

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

July 9, 2015
9:00 – 11:00 am
(Russell Hall, 2nd Floor Conf Rm, CVH)

In attendance: Magdalena Lekarczyk, David Rentler, Tom Kocienda, Monte Radler, Loel Meckel, Brian Austin, Erin Leavitt-Smith, Sally Zanger

1. Introductions
2. Review of minutes of April 2, 2015 meeting – approved without changes
3. Additions to agenda - none
4. BH program updates
 - A. Forensic funds initiatives – LM reported that DMHAS received additional SFY2016 funds for forensic clients. Plans include transitional housing, expanded court diversion programming for persons with addictions, rental subsidies paired with housing services, client support funds, and expanded SOAR services
 - B. Specialized CIT for Young Adults – LM reported that referrals continue to be low. The NAMI Young Adult Coordinator has developed active support groups in several areas for young adults with mental illness
 - C. Other –
 - a. LM reported that CT applied for and was one of 20 jurisdictions awarded a MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge grant to develop a plan to reduce incarceration of low risk adult pretrial defendants and low risk adults sentenced to less than one year. The plan will be submitted to MacArthur with an application for Phase 2 of the initiative in which 10 of the jurisdiction will be awarded up to two million dollars per year for two or more years to implement the plan. The planning committee includes OPM, DMHAS, DOC, CSSD, OCSA, OCPD.
 - b. ELS reported that referrals to the CT Offender Re-entry Program are down. TK reported that numbers of these inmates have been steady recently so he will investigate and discuss with ELS
5. DOC BH updates
 - A. General – no report.
 - B. Discharge planning – TK provided a HWH update. Contract awarded to Family Reentry and the location will be New Haven. A Fall 2015 opening is anticipated and will be used for housing placements for DOC offenders on parole who have significant mental health issues. No other updates provided
 - C. BHSC workgroup to review substance abuse services for inmates and for discharging inmates – TK reported nothing new
6. CJPAC Next meeting October 22, 2015
7. Interest Area updates
 - A. BH Services/system barriers –
 - a. Rx for d/c'd inmates/detainees: nothing new
 - B. Raise the Age – Juvenile court changes – LM reported that the JJPOC continues to meet regularly, has set goals to reduce arrest and incarceration of minors
8. Other agency updates –
 - a. DR reported that legislative changes may slow down parole hearings for inmates required to serve 85% of their sentence because it increases the number of records to review
 - b. BA reported that the OCSA has obtained technical assistance from the Center for Court Innovation to study processes in New London, New Haven, and Bridgeport courts and develop recommendations to improve collaboration in developing diversion plans.

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9. Other Items – none

10. Quarterly Meetings:

October 1, 2015 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus

January 7, 2016 9:00am – 11:00am, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus