

MENTAL HEALTH
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY COALITION

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2018 – 1:00 p.m.
Yavapai County Education Service Agency
Coulter/Giffin/Taylor Training Room

Present:

Care 1 st Health Plan	Mario Morales Virginia Cons
Compass Recovery Center	David Frey
Cottonwood Police Department	Steve Gesell, Chief
MATFORCE	Merilee Fowler
Prescott Police Department	Debra Black, Chief Ben Scott, Officer Jason Small, Lieutenant
Prescott Valley Police Department	James Edelstein, Deputy Chief
Sedona Police Department	Dave McGill, Chief
Southwest Behavioral Health	Christine Hayes Maleah Woodward
Spectrum	Jennifer Martinez Amie Sheldon Lisa Sherrill
Steward Health	Sharie Brock
Suicide Prevention	John Schuderer
Terros	Jennifer Gregory Destiny Pyle
Wellington Group Consulting	Jane Dowling
West Yavapai Guidance Clinic	Shawn Hatch
Yavapai Coalition for Compassion & Justice	Jessi Hans
Yavapai College	Jerald Monahan, Chief Tyran Payne, Lieutenant James Tobin, Officer
Yavapai County Adult Probation	Debra Kendall John Morris, Chief Kathy Ryder
Yavapai County Attorney's Office	Sheila Polk
Yavapai County Administrator's Office	Jack Fields, Asst County Administrator
Yavapai County Board of Supervisors	Jack Smith
Yavapai County Courts	John Napper, Judge
Yavapai County Community Health Svcs	Stacey Gagnon Leslie Horton
Yavapai County Juvenile Detention	Scott Mabery, Director
Yavapai County Schools	Tim Carter, Superintendent Stan Goligoski

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

Dwight D'Evelyn
Audrey Dorfman
Kristie Hambrick, Inmate Services
Richard Martin, Captain
Scott Mascher, Sheriff
Brian Silvernale, Lieutenant
Joseph Stewart, Rehabilitation
Beya Thayer, Executive Director

Sheriff Mascher opened the meeting at 1:01 p.m. All parties were introduced in round-table format.

The purpose of today's meeting was to formalize the Mental Health Coalition and introduce Beya Thayer as the new Executive Director.

Yavapai County is now leading the state in developing protocols, policies and procedures within our community and jail for dealing with mental illness.

Three years of funding has been received from the Legislature to provide 24/7 staffing at the jail through the Reach-Out program. Future costs should be covered through savings generated by diversion of inmates through the program, away from the jail and into care.

The Executive Board will consist of Judge Napper, Audrey Dorfman, Leslie Horton, Randy Gardner, Sheila Polk, Jack Smith and Scott Mascher. Bylaws are in development. A Board of Directors consisting of the Executive Board and approximately six other members will be formed. Subcommittees will be formed among members, and could consist of housing, homelessness, data collection, school safety and Title 36. Jane Dowling continues to develop a research tool for all information on current projects.

Ms. Thayer wants to look at strategic planning processes, identify goals from previous years, develop a mission statement, identify needs and review current projects. The Sequential Intercept Model is a starting point, but leans heavily toward adults. She wants to make sure we're also focusing on youth and families, i.e., the children of incarcerated parents, kids in the juvenile justice system and prevention measures for kids not currently in the system.

The review of other issues, such as lack of housing and health inequities, are also necessary. She wants to map out a model to take inventory of what Yavapai County has in place and find gaps in services available.

A system of coordination and collaboration needs to be developed among all parties to close identified gaps and insure we are supporting what each partner is doing, without duplication of efforts. We want to increase access to resources by community members and stakeholders.

She reached out to SAMHSA to find other agencies screening persons for at-risk behaviors and needs; they advised there are none. The problem with health care providers conducting the screening is the HIPPA restriction. Information acquired by screening each person who enters the jail becomes public record through the court system. Yavapai County will be a huge model for other counties and jail programs around the state.

Formalizing jail diversion programs will include training all stakeholders. There has been a huge push in mental health first aid training on the justice side, which includes mental health, substance abuse, brain function and identification. Training needs to be developed to instruct physical and mental health care providers with the criminal justice element. It is important to ensure community partners understand the law enforcement side of the program.

Stacy Gagnon, public health Nurse Supervisor with Yavapai County, introduced her TLC (Trauma Lens Care) program. Studies have found a lack of resilience in children with trauma. The program allows members of law enforcement to reach out to TLC with the name and age of a student, through confidential email. TLC will notify the child's school of immediate life trauma, allowing the school to prepare for related trauma behaviors. This is a countywide program. Basic questions or concerns about a child who may not have currently identified problems can be sent for review. Law enforcement can report questionable behaviors and information even when medical persons cannot due to HIPPA. TLC will come to meetings within law enforcement agencies to provide information. They are also reaching out to schools. The program also provides feedback to law enforcement contributors.

Director Mabery advised that with juvenile referrals, they try to divert children from the system. Law enforcement brings juveniles to the facility where they are assessed to find a way to avoid detention and return home. They try to connect them with behavioral/drug services. Prior to going to court, and with approval from the County Attorney's Office, they meet with a probation officer to bypass court appearance. If they complete necessary requirements of conditional release, their case is closed out and destroyed by their 18th birthday.

Ben Scott discussed upcoming crisis intervention training at end of October. This session will be held at Yavapai College. They are hoping to see an increase in enrollment. Many instructional partners are participating. Training is available to all law enforcement; jail personnel, probation, dispatch, etc.

Jane Dowling – we have applied for a SAMHSA grant for mental health awareness training. It will offer training in mental health awareness using the "train the trainer" model. It will be available for schools, law enforcement and emergency responders and will help Crisis Intervention Training as well. Pending funding decision on October 1st.

She continues working with the Sheriff's Office on developing integrated database system. They are in final stages of testing to ensure calculations are working and data can be extracted. They are on target for completion and hope to be training users in October. This will track progress of Reach Out programs, pre-arrest screenings, services received, rate of recidivism, additional arrests, etc. Will produce streamlined, condensed reports. The eventual data will help to affect policy throughout the state.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), in conjunction with the Suicide Prevention Coalition, now has two employees trained with "Safe Talk", a program directed toward the general public. They hope to launch additional training this fall, including an introductory workshop called Zero Suicide, aimed at behavioral health providers.

Ms. Thayer suggested a need to monitor whom we've trained throughout the county and what they've been trained in, to keep a balance in all county communities. She recognizes the opportunity to be data driven moving forward, thanks to the new database, and hopes it will affect future policy. She would like to consider a name change for the Justice/Mental Health Coalition.

Ms. Thayer provided a suggestion form and asked everyone to group together to note what the coalition is doing, why it's being done and who it's going to serve. She asked everyone to jot down notes for discussion.

Actions to be Taken:

Improve, divert, support, develop collaborative system, advocate, identify gaps, problem solve, prevent, intervene, treat, support, innovate, communication between agencies, decriminalize and share resources.

Whom we Serve:

Citizens, members of public, children, veterans, homeless, visitors, substance abusers, mental health patients, the community overall, regardless of citizenship.

Resulting Actions:

Happier, healthier, safer, reduction in incarceration and recidivism, more efficient use of tax dollars, improve lives, awareness, inclusiveness, more effective use of resources, improve the community environment, changes the overall odds of success, supporting the law enforcement community.

All notes were collected for review and collaboration. Results will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Ms. Thayer introduced Mario Morales, the Justice Liaison with Care 1st Health Plan. She discussed the importance of resource sharing, communicating and coordination of care. Changes are coming to AHCCCS on October 1st. Mental and physical health were originally kept separate; they will now be combined. Medicaid is also working to develop coordinating care plans. Regional Behavior Health Authority, Health Choice Integrated Care and Care 1st Health Plan will have coordinated care plans for those with behavioral, mental, substance and health care needs and are involved in the criminal justice system.

Sheriff Mascher discussed the importance of developing subcommittees on numerous topics, including school safety enhancement and the inclusion of mental health providers. He and Ms. Thayer will be attending a meeting at the Governor's Office next week. They will be discussing the firehouse payment model which can provide some reimbursement to outside providers for services. No additional funds will be requested, but they will request priority for diversion monies into the model.

Sheila Polk will be working with the Title 36 subcommittee on developing protocols and oversight to improve the overall program in Yavapai County. She wants input from everyone in regard to what is and isn't working. They will develop new recommendations to the Legislature.

Current statutes were written over 40 years ago and have had minimal change, although treatment for behavior health has changed dramatically. There will be two town hall meetings on Nov 5th and attendance is encouraged. Jack Fields will present an overview on the current Title 36 process. Meetings will be open to everyone; families, clients of the system, law enforcement, etc. They hope for group sessions to get healthy, thoughtful, respectful conversation to develop ideas, identify gaps and discuss what to provide. Questions will pertain to individual experiences and will include such examples as, "What does title 36 look like for you"? "What should change"?

Suggestions were made to include consideration of dual diagnosis, substance abuse, patient history and being acutely or gravely disabled. The statute is currently very limited and may need to be expanded.

The Coalition may also need to address the huge gap between Title 36 and Rule 11. Members need to coordinate to discuss what isn't working and focus on changing legislation. Jack Fields asked, "What changes can we make together, and agree that we can change the way we operate within the bounds of statute, to make the system better?"

Ms. Thayer advised they are looking for members for the Board of Directors from various disciplines. Please reach out to her if you're interested. Inclusion will involve meeting with the legislature and Governor's office.

Leslie Horton advised there will be a symposium at the Heights Church on November 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., lunch included. Focus will include panel discussions on homelessness, family Violence, mental health and substance abuse. Sponsored by US Vets. Sign up is online.

Next meeting will be after November 5th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.