

# MEETING MINUTES – CRISIS RESPONSE PLANNING COMMITTEE

## MEETING INFORMATION

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Date: April 5, 2017 Location: 1801 Fox Drive  
Time: 1:15 PM Meeting Type: CRPC  
Facilitator: Claudia Lennhoff

**Present:** Jim McGuire, Pius Weibel, Janie Miller-Jones, Brooke Garren, Mike Benner, Nancy Carter, Monica Cherry, Jeff Christensen, Julia Rietz, Jamie Stevens, Chris Garcia, Brian Tison, Lori Hansen, Mark Driscoll, Bruce Barnard, Celeste Blodgett

**Absent:** Sheila Ferguson, Allen Jones, Gail Raney, Karee Voges

**Community Observers:** Dottie Vura-Weis

### **Call to Order**

Lennhoff called the meeting to order.

### **Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves and stated their affiliation.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minor changes were communicated prior to the meeting, including corrected spelling of a community observer's name, and the change in spelling from council to counsel, in reference to legal counsel. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2017 meeting with the corrections, and the motion was seconded; the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Public Participation**

Dottie Vura-Weis stated that all meeting minutes and agendas are now posted on the Sheriff's website. Vura-Weis then discussed the difference between pre-trial risk assessment (meant to inform pretrial release decisions) and risk/needs/responsivity assessment (meant to indicate criminogenic risk, and thus inform level of service provision). Vura-Weis stated that Rep. Ammons is working to instate pretrial risk assessment in the State of IL, and provided two examples of pretrial risk assessments: the Public Safety Assessment (PSA), and the Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment.

### **JMHCP Implementation Grant Overview**

#### *Implementation Proposal*

The JMHCP Implementation grant has been submitted. As many as 25 agencies, organizations, and townships signed letters of commitment for this proposal. Many thanks to everyone who helped procure these letters.

As discussed in the CRPC meeting last month, the proposal focused on formalizing a Behavioral Health and Justice Coordinating Council (BHJCC) to oversee activities and

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outcomes of the interactions between the criminal justice and behavioral health systems across intercepts, through the collection and analysis of data, and recommend policy and practice changes based on the data and information gathered.

Support for the Council will be retained. In addition, Dr. Zhang, who has been immensely helpful to the activities during this planning phase, will be retained if the grant is successful to assist with future data needs.

In addition, the proposal included a case manager in the jail, to be employed by Rosecrance C/U, to conduct the LSI-R:SV at the time of secondary screening, for anyone indicated as having a mental health (MH) or co-occurring MH and substance use disorder (COD) via the BJMHS and TCUDS screenings conducted at booking or anyone otherwise referred for MH/COD assessment. Because the LSI-R:SV will be conducted by a behavioral health (BH) treatment provider, an informed consent and release of information (ROI) must also be signed by each individual being screened, in order to share results of the screening across agencies. If a ROI is not signed, individuals' results cannot be shared. However, without a ROI, aggregate data from conducted screenings can be shared.

### *Governing Body (BHJCC), Transition from CRPC to BHJCC*

The BHJCC will function similarly to the CRPC and will involve many of the same agencies, but it will expand to include representatives of hospitals and healthcare providers, and various CJ-related steering committees. As such, at the end of the JMHCP Planning project, the CRPC will disband. And, upon award of the JMHCP Implementation grant, the BHJCC will form. Primary responsibilities for the BHJCC will include: collecting data from the various groups represented, across intercepts of the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM); conducting outcomes analysis; and recommending changes to policy and practice.

### **CRPC Next Steps**

#### *Final Report*

While the proposal for the implementation phase of the JMHCP project has been submitted, not all of the CRPC's work is complete. Several documents will be finalized before the end of this planning phase, including the Champaign County SIM, the P & I Guide, and a final project report. Exercises 9 and 10 remain in the P & I Guide. The CRPC will receive reports before meetings, to give them time to formulate recommended changes. Thus, the CRPC will review and approve all documents, which will be resources for the community and utilized for future policy discussions.

This process began with the belief held by many that there is a need for an Assessment Center, a place where law enforcement can take people with BH issues, instead of jail. This is still an open question, given that, as of March 7<sup>th</sup>, everyone booked into the jail is screened with the BJMHS and TCUDS. Thus, we are just now able to collect data in order to track the prevalence of people with BH issues entering the jail.

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We have also discussed co-responder models, as well as the jail facility. A lot of what we are doing takes place in the jail, and space is not adequate for delivering services. Space, structure, and adequate privacy are all issues that must be considered. Further, the issue is greatly politicized in this community. Often, this issue is looked at as jail expansion, instead of facility improvement for appropriate service provision, which has also been underscored as a need by the community.

In many communities doing this work, the Sheriff's Office is a primary barrier to the progress sought. However, such is not the case here. McGuire stated that many County Board members want to see a softer intake, where people, newly booked into the jail, encounter people asking them questions about their needs versus jail cells. Carter asked about use of the term "jail." Tison explained it is still a jail for people who have committed criminal offenses; however, the envisioned jail would offer the option of services for those who truly need help.

Lennhoff shared a story of a young man who encountered Chris Garcia, an Advocate/Benefits Case Manager at CCHCC, on the street one day, after having met Chris in the jail. The young man thanked Garcia for his work, and relayed that the services received in jail saved his life, and that today he is sober, employed, and no longer involved with the CJ system. Lennhoff went on to say that, while this is a great story, some people get missed due to timing and space constraints, which is what we are working to resolve with future improvements to the system and jail facility.

Stevens agreed with the stated needs, and recommended that formalized employment services, for the population with MI/COD disorders in the jail, be a future consideration. Stevens also recommended an inexpensive educational campaign to educate the public about the purpose and goals of these improvements. Barnard stated that such recommendations should be included in the CRPC's final report.

Driscoll asked about the budgets for both the planning and implementation grants. We do not know where the budget is at, with regard to the planning grant, but can follow-up. The total budget for the implementation proposal is \$262,010.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Barnard and Blodgett will travel to Rapid City, SD later this month, to participate in the Pennington County Justice Peer Exchange, along with representatives from other US counties grappling with many of the same issues we have encountered. The event is fully funded by NACo. Barnard and Blodgett will report back re: information exchanged at the conference.

Barnard will be presenting work accomplished in Champaign County, with regard to implementing screenings in the jail, in two upcoming Stepping Up webinars.

## **MEETING MINUTES – CRISIS RESPONSE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2017.

The meeting concluded at 2:10pm.