

## Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY)

### Quarterly Meeting

Illinois Health and Human Services Transformation

Thursday, June 22, 2017

### *Get to Know Our Panelists*

*Twitter handles listed when available*

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#### **Lisa J. Betz, LCSW, LCPC, Deputy Director**

Child and Adolescent Services

Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health | [dhs.state.il.us](http://dhs.state.il.us) | @DHScommunicator

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Lisa Betz, LCSW, LCPC, is the Deputy Director for Child and Adolescent Services with the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health. In her current role, she serves as the subject matter expert for the administration of Child and Adolescent mental health services statewide. Prior to serving in this role, she has had over nine years' experience working within the Division of Mental Health, Bureau of Child and Adolescent Services as the Associate Deputy Clinical Director, and the Mental Health and Schools Coordinator.

Lisa has a Masters of Social Work Degree, with an area of concentration in Child, Family and Community Services, and a Type 73 School Social Work Certification from the University of Illinois at Chicago; and a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Social Work from Iowa State University.

*Department Description:* Through collaborative and interdependent relationships with system partners, it is the Mission of the Division of Mental Health, the State Mental Health Authority, to assure the provision of a recovery-oriented, evidence-based, community-focused, value-dedicated and outcome-validated mental health service system, in order to build the resilience and facilitate the recovery of persons with mental illnesses and to help maximize community supports and develop skills for persons with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance.

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#### **Heidi E. Mueller, JD, Director**

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice | [illinois.gov/idjj](http://illinois.gov/idjj)

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Director Heidi Mueller was previously named Deputy Director of Programs for the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice in 2014. In that role, Mrs. Mueller served as the principal policy-making official for all of the Department's programs including healthcare, behavioral health services, vocational and recreational programming. In addition, Mrs. Mueller conceptualized and implemented the core IDJJ intervention and behavioral management programs.

Director Mueller earned her degree in Psychology and History from Macalester College. She also received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Chicago Law School.

*Department Description:* The mission of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice is to enhance public safety and positive youth outcomes by providing strength-based individualized services to youth in a safe learning and treatment environment so that they may successfully reintegrate into their communities.

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**Heather O'Donnell, JD, Senior Vice President of Advocacy and Public Policy**

Thresholds | thresholds.org | @ThresholdsCtrs

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Thresholds is an Illinois-based community mental health provider that serves over 15,000 individuals living with significant mental health conditions. Heather leads Thresholds' public policy and legislative efforts and also spearheads an advocacy coalition of over 150 mental health and substance use providers across Illinois. She has extensive experience in mental health and healthcare policy, as well as fiscal policy. Prior to Thresholds, Heather served as Director of Planning for Healthcare Reform at CJE SeniorLife, where she successfully designed a federal healthcare reform demonstration program with numerous hospitals and nursing homes across Chicago. She served as the Policy Director for Health Care and Human Services at the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability with a focus on public healthcare finance for over six years. Prior to that, Heather worked for Lawyers for Human Rights in Johannesburg, South Africa. Heather practiced corporate law for eight years before moving into the public interest sector. She holds a J.D. from the South Texas College of Law, an LL.M. in Taxation and is licensed as a CPA in Illinois.

*Organization Description:* Established in 1959, Thresholds provides healthcare, housing, and hope for thousands of persons with mental illnesses and substance use disorders in Illinois each year. Through care, employment, advocacy, and housing, Thresholds assists and inspires people with mental illnesses to reclaim their lives. Thresholds is one of the oldest and largest providers of recovery services for persons with mental illnesses and substance use disorders in Illinois. They reject the notion that anyone is a lost cause, utilizing evidence-based practices and a wide range of supports to treat the whole person, rather than just the disease.