

JUSTICE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEE
8 June 2016 Lincoln, Nebraska

MEETING MINUTES

The Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) of the Community Corrections Division met Wednesday, June 8, 2016, at Trabert Hall, 2202 S. 11th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was open to the public and was preceded by advance publicized notice in the *Lincoln Journal Star*. The meeting was held at Trabert Hall to offer video conferencing for members who travel distances. Kathy Seacrest, Christine Chasek, and Tom Maxson attended by video conferencing.

Members Present:

Christine Chasek (video)
Shari Dawson / Linda Wittmuss
Kim Etherton
Ingrid Gansebom
Cathy Gibson-Beltz/Anne Hansen
Kathleen Grant
Lori Griggs
Joan Huss
Natalie Johnson
Randy Kohl/Stephanie Bruhn
Linda Krutz
Tom Maxson (video)
Joe Nigro
Brenda Rohren
Lisa Sample
Julie Scott
Kathy Seacrest (video)
Ryan Spohn / Laura Schoenrock
Shane Stutzman
Joe Swoboda

Members Absent:

Angie Apherpe
Scott Carlson
Dave Carver
Darrell Fisher/ Michael Overton
Tony Green/Nathan Busch
Troy Greve
Dallas Massey*
Deb Minardi/Gene Cotter
Bruce Prenda*
Adam Proctor
Steve Rowoldt / Jacey Nordmeyer*
Mike Tolley*
Nancy Wilson-Hintz

Division Staff Present:

Kitty Policky
Laurie Holman

Others Present:

Amy Prenda / Justice Reinvestment
Tiffany Mullison / DHHS

* Indicates excused absence

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Linda Wittmuss, Deputy Director, Systems Integration, Division of Behavioral Health, called to order the June 8, 2016 meeting of the Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) at 9:10 a.m. at Trabert Hall, 2202 S. 11th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. It was announced that the meeting was subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and was duly posted and published in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and the agenda was kept current in the office of the Crime Commission. Materials used for the meeting were available in the public folder for inspection. A copy of the Act is displayed. Attendance is indicated above. Known absences are as follows: Dallas Massey, Bruce Prenda, Designee Jacey Nordmeyer, and Mike Tolley. Video conferencing: Tom Maxson, Christine Chasek, and Kathy Seacrest. Each member introduced him or herself and their association with the committee. Nancy Wilson-Hintz announced she would be leaving NOVA to become the CEO of the Nebraska Humane Society.

Guests: Tiffany L. Mullison, DHHS and Amy Prenda, Justice Reinvestment.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members reviewed the March 9, 2016 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Shane Stutzman and seconded by Brenda Rohren to approve the March 9, 2016, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

3. MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE REVIEW

Membership began with a request for a motion to approve Ingrid Gansebom, Region IV director, to fill position #10 vacated by Linda Wittmuss and a new position. Gansebom gave a brief background to members.

A motion was made by Kathy Seacrest to approve Ingrid Gansebom, director, Region IV to fill #10 position as a representative from the Behavioral Health Regions and seconded by Shane Stutzman. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Wittmuss reported that there was a hire for the DHHS Division of Medicaid and Long Term Care but that individual was not able to be present for the meeting.

Adam Proctor, representing Magellan, has taken a new position so a replacement has been requested but there has been no response to date.

4. SPEAKER / TIFFANY L. MULLISON

Tiffany Mullison, Suicide Prevention Outreach Specialist, DHHS, Division of Behavioral Health was invited to speak to members about Suicide Prevention Grant and tools available for assistance.

The Youth Suicide Prevention Grant came to the Division of Behavior Health about three years ago for three years. There was no option to renew until 2014 and that renewal was for five years. The juvenile population is presenting a diagnosed or undiagnosed a higher likelihood of suicidal ideation and behaviors are highly prevalent among youth in contact with the juvenile justice system as evidenced by the graphic handouts for suicide by year and age group. The graphics indicate the prevalent method of suicide is firearm accounting for nearly half the deaths followed by suffocation. The total number of suicides, ages 5-24 in Nebraska in 2014 totaled 40 deaths.

In response, Nebraska submitted an application in 2014 to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for assistance. \$730,000 a year comes to the Division of Behavioral Health which in turn is contracted to the regions with each Regional Behavioral Health authorities in Nebraska annually getting about \$63,000 to only focus on youth suicide prevention for ages 10-24 rendering opportunities and options for various organizations to provide evidence-based services. The purpose of the Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention Project is to prevent suicides and reduce the number of suicide attempts for youth in K-12 schools and youth at high risk for behavioral disorders ages 10-24. Several evidence-based practices were discussed and members were encouraged to take an online offering to better serve and develop competencies in the arena of suicide prevention and support to survivors.

Opportunities for grants exist in two initiatives: Planning Grant and Research Project Grant. Nebraska has every possibility of success applying for competitive dollars.

The handouts are attached and considered part of these minutes.

5. PAROLE ADMINISTRATION UPDATE / ANNE HANSEN

Anne Hansen, Deputy Parole Administrator, informed members of the many changes to the Department of Corrections and with the passage of LB598 as Parole Administration would be placed under the Board of Parole by July 1, 2016. The placement will cause considerations as the

Department of Corrections performs many services such as payroll, finance, and purchasing to mention a few.

At this time, Hansen announced Parole Administrator Cathy Gibson-Beltz retirement and expressing thanks for the many years of service. Julie Micek has been hired as the director of the Division of Parole Supervision and Services as it will become after the July 1st transition.

The department is continuing to work on custodial sanctions for parolees under LB605 which were only done in 30-day options which defeated the purpose. Taking someone from a home, job, or treatment for a thirty day sanction doesn't contribute much for their re-entry. The Legislature did change the option to 60 days of custodial sanctions.

Parole is working on a behavioral matrix of both sanctions and incentives for changing behavior. Parole also has selected the strong R risk assessment, a tool that determines criminal risks and needs as well as a case management component. Training will start immediately and will last for two weeks. The assessment tool will be of assistance to the Parole Board.

The link to the voucher system has been re-established and the use of mental health and substance abuse vouchers are available for the parole population. The voucher program runs through Impacts, which is the Probation information system, and are billed by Probation.

Hansen reported application for a collaborative grant with Douglas County, Probation, and Parole for wrap around services such as housing, transitional living, homeless shelters, in Douglas County for parolees and probationers. Douglas County was selected first as it is the largest contributor and willing to work with Parole. Status of the grant should be known by September.

6. PROVIDER SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT / JOAN HUSS

Co-Chair Joan Huss, Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP), Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) reported they have been charged with making recommendations for the expansion of the Standardized Model to include mental health services. It is a work in progress at this time and when the task is complete, the recommendations will be brought before the JBHC members.

7. CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE / LINDA WITTMUSS

Co-Chair Wittmuss presented the Curriculum Sub-Committee Report. Wittmuss briefly reviewed the progress of the Curriculum Subcommittee noting that the Charge Statement has been met with the "Performance Assessment Rubrics" but Wittmuss reminded members that it is imperative to integrate the Rubrics with any curriculum development, orientation of staff, training, or with any HR or supervisory types of activities. We will continue to have members report how they have integrated and implemented the elements into their programs periodically. Also, as we make progress in training, supervision, standards, or level of performance, it is important to carry the changes over to the Rubrics.

Co-Chair Scott requested the Rubrics be sent electronically to members.

8. BREAK

A short break was announced at 10:20 a.m.
Committee reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

9. DATA SUB-COMMITTEE /

Co-Chair Scott reflected on the challenges with the Data Subcommittee and asked members to evaluate the importance of this subcommittee and what members need to do to make it viable and reconfigure as how to make the subcommittee come together at the March meeting.

In considering the tremendous reporting requirements in LB605, it was suggested this subcommittee could become an oversight to review reports and make sure they are completed or perform a critique of information and data collected that can benefit providers and determine how to quantify the process.

Also determined at the March meeting, members did not feel there was a need to change the current charge statement as follows, "To facilitate, coordinate, and make recommendations on issues regarding data and automation relative to the needs and goals of Justice and Behavioral Health. This may include but not limited to: 1. Standardization; 2. Data Sharing; and 3. Report Generalization."

Amy Prenda, a representative of College of State Governments (CSG) informed members that they have a data collection group and a re-entry work team. Data collection remains the thorn in everyone's side and would challenge the JBHC data team to join CSG data team to come up with the master of data collection studies. We need the opportunity to work together. We need to determine who should come to the table and figure out how to communicate with a true systems integration, apples to apples.

Until a vision is actually developed, there is a struggle to identify and articulate what the need is as described by Co-Chair Scott.

To determine how to best organize the group and lay some action steps and considering the next CSG Data meeting is Wednesday, July 27th, perhaps contact with Michael Overton, Linda Krutz, Ryan Spohn and Amy Prenda, for conversations on how best to go forward with some communication between now and the September meeting.

10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE / LAURIE HOLMAN

Laurie Holman, policy analyst for Community Corrections proceeded to review two bills and one resolution on the handout: LR413, LB919, and LB1033. Many of the bills remaining will not be considered but parts of the bills were amended into other bills so they're not completely dead.

LR413 by Senator Watermeier created the Task Force on Behavioral and Mental Health in order to study issues relating to the adequacy of the Behavioral Health Systems, including monitoring the progress of the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health in conducting a statewide needs assessment and developing a strategic plan.

LB919 by Senator Williams. LB915 and LB919 are problem-solving court legislation and were combined leaving LB919. A bill that seeks to expand the use of problem-solving courts in Nebraska to include veterans, mental health, DUI, reentry, and other problem-solving programs. The bill would also state the intent of the Legislature that problem-solving programs use evidence-based interventions, including medication-assisted treatment.

LB1033 by Senator Campbell is intended to develop the plan necessary to meet the integration mandate of the Americans With Disabilities Act. The bill directs DHHS to assess components of a plan which may be in development, consult with other agencies that administer programs serving people with disabilities, and create a stakeholder advisory committee to assist in the creation of a strategic comprehensive plan to address community-based service needs of Nebraskans with disabilities. Requires DHHS to complete a strategic plan by December 16, 2018.

The handouts are attached and considered part of these minutes.

Member Joe Nigro made a request to consider problem-solving courts as the next item for discussion because of time. With no objections, the meeting proceeded.

13. PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS / SCOTT CARLSON

Co-Chair Julie Scott, Justice Behavioral Health Specialist, Probation, announced to the

committee that member Scott Carlson has voluntarily stepped down from his current position and will no longer be serving on the committee. Carlson will be working in Judicial District 4A in the Omaha area and will assist with the veterans' treatment court. Chief Bob Dutton, Judicial District 6, will be serving during the interim searching for a replacement.

The Supreme Court Problem Solving Court Committee, chaired by Judge Doyle, created two subcommittees to work specifically around the veterans' treatment courts and the mental health courts. The veterans' treatment court is being overseen by Judge Ashford and Judge Colburn. Committees are looking at policy, procedure, and protocol and what would be needed for Supreme Court approval for the structure and sustainability of the court as well as funding.

Member Joe Nigro is the chair for the mental health subcommittee for the mental health treatment courts addressing the same issues as policy, procedure, protocol, sustainability, and funding.

Returning to the agenda, Co-Chair Wittmuss proceeded to the next item.

11. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE / LINDA WITTMUSS

Co-Chair Wittmuss reported a centralized data system was started at the end of May with over 1,000 users. Although there have been hiccups, everyone has worked together to go forward.

Comprehensive Needs Assessment continued with communication to determine needs assessment defined as the process of determining what issues are important to customers and systems served by the Public Behavioral Health Systems. As quoted, "the input of concerned Nebraskans is essential in helping to shape the state's behavioral health system." The information collected is confidential and will tie into the Strategic Planning initiative. The Strategic Planning initiative for 2017-2020 must be done by the end of December.

University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health is doing the needs assessment survey and data analysis. The survey is live on line and will close June 15th.

Implementation of an emergency system mapping project will begin with emergency coordinators and key stakeholders at the end of the month with a consultant.

The issue of prescription drug monitoring and opioid addiction is a great concern. DHHS Division of Behavioral Health is working with the Public Health Department, who is responsible for implementing the prescription drug monitoring program and starting the processing of data entry and tracking of prescription drugs which must be in place by next January.

Co-Chair Scott made a request to consider Sex Offender Update as the next item for discussion. With no objections, the meeting proceeded.

14. SEX OFFENDER UPDATE / GENE COTTER

Co-Chair Scott reported in the absence of Subcommittee Chair Gene Cotter.

The handout of proposed credentialing requirements of sex offender evaluators/treatment providers was presented for review at prior meetings. Members felt the credentialing rubric be returned to the committee as some sort of a "practicum," or "immersion," especially in rural areas, would be unable to obtain the requisite number of hours to reach expectations. After further consideration, the subcommittee felt it was important to leave the annual expectation in place. However, the rubric suggested standard allows for an immersion of up to 24 hours of the requirement.

In addition, the subcommittee formulated proposed best practice standards in the case management of sex offenders and Nebraska standard reporting format for sex offender evaluations for adult clients. Considering time constraints, members were asked to review for the next meeting.

These initial proposals are to build a workforce and guidelines for application and practice. Committee minutes for the March and May meeting were distributed. Handouts are attached and considered part of these minutes.

Returning to the agenda, Co-Chair Wittmuss proceeded to the next item.

12. PROBATION UPDATE /

Co-chair Scott presented the Probation update. Regarding Justice Reinvestment, to date 299 have received sentences of post-release supervision and while there is an effort to put together case management and community transition plans, there is a gap in regards to the time necessary to go through courts or sit in a local jail. For example, some cases still are receiving a sentence of only 12 hours so they are released in 12 hours or they are out in 30 days. Issues such as medication still exist so individuals in these unique situations are being released without much support at all. There is hope that as PRS becomes part of the sentencing structure. We will see less and less of these incidents. The evaluations, procedures, and processes are a work in progress. For those who have worked in the treatment of the substance use population, financial assistance offered is based on the high-risk, high-need population and is being expanded to include this population with behavioral health needs.

Community and evidence based services initiative or the MST expansion project is under the objective of bringing more in-home intensive services specifically to juveniles. This is the partnership with the Sherwood Foundation and the Omaha Community Foundation in which we have grant dollars to bring these services in Nebraska.

There is continued collaboration working with the regions and divisions on crisis response approach for juveniles in trying to launch a statewide initiative response to mirror what happens in the adult arena. With this goal we could use a crisis response approach to help eliminate the need for elevation to a detention setting or a higher level of care in a supervision setting. Creating together a definition that would not only encompass what probation needs but the system of care approach and options for developing a screening tool that's uniform across the regions for statewide implementation are topics for the region meeting June 29th.

Co-Chair Wittmuss asked if members had any further information to share.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

Co-Chair Wittmuss asked for public comments.

With no further business, the Chair proceeded to adjournment.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Corrections

There being no further business, at 12:01 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kitty Policky
Secretary II