



Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Mental Health and Public Safety Subcommittee

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

11:45 am – 1:30 pm

Multnomah County Courthouse - Room 508
1021 SW 4th Avenue- Portland, OR 97204

Meeting Notes

Attendees

Judge Nan Waller, Subcommittee Chair

Judge Cheryl Albrecht, OJD

Erika Armsbury, Central City Concern

Katie Burgard, MCSO

Nathan Clark, Commissioner Stegman's
Office

Ashley Crockett, MCDA

Karolina, Dhanudimuljo, DCJ

Kati Dunn, MPD

Casey Hettman, Portland Police Bureau

Mark Hidalgo, Peer Support Specialist

Renee Huizinga, District 1

Ann Kasper, Empowerment Roots/Advocate

Micky Logan, Oregon State Hospital

Heather Lyons, CSH

Kristen MacLeod, Ada County

Josh McCarthy, MPD

John McVay, DCJ

Sharon Meieran, District 1 Commissioner

Elizalde Mercedes, Central City Concern

Sarah Mullen, LPSCC

Robbie Noche, Multco AMHAAC

Mario Obighizuwa (sp?), Peer Wellness
Specialist

William Osborne, MHASD

Shannon Pullen, District 1

Barb Rainish, Advocate

Neal Rotman, MHASD

Kyle Schwab, LPSCC

Michael Seale, Corrections Health

Scott Snedecor (sp?), Advocate

Chuck Sparks, MCDA

Abbey Stamp, LPSCC

Chris Thomas, GOBHI

Lily Yamamoto, LPSCC

Christina Youssi, LPSCC

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

II. Overview of the National Council of State Legislators (NCSL) Site Visit

Abbey Stamp gave a brief update on the National Council of State Legislators September site visit to Multnomah County. State legislators from across the country were interested learning about justice-involved women, behavioral health, and reentry. There were 3 representatives from Oregon.

- Success: Being able to discuss the issues across the country.
- Challenge: limited opportunity to talk with local legislators about our specific issues.

III. Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE)

Heather Lyons, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), gave an overview and a one-pager of FUSE, a CSH effort. Heather leads a local FUSE project. The following points were made:

- We define what "frequent user" is. The model identifies who touches multiple systems.
- Funded through Meyer Memorial Trust and working with Providence's Center for Outcomes and Research Evaluation (CORE).
- Commissioner Meieran is the political lead.
- Looking at frequent contact with police, bookings and long-term stays in jails, and perhaps parole and probation.

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

- Also looking at the homeless and health systems. Looking at utilization of medicaid and emergency departments and inappropriate ER admits. Engaging Unity as well.
- There was discussion about Aid & Assist and keeping people out of the State Hospital.
- Ann Kasper suggested using the term “vulnerable and resilient” to make more strength-based.
- CSH is also working with Health Systems (collaborative of hospitals).

There was some discussion about racial and ethnic disparities. An equity lens has been applied to who will qualify for 2000 new units. Also working to connect to agencies and services that serve different populations. Meyer Memorial Trust also has a high priority for equity.

IV. Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment

Lily Yamamoto gave an overview and handout about Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment in Oregon. CJC is collecting data for analysis to present to legislators. Looking at both low-level misdemeanors and high-level offenders.

Ann Kasper asked that we keep people in mind who house their friends.

V. Diane Wade House Update

Abbey Stamp and Sarah Mullen gave an update on the [Diane Wade House](#), an afrocentric transitional housing program for justice-involved women. The following points were addressed:

- The house is scheduled to open in late this year.
- Working on firming up processes and programming while site is under construction.
- Multnomah County is preparing to apply for community engagement funding through the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge.
- To assist with planning and engage individuals with lived experience, we held a listening session in April for justice-involved African women.
- There are 8 staff going through extensive training.
- We are building in evaluation.
- Can we include peers to ask them what they will evaluate?
- Aid and Assist and DCJ are the primary referrals.
- Length of stay will likely be between 90 days and 6 months.

Some advocates noted:

- Housing for couples is needed, too.
- Need to implement tools for people with disabilities.

VI. Mental Health Court and Aid & Assist Docket Updates

Judge Nan Waller noted Mental Health Court and A&A Dockets are facing significant challenges. Due to budget constraints and the ending of the SAMHSA grant, staff are being cut, including a Mental Health case manager and a Forensic Diversion staff member. Capacity for these programs is being greatly reduced. The following points were addressed:

- MHASD has been carrying some of the costs of the rapid evaluations.
- Oregon State Hospital is fuller than it has ever been.
- Judge Waller thinks we need a CHIERS van that responds to Mental Health.
- Ann Kasper noted OCAC advises OHA and suggested advocating for funding.

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

- There is a group going to Ohio to look at some AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) courts. There is concern from peers about AOT and medication.

VII. Unity Center Update

Commissioner Meieran brought up the request for a Unity Center update.

- Currently Unity has a plan and a website called Unityfacts.org to highlight findings and reactions to findings.
- So far, it looks like Unity will meet the deadline.
- The center is still down one unit, which is about 20 beds. Otherwise, still in operation.
- Taking ambulances as capacity allows.
- There are 34 vacancies for nursing staff.
- Ann Kasper stated that users don't want to go to Unity. She says court hearings are happening without family being allowed. She suggests peer-run trauma groups for users of Unity.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 22, 2019