

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

June 26, 2014

8:00 a.m.

VM-CCCU-CC

CJCC Members Present (11): John F. Mauro, Angela Connolly, John Sarcone, Sheriff McCarthy, Judge Gamble, Valorie Wilson, Judy Bradshaw, Sally Kreamer, Marilyn Lantz, Gary Mikulec, Karen Walters-Crammond.

CJCC Coordinator (1): Gary Sherzan.

Others Present: Tom Hockensmith, Michael O’Meara, Candy Morgan, Mark Wandro, Sarah Boese, Frank Marasco, Teri Sommerlot, Cory Williams, Pat Coughlin, Dillon Kraft, Kysie Rogers, Jennifer Miner, Bob Glass, Nick Lemmo, Arnold Woods, Marty Ryan, Teresa Baumhoff, Cynthia Stuart-Bishop, Max Knauer, Betty Andrews, Tyrese Andrews, Tony Tatman.

Approval of the April 17, 2014, Minutes

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Sarcone to approve the April 17, 2014, minutes.

I-Leads Committee Update – Frank Marasco (handout)

Average Daily Population (ADP)--As of Monday, June 23, the In-Facility Population is at 923, a very manageable number for this time of year. The different authorities comprising the ADP remain consistent in their numbers; the number of inmates awaiting transport to Oakdale remains low, as transport is doing a great job staying on top of that; ICE numbers remain low.

Bookings and Releases by Year—Bookings-7509; Releases-7547. The real plus here is that the releases are outpacing the bookings. This impact isn’t seen without a collective effort by all of the agencies involved. While there is always room for improvement, the changes being made are proving to be effective.

Bookings and Releases by Month—February, March and April of 2014 ran a little bit lower than in 2013, but it was expected that the numbers would spike in May. However, that didn’t happen, therefore keeping the numbers a little lower. That helps in several ways: By allowing them to reduce the amount of overtime, by making for a much more functional jail, and by putting them in a strong position as they head into the additional summer months.

6 Year Average Daily Population (In-Facility)—These stats are indicating a downward trend, however, Frank doesn’t feel that will continue. Statistical forecasting shows that will likely rise.

Polk County Jail Bookings by Agency—Frank wanted to keep everyone updated on the number of arrests at the Court House, which was 901 for January-May, or 180 per month.

Pretrial Release – Teri Sommerlot (handout)

There are no real surprises in the numbers for pretrial release. In May, in the lowest level of supervision, there were 248 people that were out for 1-30 days, a possible 6,303 jail bed days.

In the highest level of supervision, there were 45 out for 1-30 days, a possible 1,098 jail bed days. They are working on interviewing more people to get them out of jail more quickly.

Post-Booking Jail Diversion –Karen Walters-Crammond for Dave Higdon (handout)

Persons Served by Jail Diversion--The number of persons served remains on a stable path. It was understood from the beginning of the program that there would be persons that they could reach, and those that they couldn't. Another staff member should be added soon, which will hopefully see that number increase.

Number of Bookings by Status—The chart shows that the number of people being booked that are 'not connected' to services is lessening.

Average Length of Stay (Connected vs. Not Connected)—The chart shows that the average length of stay for people who are 'not connected' is rising, while it is decreasing for those that 'are connected', proving it is helpful for people to get connected to health services.

Legal Outcome—From 2013 to 2014, there has been an increase in the percentage of people who have received credit for time served (from 37 % to 45%); there have been a decreases in the percentage of people who have bonded out (from 13% to 8%) and pre-trial (from 7% to 3%).

Bookings by Charge Class—There has been an increase in simple misdemeanors (from 32% to 37%); and decreases in probation violation (from 25% to 21%) and felonies (from 15% to 11%).

Percentage of Days by Charge Class—Felonies take on the largest proportion, however, there has been quite a decrease (from 44% to 29%).

Community Support Census at End of Month—Looking at the numbers month by month, there was a low point during the staff turnover late last year, but those numbers are increasing.

Bridges Substance Abuse Treatment Program—Pat Coughlin for Tom Jackowski (handout)

The total number of clients in the program from April 1 thru May 31 was 101 (72 men, 29 women).

Number of referrals: *April—41 (31 men, 10 women). Of the men, 25 were approved, 6 denied.

Of the women, 7 were approved, 3 denied.

*May—30 (22 men, 8 women). Of the men, 17 were approved, 5 denied.

Of the women, 8 were approved, 0 denied.

{Bridges has a non-violent offender policy. If someone has too serious of mental health issues, or are too violent, they are denied admission into the program.}

Number of admissions: *April—11 (8 men, 3 women).

*May—10 (7 men, 3 women).

Number of Unsuccessful or Medical Discharges: *April—7 (3 men, 4 women).

*May—9 (6 men, 3 women).

St. Gregory's is making headway on the 3.5 Treatment/Detox program. They have secured the Magellan contract, and staff moved in on Monday, June 23. Pat met this week with Bridges Clinical Supervisor and St. Gregory's admissions person. They are looking at their July and August waiting lists to determine how many of those they can move into St. Gregory's right away. Some of the court orders specify that they must first go to Bridges, or Mount Pleasant, etc. Some don't have a court order, or they are just more generic and vague. They are checking with the Parole Officers or Attorney's to see if court orders can be amended, and/or they will accept either Bridges or St. Gregory's. They are getting some differing answers.

Valorie Wilson asked what the significant difference is between Bridges and St. Gregory's?

St. Gregory's is a primary residential facility with a level 3.5 treatment program, typically 30 days, but they will be offering it for 60 days. Bridges is the next level down, level 3.1 halfway house treatment (Phase II).

Judge Gamble asked if the availability of St. Gregory's 60 days upfront will speed up the transition into the Phase III Housing program so they are able to get out of the jail pod sooner?

Yes, because they won't be doing the first 60 days in Bridges where they aren't working. They would be getting St. Gregory's treatment piece, and also Bridges employment piece at the same time, so that when they transfer to Bridges they would have 1-2 weeks of orientation rather than 60-90 days of Phase I.

Valorie asked how long the waiting list is to get into Bridges right now?

It is just about full for August with 101 clients (72 men, 29 women).

Tom Hockensmith asked, as far as the St. Gregory's detox program, is it still an option for the courts to send someone to Mount Pleasant instead of to Bridges?

Gary Sherzan answered that Mount Pleasant is still an option, but that would be a conversation between the defense attorney, the judge, etc.

Valorie added that what is being done now is that the clients are first going to Mount Pleasant. After that treatment is complete, they go back to jail to wait for space at Bridges, and the wait time can be significant.

Gary stated that is what they would like to avoid. Angela Connolly hopes that what will happen is that clients go directly from jail to St. Gregory's, and then to Bridges, and avoid the transport to Mt. Pleasant.

Pat Coughlin indicated that they will be coordinating their waiting lists in the hopes that space is available when a client is presumably ready to enter into the next phase.

Judge Gamble asked if everybody that goes through Bridges will be going through St. Gregory's, and vice versa?

Pat believes that initially they will handle it that way, but he doesn't feel that will be the case in the long term because there will be people that have a referral for primary residential treatment only, with no referral or plan for a longer-term program.

At this point, it is speculation as to how all of this will work. There is ongoing discussion about different issues, for instance, although each is a stand-alone program, some of the space is shared, bringing into question the different sets of housing and management rules each has, who enforces them, and how a violation is handled. These are operational issues, not treatment issues.

Also, there is an ongoing debate between the different agencies as to the subjectivity of the initial assessment and referral for level 3.5 treatment, i.e., if someone is assessed as needing that, then they sit in jail for 3 months; do they still need level 3.5? Can they be reassessed at that time?

Judge Gamble feels that sending some of the population to IRTC will always be an option when it is appropriate, but in other cases, it should be communicated to the Judge, the prosecuting attorney, etc., that Bridges and/or St. Gregory's is a better fit.

Valorie Wilson asked if EFR is still the primary evaluator. The answer to that is yes, but Pat feels that Bridges and/or St. Gregory's need to be added to the list of options that can be picked from when an evaluation is being ordered.

Angela clarified that St. Gregory's is a treatment center, not a detox center in the sense that a police officer can drop an intoxicated individual off there to detoxify. She complimented St. Gregory's on the wonderful job they do with alcohol and substance abuse treatment, and thinks it's a great program, but she also feels everyone needs to know how it will all work.

Pat referred to a round table discussion where there was a lot of debate and confusion on some of the terminology. St. Gregory's doesn't handle someone that is in a medical crisis; they would be treated at the jails' medical facility, but they do have Level 3.7 (detox), as well as Level 3.5 (primary residential).

Judge Gamble took a closer look at the statute and found that there is a provision that allows an officer that is issuing a citation to take an individual to a medical facility. The Judge asked the County Attorney to look into whether that would empower the Sheriff to do a citation release and walk them down to St. Gregory's. That wouldn't necessarily mean that would be a condition of their release, or they could require them to stay. Pat commented that the detox portion of the program is fuzzy and needs to be clarified.

Crisis Observation Center—Angela Connolly (handout)

Last month, Angela, along with several other people, made her second trip down to San Antonio to look at 'Havens for Hope'. Modeled after a portion of that facility, the 'Crisis Observation Center' (C.O.C.), a facility for adults in a mental health crisis, will open in Des Moines on July 10th. The C.O.C., located at 1420 Mulberry Street in the Central Iowa Shelter & Services Building, will be run by the Mobile Crisis Team and Eyerly-Ball. It will also be staffed with a Registered Nurse and counselors.

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, any adult needing mental health support can walk in to the facility and receive treatment, referrals, triage, etc., and can stay up to 23 hours. The center will be equipped with 7 beds, 6 recliners, a T.V. and 2 quiet rooms. The center isn't open yet, but the sign is up outside, and already there have been people come in and ask for help.

Angela thanked Police Chief Judy Bradshaw for her support of the center, and for allowing the Mobile Crisis Team to move from the Police Station to the C.O.C. Judy also thanked Angela, John, and everyone involved for their leadership in getting the C.O.C. off the ground. She feels it will have an incredible impact on the community, including law enforcement. The Mobile Crisis Team has a 56% stabilization rate in the field, and with the walk-in center opening in unison with the shelter, she feels that will be even greater.

Mental Health Awareness Event—Sheriff McCarthy

On May 15, the Broadlawns Foundation sponsored the event at which the Sheriff spoke regarding programs at the jail, law enforcement, and primarily the accomplishments of the C.J.C.C. The list compiled by him, his staff, and Dave Higdon was significant and confirmed all of the progress that has been, and continues to be, made. Sheriff McCarthy asked Angela to comment on the keynote speaker, Muriel Hemingway, who has had several family members that suffered from mental illness and substance abuse. She thought Muriel, and all of the speakers, were great and that Broadlawns did a great job of sponsoring the first-time event, which was attended by 400-500 people.

Open Discussion—

John Mauro thanked the Board for all of their accomplishments, and then entertained a motion to adjourn. Moved by Connolly, Seconded by Sarcone to adjourn until a date to be determined.

(Meeting adjourned 8:50 a.m.)