

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

**Minutes
August 12, 2010 9:00 – 11:00 am (Russell Hall, CVH)**

In attendance: Michael Aiello, Dan Bannish, Martha Brown, Judy Dowd, Erin Leavitt-Smith, Michael Norko, Michael Peloso, Louise Pyers

1. **Introductions:** No guests or new members were present.
2. **Review of minutes of May 6, 2010** - Approved as presented
3. **Additions to agenda:** Louise Pyers added item re Northern Correctional Institution (see # 9 below)
4. **BH program updates:** Michael Norko reported the following, unless otherwise noted
 - A. PJOC & Crime Bill funds initiatives – DMHAS is working on a plan to provide off-hours CIT coverage in areas without current coverage. Louise Pyers reported that CABLE and NAMI have proposed a 40 hour CIT program for Correctional Officers that has been well-received.
 - B. Rapid Treatment Option – There have been 7 admissions to date, but none since March 2010.
 - C. Outpatient restoration – Training has begun for pilot program in New Haven utilizing the CompKit manual and workbooks that have been adapted for CT. We hope to be ready to use new program in September-October.
 - D. Retirements update – no new data
 - E. Other: no report
5. **DOC BH updates:** Dr. Bannish reported the following
 - A. **DOC MH data** – 40% of MH 4s are not DMHAS target population. At Garner, goal is for short-term return to baseline, and return to sending facility.
 - B. **Other DOC f/u reports:**
 - 1) Early release for inmates w/ SMI – DOC is working at making permanent infrastructure improvements to prevent inappropriate usage of Garner by inmates who do not need a higher level of mental health care. The Behavioral Engagement Group at Garner is geared toward individuals who are not DMHAS target population, but who exhibit severely disruptive or self-damaging behavior. The goal is to decrease self-injurious behavior, and discharge individuals to appropriate facilities after a short stay at Garner. Another goal is to decrease use of Northern for such individuals.
 - 2) TBI prevalence – no report
 - 3) SO community beds RFP – 20 individuals at Garner are parole or transition eligible (10 in next 6 mos). Of these 13 have sex needs scores, and 3 have no ordered probation. The anticipated program located on the grounds of Corrigan will delay inevitable release to the community, but it is still not approved or finalized.
 - 4) CJ-DATS research – 3 studies under way: 1) informatics; creating a readable distillation of important data in a single document that is useful to direct care staff; 2) Medication Assisted Therapy – educational training for parole officers re MAT; 3) HIV – population down to approx 370 in entire DOC system. (However, Hepatitis C is actually a more difficult problem, given extreme cost of treatment)
 - 5) DOC “Big Bang” and other initiatives – will be deleted from future agendas as this has been completed
 - 6) H1N1 planning – will be deleted from future agendas as H1N1 epidemic is officially over
 - C. **Discharge planning** – Board of Parole is being asked to consider “person and package,” i.e., a developed plan for an individual that may involve nursing home care, or medical parole due to debilitating medical condition
 - D. **New Commissioner** – Brian Murphy has moved on. Leo Arnone is now Acting Commissioner of DOC
6. **CJPAC**
Criminal Justice Cross-Training event scheduled for August 20

7. Interest Area updates

- A. Housing/employment – DMHAS has received \$1.2 m for new housing initiatives for individuals involved in the criminal justice system; part of an effort to reduce criminal recidivism and use of DOC beds
- B. BH Services/system barriers
 - 1) updates re ROI: Broad consensus has been reached on an MOA. Agencies are currently reviewing their own ROI forms, to insure that they meet minimal criteria. They are to be circulated to each of the other agencies for each agency to review and sanction their use.
 - 2) Rx for discharged inmates/detainees: Judy Dowd reported that the program has now started in Waterbury in addition to New Haven. The group will likely meet in September to discuss next steps.
- C. Raise the Age – Juvenile court changes – process remains delayed by legislature. Dan Bannish reported that there are a large number of youths at Manson Youth Institution who have low bonds.

8. Other agency updates – no other reports

9. Other Items – Louise Pyers noted recent concerns re individuals with TBI and SMI referred to Northern from Garner due to behavioral issues. Dan Bannish reported that the Behavioral Engagement Group is trying to catch these individuals so that such transfers do not occur. Also, Dr. Ducate attempts to prevent transfers of such individuals by intervening personally in these cases. Dr. Bannish and Dr. Ducate have a monthly meeting in which all inmates with mental health problems creating such problems are discussed. Dr. Bannish reported that there is a small number of individuals in every DOC population who engage in seriously disturbed behavior, perhaps 10-15 per 20,000 population. Thus CT's DOC has about 10 individuals like this who are difficult to manage.

10. Quarterly Meetings (2010 CJPAC mtgs scheduled for 9/9, 10/14, 11/10, 12/9)

- A. Nov 4, 2010 [9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus]
- B. Feb 2011 TBD
- C. May 2011 TBD
- D. Next year, should try to move August meeting to September so that more members can attend