website](#) in the chat box. That's a space to find contact information for other states or to read their past three-year plans.

Go ahead, Ms. Katie.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

I just wanted to add a little bit more about the certificate programs if I could. Recognizing the importance and complexity of this work, OJJDP leadership sought to develop a comprehensive and timely professional development opportunity for not only new Designated State Agency personnel, but also new State Advisory Group members responsible for adhering to the requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and in administering the Title II Formula Grants Program. And so, it's to this, end that OJJDP partnered with us at the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States, as well as a wealth of seasoned DSA personnel from the states and territories, to develop position-specific programs.

And the purpose really is, as Cassy said, to provide that professional development for new DSA personnel and SAG members, to orient new DSA personnel and SAG members to the roles and responsibilities of their positions, to facilitate peer-to-peer support by engaging seasoned DSA personnel and SAG members. And then really to establish a cohort of training participants that really can provide ongoing support to one another, and we're really finding that is occurring.

And so this is what these certificate programs are all about. So as Cassy said, we're certainly looking for your input to think back to when you were a new State Advisory Group member, what did you know? What did you really feel like you needed to know in order to be effective in your position? That's what

we're really hoping to include here is really just the nuts and bolts of making folks feel prepared to engage in their goal. And Cassy, it does look like we have some input.

Comments from the States/Territories:

- **Riise Richards, VI** – My focus area would be on training, to enable and empower the members of the Board to have all the tools and advise to our members on their committee areas.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

I'm seeing some from Ms. Richards in the Virgin Islands, sharing a focus on training to enable and empower the members of the board to have the tools and advise our members on their committee errors. So, it sounds like some of that leadership dynamic that your SAG chair's take in driving numbers forward. Thank you. Other thoughts are welcomed. And again, we invite you to take this question to your State Advisory Group or process it as a State Advisory Group or as DSA staff with your State Advisory Group and bring that back to us at the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States. You can reach out to any of us staff directly or you can send it to the [CCAS inbox](#), and we will happily take that information as well.

All right. Katie, I'm going to kick control over to you to talk about the next cool opportunity, to connect what's coming down the pike with the CCAS Information Hub. So, let me stop sharing and make you the boss to share your screen.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

All right. You should have the baton.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay, let's see. I just need to ... Let me see just working now to share an application. Let's see if I can ...

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

And while Katie is doing that, please feel free to chime in with any thoughts you might have on the certificate program or any of the other conversations we've had so far today.

VI. Resources and Upcoming Opportunities

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay, so I just wanted to make sure I was sharing the correct screen so everybody sees the CCAS Information Hub here?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Yes, ma'am.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay, fantastic. So, you have likely seen a few emails. We had our first demonstration, as well as, question and answer session about our newly launched, what we're calling the CCAS Information Hub. And I'm going to describe a little bit about what that is. We had our first orientation to it last Thursday, and our next one is scheduled, and we'll be sending an email out with this information, for Thursday,

May 6th, from 2:00 to 3:00 PM Eastern. But essentially, the CCAS Information Hub, there are two components of it, there is a [website](#) that's accessible to all. And that's what you would see coming into the site if you are not a member.

And then we have a password protected portion of the site. So, if you look in the top righthand corner, you can actually log into the site. So, all SAG chairs should have been added to the site, as well as, given your username and password. But this site allows you really, to collaborate with others. So, we're pleased in partnership of course, with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, State Relations and Assistance Division to launch this newly revised and integrated CCAS website and community of practice. And we're calling it for short, the CCAS Information Hub. So, it is, as you can see here, a virtual community of practice welcoming all stakeholders who are interested in developing a continuum of Juvenile Justice Services from prevention to intervention to re-entry.

It's a space where you can share resources our best practices, as well as request high quality, research driven TTA. And we're going to be going, on May 6th, into much more detail about all of the different features of the site. But what I want to draw your attention to now is we have several communities that you have been added to depending on your role. And so, if I click on the Designated State Agency personnel, the SAG chair group is right in here. And if I then click on this, it's going to take me to a space that's just for State Advisory Group chairs and other members. Of course, we can add to this as well. But what you'll see is information from past calls, including the call recordings, and call materials.

And you'll also have an opportunity to be able to create discussion boards to facilitate interaction with your colleagues, place events of maybe exciting things that you've got going on in your state or territory that you want to invite people to. And even share resources or example, maybe SAG orientation materials or other things that you've developed that you want to share with others and see theirs. So, this is a really neat space for you to be able to collaborate with others as well as see upcoming events, request training and technical assistance. We've actually linked to [OJJDP's TTA 360](#) here. So, we're really just excited to share this with you, and all of the resources that are contained on it.

And again, coming up soon, just next week - May 6th, Thursday, from 2:00 to 3:00 PM Eastern, we'll have a really detailed site demonstration, and also question and answer session. Just two quick things to note up here in the right-hand corner, you'll also see a link to [site tutorials](#). And the site tutorials allowed you to see how to update your...well, first, how to log into the community of practice overall, how to edit your user profile. You can include your picture, share more information about where you work, what your role is, and even it demonstrates how to add new resources.

The other thing that I quickly wanted to orient you to is that we do have a section for website for Community of Practice feedback. This really is a resource for the field to really facilitate that peer-to-peer interaction and one-stop shop for information. So, if you have some thoughts or ideas about how we can improve the user experience or enhance the site, we want to hear from you. So, we would greatly appreciate any ideas that you have. But please, take some time and maybe one of my colleagues has already placed the [address for the site](#) here in the chat box. But please take some time to explore the site and consider attending that orientation session next Thursday. So, does anybody have any questions? Cassy, do you see anything in the chat, perhaps, folks' thoughts or ideas?

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

I don't see any yet.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay. So, throughout the call, also at the email address we've provided you that CCAS@air.org, please feel free if you have any issues with access, or have any thoughts or ideas reach out to us or even just navigate that right through this site. So, unless anyone wants to add anything else, I think I can stop sharing at this point, Cassy, and turn it back over to you.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you, Katie. So, Katie, you have to give me back control. I can't take it back from you.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay. Just a second, Cassy, while I do that?

Dr. Lisa Hutchinson, Director, CCAS

Katie and Cassy, I'll put that link, [the address](#) in the chat box to the community of practice info help.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Okay, great. Okori, just a quick reminder on how I give Cassy back control.

Okori Christopher, Project Technology Specialist, CCAS

Or I'll move it to Cassy.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Fantastic.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Okori did that for us. We love Okori very much. He keeps us all moving forward. Just a couple of opportunities to share with everyone today, and that is our friends at the [Tribal Youth Resource Center](#), which is the Training and Technical Assistance Center funded by OJJDP, had a wonderful conference just a few weeks ago. And their [materials](#) are all still live on that website. And so, if you weren't able to attend to that event, we encourage you to check it out, watch some recordings, engage with that Technical Assistance Center, particularly as you look towards your tribal partnership, efforts on your State Advisory Group. A wonderful resource material there for you.

We also want to just flag that there will be a 2021 National Training Conference later this year. We are finalizing the dates and we'll have a save the date out to you shortly. In the interim, though, we are very, very interested, if you haven't caught the theme yet, and your ideas for topics and activities for what will be another virtual event. We hope you could share those with us at CCAS. You can share them with your Designated State Agency staff. And they could share there that their SRAD, get them to us or whatever works. We'll also be looking for folks to serve on a field advisory committee to help plan that event. So if you're interested in participating in the field advisory team, please reach out to me at cblakely@air.org, and we can work with you to get your ideas captured for content at the conference.

The other opportunity we'd like to mention is that we will be offering twice per year SAG 101 trainings. That will be open to all State Advisory Group members. And we're going to do it a little differently than we did last fall. So, what we're going to do is break the content of that training, which is about 90 minutes, if we don't have a lot of discussion, into four shorter recorded videos that will be posted on the [Community of Practice Information Hub](#). And we encourage folks to watch those videos at your discretion whenever it works for you. And then join our discussion sessions. And these discussion

sessions will be your opportunity to ask questions of OJJDP, of CCAS about the content that you heard, to talk with your colleagues at other states about how they apply that information to their local state or territories, realities, and context. And just dig into that information in a little more detail while still having the opportunity to watch the videos at your own convenience. And so, you'll notice we do offer two times for each of the chunks of content. So, we'll break it up. There'll be a video on the history of the JJRA. There'll be a video on the four core requirements. One on SAG membership and their responsibilities. And a final on three-year planning in Title II.

And so, we will talk about those sessions. We hope that offering a session during the business day and one during the evening accommodates the multiple time zones, and hopefully creates opportunities for young adult members to join those training sessions. And then those videos will be live on the website year-round, so you'll be able to watch them whenever you have new members join or if you just want a refresher yourself. One other opportunity we would like to share is that the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States will be offering a [summer intern position](#). And we really hope to fill this internship position with a young adult who has been involved in the State Advisory Group in their state or territory. It is a paid position that could be offered up to full-time and would be occurring remotely from wherever that young adult is located.

So as State Advisory Group and Designated State Agency folks, we invite you, and encourage you, and ask you to share that opportunity. And I'm going to ask one of my colleagues to pop it in the chat box for you. Share that opportunity with the young people, SAG members that you have in your state or territory. If you have any questions, or if they have any questions about that opportunity, please feel free to reach out. Resumes are due by May 7th, and we'll be holding interviews the following week. So please feel free to share that opportunity with others once it gets dropped here in the chat box. I'm going to pause and ask if there are any questions on any of the upcoming learning opportunities or resources available to you as State Advisory Group members. CCAS team, OJJDP team, anything that I may have missed?

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Cassy, Kia is in the process of putting that information you requested in the chat box but she's having some trouble getting it in there. So, give us a minute and we'll get it in there.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

I see Katie got it. Thank you, Katie.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Thanks.

Question from the States/Territories

Riise Richards, VI – Great idea for the SAG Chairs. What is the process for accessing the website?

Dr. Katie Penkoff, CCAS – To access the CCAS Information Hub, visit <https://ccastates.org/>. On the top righthand corner of the site, click on Log In. Next click on the Reset Your Password tab and enter your username of your work email address. Your username has been set for you and is your first initial and your last name (e.g., Jane Doe's username is jdoe). For brief tutorials on logging into the site, editing your user profile, and adding resources to groups, please visit <https://ccastates.org/website-tutorial-videos>. Please reach out to CCAS@air.org if you have any difficulty accessing the site.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Right. Oh, thank you, Ms. Richards. It may be a question for you. But Ms. Richards in the Virgin Islands asked about accessing the Information Hub.

Dr. Katie Penkoff, Senior TA Consultant, CCAS

Ms. Richards, I am putting the website here. And hopefully you got an email that was generated by the system with your username and password. And if you did not, what we will do is I will make note and reach directly out to you to make sure that you are on the site, and that you do have access. And I do believe I have some information we sent out via the last listserv about it that I can post right here in the chat box as well. So, let me go ahead and do that.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you, Katie. Any other questions on any of the opportunities coming up or feedback on the opportunities or questions so far?

As always, if you have an idea later, give us a call, shoot us an email. We're happy to hear from you at any time. That is our conversation for today. Before we wrap up, I do want to note two things. First, please, please, please make sure that you were accounted for it by putting your name and state or territory in the chat box. If you are joining with other people, please include anyone who might be joining with you. And otherwise, I will turn it over to Dr. Bradford for any closing remarks.

VII. Closing Remarks

Dr. TeNeane Bradford, Associate Administrator, SRAD, OJDP

Thanks, Cassy and Katie, Marisa for opening all the SAG representation on the call. Appreciate you. So very glad that we can engage you. We're hoping that this will be helpful. Give your program managers a call if you're just trying to figure out how to navigate some of this more operational stuff that CCAS has given you plenty of resources; they are the hub. We mean very intentionally to be what you need us to be in terms of supporting your State Advisory Group efforts. So just wanted to say hello, close out with a lot of thanks, and reassure you that we're here to support you. Thanks to the CCAS team, Marisa, again, for opening the call and for providing such significant information.

Cassy Blakely, TA Consultant, CCAS

Thank you, Dr. Bradford. And with that, we'll close out today's call. We will keep the line open for just a minute or two to make sure that everyone is able to let us know that they were here via the chat box. Otherwise, we look forward to hearing from you in approximately three months or sooner if you need anything from us. Enjoy the rest of your week.