

**Massachusetts Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
Risk Assessment Subcommittee Charter**

Purpose

The purpose of the Risk Assessment Subcommittee is to develop and test a Risk Assessment Instrument for Massachusetts, make recommendations to the Statewide Steering Committee as to how the instrument could be implemented, and oversee implementation.

Committee Membership and Organization

Committee membership is voluntary, and open to any juvenile justice stakeholders. The Committee seeks individuals with experience or expertise in the development or testing of objective assessment tools and/or knowledge of decision points in the Massachusetts juvenile justice system. Specifically, involvement from DYS, probation, the juvenile court, the pilot detention facilities, the defense bar, and the pilot site District Attorney's offices is essential.

Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least monthly, and more often as its members deem necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities.

Committee Responsibilities and Authority

The Committee shall have the following authority and responsibilities:

Phase One

- Identify the goals of detention risk assessment screening.
- Review existing Risk Assessment Instruments.
- Develop draft instrument in concert with Annie E. Casey Foundation technical assistance providers.
- Make recommendations to the Statewide Steering Committee and pilot site steering committees regarding the point in the system where the RAI should be applied.
- Field test and validate the draft instrument.
- Revise RAI and submit final working draft to Statewide Steering Committee and pilot site steering committees.
- Work with Data Subcommittee and other subcommittees as needed.

Phase Two

- Present a plan for RAI implementation to the Statewide Steering Committee.
- Create a policy guide for the implementation of the RAI.
- Oversee training for staff and stakeholders who will be using the RAI, or whose decisions may be impacted by it.
- Oversee RAI implementation with support and oversight from DYS management.
- Work with Data Subcommittee and other subcommittees as needed.

Phase Three

- Work with stakeholder agencies to create a plan for the regular monitoring of RAI.
- Develop intervention plans as needed to address issues with the implementation of the RAI, or the accuracy and validity of scoring.
- As needed, advise the Statewide and Local steering committees and other subcommittees on risk assessment development and monitoring.
- Work with Data Subcommittee and other subcommittees as needed.

Deliverables

- Subcommittee Workplan
- Draft Risk Assessment Instrument
- Field Testing and Validation Report
- Final Risk Assessment Instrument
- Recommendations on Implementation
- Policy Guide
- RAI tracking data sheet

Authorizing Signatures

As the chair of the Detention Reform Statewide Steering Committee (SSC), I authorize the members of the Risk Assessment Subcommittee to fulfill the role(s) described above for as long as this charter remains in effect.

SSC Chair

Date

As the chair of the Risk Assessment Subcommittee, I accept responsibility for the tasks above, and will regularly report progress to the SSC.

Risk Assessment Subcommittee Chair

Date