

Community Conversations
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)
August 8, 2011
8:30 a.m. - Noon
Hy-Vee Hall

CJCC Members present (7): Bill McCarthy, Sally Kreamer, Judge Gamble, John Sarcone, Valorie Wilson, John F. Mauro, Gary Mikulec

CJCC Absent (3): Judy Bradshaw, Marilyn Lantz, Tom Hockensmith

Others present: Tony Timm, Glenn Pille, Brian Brooks, Jean Basinger, Barb Glass, Bob Glass, Kent Hartwig, Steve Waymire, Karen Person, Suzanne Mineck, Tony Tatman, Pete Aguilar, Leonard Peavy, Marcia Blize, Carrie Schouten, Anne Fredrickson, Jeff Grell, Kay Grother, Linda Brundies, Karen Claton, Kay Kopalich, Jan Sears, Ami Anderson, Sue Elliott, Becky Dewey, David Eberbach, Rebecca Buch, Marie Grabenbauer, Beth Baldwin, Scott Ourth, Ed Rund, Rob Gilbert, Betty Grundberg, Mikki Stier, Joe LeValley, Mildred Copen, Lyndsey McGatz, Greg Throckmoitor, Jennifer Miner, Ray Lakers, Cynthia Steidl Bishop, Steve Garrison, Earl Kelly, Bill Price, Teresa Bomhoff, Jeanette Minor, Cathy Talarico, Suzanne Holmes, Jenny Schulte, Lynn Ferrell, Angela Connolly, Merlie Crowley, EJ Giovannetti, Robert Brownell, Marty Ryan, Rachel Gregory, Tony Leys, Sarah Baker, Linda Ford, Kelvin Briggs, Bobby Stanley, Max Knauer, and Eric Burmeister.

Moved by Sarcone, Seconded by McCarthy to approve the June 23, 2011 minutes.

Judge Gamble welcomed everyone to the 2nd Community Conversation for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Marcelo Kort and Kim Landers with Eli Lilly are here to help us facilitate this event. Leon Evans, President and Chief Executive Officer for The Center for Health Care Services in San Antonio, Texas and Gilbert Gonzales, Director of the Communications and Diversion Services for The Center for Health Care Services are our keynote speakers.

Angela Connolly thanked everyone for joining us today and audience members introduced themselves. She thanked Marcelo Kort, who has been with the Eli Lilly Company for eleven years in the mental health advocacy area, for joining us today. She introduced Gilbert Gonzales, who will address the Criminal Justice Coordinator position and how it plays a critical role. She also introduced Leon Evans who will provide an overview of Bexar County's practices, steps for implementation for Polk County and what our next steps should be. She mentioned that several CJCC members had the opportunity to tour the Haven for Hope Facility in San Antonio and meet Leon, Gilbert and their staff.

Overview of Bexar County Programs and Implementation for Polk County – Leon Evans

Mr. Evans started out by saying that in Texas they have been successful due to the community. All solutions are local. Law enforcement dealing with mental health illness is a problem. Law enforcement and mental health professionals have two different views. They've had every state come visit their facility now. Treatment works. He told the story about a federal lawsuit where Texas ended up building lots of prisons. Capacity filled up. An

in-depth report that looked at population in prison recommended getting people out of prison who were not a threat (terminally ill, mentally ill, etc). Texas formed a commission to find non-violent offenders and put them on parole with conditions that they see psychiatrist and have alcohol and drug screens. Less than ten percent in Bexar County were re-arrested with this program. Treatment works.

Most recent studies indicate that 20% of people in jail have a mental illness. In Texas, data was kept on cost and outcomes to prove the effect that therapeutic justice was having and then \$82 million was funded for crisis diversion programs. The cost of a person in jail with mental illness versus treatment outside of jail showed that treatment outside of jail was more effective.

They started the program with board members and agencies saying the plan was a good one, but there was no money to fund it. They ended up partnering to make the program happen. They got a Judge on board to champion their cause, Nelson Wolfe, and a Jail Diversion Oversight Committee (research committee) was established. There were three work groups that looked at law, process and practices. They started by doing Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) with law enforcement officers first. There are on-going Bexar County overviews.

There was discussion and questions about medication for mentally ill prisoners and a medication law for prisoners so they can take their prescriptions while in jail. There is also a crisis hotline (in addition to 911). John asked about the funding for the homeless campus and where did they get the funding. They started the program with no money, kept data on it and once the State saw results they funded. Leon talked about Bill Greehey, an Iowa native, who has invested lots of funding towards the Haven for Hope Campus. Those coming in sign a contract to be there, they get a job and stay alcohol and drug free. For those that don't sign a contract, there is Prospect Garden, a secure outdoor sleeping area. Also, mentally ill and sex offenders are able to get services, be monitored, etc. Cost is \$11 per day, very inexpensive.

Bexar County received a SAMSHA grant that funded mental health workers in the jail, community collaboration and a jail diversion grant. Bexar County provides CIT training, at booking does a cross-match to care system and established mental health court. Bexar kept good data on cost and outcomes. The 23 hour crisis center was established, with Medicaid administration planning 40 – 60% of the costs are reimbursed. They have evening/weekend psychiatrists on call.

Implementation for Polk County would consist of three things:

1. Different agencies are duplicating services. Put all homeless services on one campus. Talk to the different boards and get them involved, get leadership to commit.
2. Have the right people participate on the board (key organizations and leaders)
3. Have someone who works for collaborative, find a way to fund.
4. Have continuous quality improvement. Hold regular meetings to discuss what works (community director's roundtable), what doesn't work, collect and review data, reduce waste and duplication and improve outcomes.

Questions were asked by the audience about where the campus should go? Inside city limits? Also, can other medical personnel be used besides psychiatrists, i.e. medical extenders, physician assistants, etc., have a relationship with the County Hospital and universities. We need to work on legislation that people can obtain benefits while incarcerated to have them when they get out. This is a big problem. Lynn mentioned a Medicaid extension, but does not go into effect until 2013 or 2014. House Bill 2292, jail diversion key component. The faith community needs to also participate. There are roadblocks in getting information (HIPPA laws, etc). Texas has a law that allows police and mental health to share information. States can pass laws to get around that.

The three critical elements to start with are:

1. Oversight committee with key players
2. CIT training for law enforcement (Crisis Intervention Training)
3. An alternative location for jail and emergency rooms

Lynn will post a link on his website with information discussed today (reports, budgets, etc).

CJCC Coordinator Position – Gilbert Gonzalez

Gilbert thanked Ami Anderson for her work on this Community Conversation.

He started in 1984 with Leon Evans. In 2000, they had the first collaboration meeting, not many people attended. At the next meeting they had people committed to the “Jail Diversion Oversight Committee.” Their focus was overcrowding at the jail, operational challenges with law enforcement (CIT training) and a fragmented mental health/substance abuse treatment system. Focus shifted from work within the jail to work with law enforcement. In 2004, they opened with facility with eight court ordered initiatives. There is a copy of the model at www.diversioninitiatives.net. In 2005 Crisis Care Center opened, in 2010, in home recovery center Haven for Hope was established.

There are three things were done based on priorities of the community: focus on integrate behavioral justice and behavioral health care, integrate substance abuse and mental health services and health and behavioral health services, have a system of care for the homeless. Haven of Hope video was shown.

Update on Action Items:

Jennifer Miner, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist gave an overview on Veteran Resources in the Community(handouts) and what kind of help is available to veterans. Veterans Justice is involved in pre-post sentencing. They work with the courts, County Attorney, Public Defender. They ensure vets successfully complete treatment as part of probation and federal funds are available for treatment. They assist with re-entry plans, provide education for law enforcement, courts on veterans issues. 10% of those incarcerated are veterans. 80% are eligible for VA health care, part of Obama initiative to end homelessness. Jennifer can be reached at Jennifer.miner@va.gov.

Valorie gave an update on the CJCC Coordinator position and mentioned they are waiting to see what kind of funding is available for this position. John said the County will step up and fund position, not sure if it will be full-time or part-time to start with. John will talk to the Board and see what they want to spend.

Judge Gamble met with Beth Baldwin, Sally Kreamer, Tony Tatman and Judge Pille on action steps to take regarding prescriptions for persons leaving jail and housing for the mentally ill leaving jail (Medicaid gap), fund for mental health housing, supervisor training for correctional services staff. Sally said they placed a full time supervisor at the jail to help get information to the judges quicker. A mental health court was discussed but currently there are too many gaps. May be able to apply for a grant, but not sure how to go about it yet since there is no staff, no funding for meds, no space, etc. We need a better foundation before implementing the program, similar to the 23 hour facility in Texas.

Lynn mentioned a special appropriation in legislature for counties to eliminate waiting lists. We should know something Friday if we receive this funding. He also mentioned they did an RFP for Forensic Integrated Services Team to provide wraparound services that see frequent interaction in criminal justice.

Russ Frazier provided data regarding the Homeless Camps to Housing initiative the Homeless Coordinating Council established which indicates that there is a direct correlation between arrests and housing.

Marie Grabenbauer mentioned some pilot projects are pending on a training grant for establishment of a mental health court and a juvenile justice systems technology grant.

Leon feels Polk County is well on their way with a vision and leadership to this program. We need to prioritize mental health dollars spent in community and provide an analysis of treatment resources to treat those most at risk.

Angela made closing remarks and said we will concentrate on the oversight committee, CIT training and a 23 hours crisis center. She thanked everyone for coming and participating today.

The next CJCC meeting will be September 8th and the next Community Conversation is scheduled for October 13th.