



Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Mental Health and Public Safety Subcommittee

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Multnomah County Courthouse - Room 338
1021 SW 4th Avenue- Portland, OR 97204

Meeting Notes

Attendees

Judge Nan Waller, Subcommittee Chair

Judge Cheryl Albrecht, OJD

Megan Allen, Multnomah County

Amy Anderson, Cascadia

Kristina Brightman, OJD

John Casalino, MCDA

Mark Hidalgo, Peer Support Specialist Cascadia

John McVay, DCJ

Sharon Meieran, District 1 Commissioner

Sarah Mullen, LPSCC

Mario Odighizwwa, Nami

William Osborne, MHASD

Sarah Radcliffe, DRO

Barb Rainish, Advocate

Neal Rotman, MHASD

Eric Sevos, Cascadia

Kyle Schwab, LPSCC

Chris Thomas, GOBHI

Stu Walker, DCJ

Christina Youssi, LPSCC

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

II. Legislative Updates and Outcomes

At the end of the Oregon Legislative Session, there were some changes related to Mental Health:

- [Senate Bill 973](#)--Previously called Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment, SB 973 aims to improve People's Access to Community-based Treatment, Supports and Services Program administered by Improving People's Access to Community-based Treatment, Supports and Services Grant Review Committee established in Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. The committee will decide on the target population. Final number is \$10 million. Evaluation is required. There is some money for technical assistance around data sharing.
- [Senate Bill 24](#)--Modifies procedures related to criminal defendants lacking fitness to proceed. From the subcommittee, there is concern about people sitting in jail. Judge Waller noted this will only work if there is a place to release people to.

The Sheriff's Association is working on updating its standards.

III. County Updates

Glisan Street House

Neal Rotman noted STP is a transitional housing program for stabilization. In mid-March, the County and Cascadia opened Glisan STP, a co-ed 10-bed facility. They are taking Aid & Assist people from the Oregon State Hospital. The Diane Wade House also has 6 beds available for Aid & Assist, which brings available community beds to about 28.

Neal Rotman noted we are considering a NW Regional Reentry Center concept for regional beds available for surrounding counties. Multnomah County will likely have access to about 15 beds, and will provide structure for higher.



Behavioral Health Resource Center at Bushong Building

Neal Rotman announced the county has purchased a building on 333 SW Park that will house a peer-led behavioral health resource center. There will be some transitional housing and the option to use space for emergency shelter (during inclement weather). There was discussion around the need for security. There will be soft security (trained peers) and some hard security (cameras and more highly trained staff). Still working on the architecture and how to screening for intended population. The opening is over a year out.

A peer advocate noted Rose Haven is a good example of how a similar concept works well (18th & Lovejoy).

Aid & Assist Analysis

Kyle Schwab said LPSCC is in the early stages of conducting an evaluation for the Aid & Assist Rapid Evaluation process. There will be updates at future meetings.

PRA Intercept Mapping

Sarah Mullen announced LPSCC will be working with PRA to analyze Intercept 0 (Community Service) & 1 (Law Enforcement) with the goal to find alternative responses to crisis that is not a law enforcement response. She distributed a Sequential Intercept Model handout.

IV. Disability Rights of Oregon Report and Response

Sarah Radcliffe presented findings in the recent DRO report: [The “Unwanted’s”: Looking for help, landing in jail. An analysis of how trespass arrests at Portland-area hospitals criminalize mental illness.](#)

The report looks at how trespass arrests at hospitals leads to criminal justice involvement. DRO looked at police records and came up with recommendations. Sarah shared stories highlighted in the report.

There was discussion about where people should go other than hospital or jail.

Judge Waller noted we need a culture shift for more acceptance of mental illness.

Recommendations:

- Overhauling trespass policies at hospital. Have a clinical review.
- Enforcement of hospital inpatient and emergency department discharge planning requirements.
- Create non-law enforcement street response teams; police commitment to diversion rather than arrest
- Investments in housing & community-based behavioral healthcare.

The DRO has a [video](#) called Decriminalize Mental Illness.

A peer noted there is now some fear of going to the hospital after seeing the report. Can there be some community engagement, like Know Your Rights training?

The meeting was adjourned.

LPSCC

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