



Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Mental Health and Public Safety Subcommittee

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

11:45 am – 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

Erika Armsbury, Central City Concern

Casey Hettman, Portland Police Bureau

Mark Hidalgo, Peer Support Specialist

Jeff Howes, MCDA

Liv Jenssen, DCJ

Ann Kasper, Empowerment Roots/Advocate

Melissa Marreno, MCDA

Sharon Meieran, District 1 Commissioner

Sarah Mullen, LPSCC

Mario Odighizwaa, Peer Wellness
Specialist

William Osborne, MHASD

Barb Rainish, Advocate

Eric Sevos, Cascadia

Kyle Schwab, LPSCC

Abbey Stamp, LPSCC

Sally Swain, Central City Concern

Chris Thomas, GOBHI

Christina Youssi, LPSCC

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

II. Peer Navigators Implementation

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Captain Nick Jarmer and Captain Stephen Reardon gave an overview of the MCSO Navigator program, which began February 4th, with the goal of reducing recidivism and Failure to Appear (FTA) for those released on Recog. MCSO partnered with Cascadia, CODA, and Central City Concern. Peer Navigators from MHAO guide clients through the process and connect them to continued resources. So far there have been 15-20 positive engagements with peers. As of April, of the 15 positive engagements, there were only 2 who did not have a reduced number of bookings. The navigator works Monday-Friday on day-shift hours, with an average of 1 or 2 peer contacts a day. See the [video](#) for more information.

III. Diane Wade House and Other County Updates

Abbey Stamp noted the Diane Wade House has been up and running since December. There is long-term commitment to do the service well and future sustainable funding is being explored. LPSCC is hiring a Community Engagement Specialist through Safety and Justice Challenge funding.

Commissioner Sharon Meieran noted the HSRI system analysis that was done in 2017, which is now moving in to the implementation process. A small team (representatives from advocacy groups, agencies, peers, etc) is looking at what the implementation process will be.

IV. Aid & Assist Issues

Judge Nan Waller noted there have been meetings with Disability Rights of Oregon and the Oregon State Hospital.

LPSCC

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History: the state hospital has been seeing an increase in Aid & Assist cases. As a result, Multnomah County implemented rapid evaluations, which focus on people in custody with misdemeanor charges. The rapid evaluations are usually completed within a week. In the fall, OHS asked the courts not to sign orders for 30 day observations. Transport is mandated to happen within 7 days of order being signed. The following points were made:

- Need additional beds and be able to take higher level acuity. Talking with Oregon Health Authority about new beds (possibly tri-county) that would have more structure.
- Behind in transporting people to OSH to be treated until fit.
- Some hearings are done in custody.

If legislation passes, there will be changes to the Aid & Assist process that will impact how we do things in Multnomah County.

New courthouse will have a specially designed holding area and civil commitment courtroom.

V. Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment Bill

The Bill is still working its way through. They are meeting next week. Money would come with the legislation through Community Grants. The focus is on people frequently committing lower-level crimes. Requires a local match (monetary or in-kind). Money is set aside for evaluation. Judge Waller can send out a flyer to help with promotion.

VI. Mental Health Court Issues

Judge Waller noted the Mental Health Court in Trieste, Italy. This program focuses on housing, social connection, belonging, and purpose. May provide some insight into improving Multnomah County's Mental Health Court.

VII. Other Agency Updates

The question was asked, can we work with hotels to explore for housing?

VIII. Meeting Frequency Discussion

The group at the table decided to meet every other month from noon-1:30 on the 2nd Wednesday starting in July.

The meeting was adjourned.