

# Behavioral Health Sub-Committee

Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission  
Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division  
Connecticut Office of Policy and Management

July 17, 2014

9:00 – 11:00 am

(Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf Rm, CVH)

## Minutes

**In attendance:** Craig Burns, Loel Meckel, Louise Pyers, Sally Zanger, Magdalena Lekarczyk, Martha Brown, Michael Aiello, Erin Leavitt-Smith, David Rentler, Andrea Reischerl, Tom Kocienda, David Schwegman, Fred Morton

1. Introductions – New attendees, Tara Dean, MSW intern with UCHC-CMHC, Debbie Henault, DOC
2. Review of minutes of April 3, 2014 meeting - approved
3. Additions to agenda - none
4. BH program updates
  - A. Forensic funds initiatives
    - i. DMHAS received \$1.75 mil additional funds for SFY15 to fund: a residential program for PSRB clients, replace the JD clinician in Danielson court, additional RAPs, pick up JD Vets staff positions when the federal grant ends on 9/29, establish a CIT position for the Danbury LMHA, client supports, hospital discharge, and HAF.
    - ii. DMHAS has also added a PSRB coach for CRMHC and increased Sierra pretrial residential funding to cover reductions in the Judicial budget.
  - B. SOAR Initiative – DOC has been filing SSI applications for discharging inmates
  - C. Other
    - i. Alternative to incarceration for high cost inmates – no update
    - ii. 17a-693 Order for examination for alcohol or drug dependency – The statute was modified to allow the DMHAS evaluators to obtain dates and locations of prior treatment to inform the evaluation.
    - iii. Consideration of MAT/methadone in jails for short term prisoners – no update
    - iv. Request from Chief State's Attorney's office for guidance with people whose hoarding leads to unsafe living conditions – no update
    - v. Workgroup to improve coordination between CSSD, the Office of Forensic Evaluations, and CVH Addiction Services Division to increase utilization of residential substance abuse treatment beds – currently working on process for direct transfer from DOC to CVH Addiction Services Division for JRI defendants pre-approved by court for release.
5. DOC BH updates
  - A. General –
    - i. Craig Burns reported that Thomas Kocienda was hired as Director of Psychological Services, Andrea Riescherl was hired for the APRN position.
    - ii. Craig Burns reported that DOC has released an RFP for a half- house (15-20 beds) for male offenders being released who are MH4s.
  - B. Discharge planning – no update.
  - C. BHSC workgroup to review substance abuse services for inmates and for discharging inmates - Loel Meckel reported that the Recidivism Reduction Committee (RRC) of the CT Sentencing Commission (CSC) had started to address the same subject with some of the same agency representatives. Members of the two groups met on 6/13 to review existing services and identify service gaps. The RRC will produce their report for review by the full CSC in October. The BHSC workgroup will continue its work.

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- 6. CJPAC - no update
- 7. Interest Area updates
  - A. BH Services/system barriers
    - i. Rx for d/c'd inmates/detainees: – no update
- 8. Other agency updates –
  - CSSD- M Aiello reported
    - a. A third RFP has been released to obtain an ASIST provider in Bridgeport
    - b. Only 10% of ASIST clients use AIC services so future participants will only be referred to the AIC if needed
    - c. The ASIST emergency housing fund continues to be very useful for difficult cases
  - DMHAS – L Meckel arranged a meeting on 7/8 with administrators for the DMAHS YAS program and the new CSSD UNITY Probation program for young adults. Attendees exchanged information and discussed processing shared clients.
  - CABLE – L Pyers reported that she met with the DOC Training Director to plan a train the trainer process for CIT in DOC. DOC Correctional Officers will attend the DMHAS funded CIT training to become trainers.
- 9. Other Items – none
- 10. Quarterly Meetings:
  - Thursday, October 2, 2014 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, CVH Campus
  - January 8, 2015 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, CVH Campus
  - April 2, 2015 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, CVH Campus
  - July 9, 2015 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, CVH Campus
  - October 1, 2015 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, CVH Campus