

Behavioral Health Sub-Committee
Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division
Connecticut Office of Policy and Management

Minutes

November 6, 2008 9:00 – 11:00 am (Russell Hall, CVH)

In attendance: M. Aiello, D. Bannish, M. Brown, G. DesBiens, G. Holley, E. Leavitt-Smith, M. Norko, M. Peloso, J. Rossi, S. Zanger

- 1. Introductions:** Introductions were made.
- 2. Review of August 14, 2008 minutes:** Minutes were reviewed and accepted, and will be distributed.
- 3. Additions to agenda:** None were offered.
- 4. BH program updates:**
 - A. PJOC & Crime Bill initiatives status report was distributed. Many positions have been filled, others are on track to be filled by January 2009.
 - B. Commissioner Kirk's testimony to the joint meeting of the judiciary and Appropriation legislative committees related to PJOC & Crime Bill initiatives was distributed
- 5. DOC MH Infirmary Bed utilization data:**
 - a. Follow-up report re: pilot analysis project**

Dan Bannish stated that after a review of the data, it would appear that most low bond MH5s tend not to be DMHAS clients.
 - b. Early release for inmates with SMI**

He also reports that an effort is being made to determine why the mentally ill population eligible for early release are not being referred for discharge, and to encourage their early release.

There is currently a grant to look at supportive housing for people being released. They may try to pool housing resources with CSSD and/or collaborate with DMHAS to improve support for these individuals. They may also want to put people on a housing list 12 months before their end of sentence, as done by CORP.
 - c. Co-occurring initiative.**

DOC is combining psychiatric, substance abuse and medical care in a unique correctional initiative. Work has included staff readiness initiatives and groups with inmates at various facilities. A kick-off conference was held.
 - d. TBI prevalence**

DOC is starting to do screenings at Manson Youth Institute for TBI.
 - e. Sex offender community beds RFP**

Results of RFP process are expected soon.

6. CJPAC

a. **Follow-up report [informational] on progress re SO registry**

CT has been working on a risk level registry, although the Adam Walsh act specifies registry levels determined by offense. This has not yet been resolved. The federal guidelines on the Adam Walsh Act were only released in July 2008; it is not known if this affected the deadlines for state compliance, although it is suspected that the deadlines had to be extended.

7. Workgroup updates

a. **Housing/employment**

Because there are other venues in which subcommittee members already meet to discuss these issues, it was suggested that this becomes an agenda item instead of a workgroup. We will have reports from members about progress in this area.

Dan Bannish is seeking 8-10 people to work on a housing committee.

b. **BH Services/system barriers**

- 1) Update re ROI: We are attempting to develop a MOA among CT state agencies in which they attest to compliance of their own ROI form with federal/state requirements, and agree to accept the ROI forms of other agencies that do the same.
- 2) Progress is being made to provide medications in the community for all inmates discharged from DOC. Kudos to Judy Dowd for all her efforts.
- 3) **Because there are other venues in which subcommittee members already meet to discuss these issues, it was suggested that this becomes an agenda item instead of a workgroup. We will have reports from members about progress in this area.**

8. Other Items:

- a. There is a new pilot project in place for JD programs for Veterans w/ PTSD in New London. This will become an agenda item for future discussions.
- b. CORP expansion has gone well at Osborne, with new groups started. Clients and staff are quite pleased with the groups.
- c. The group set a tentative May meeting date of May 14, 2009 unless it conflicts with the full CJPAC.

9. Quarterly Meetings (CJPAC mtgs scheduled for 12/11, 1/15, 2/19, 4/16, 6/11)

- A. **February 5, 2009 - @ 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus**
- B. **May 14, 2009 - @ 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus (tentative)**