



YAVAPAI JUSTICE & MENTAL HEALTH COALITION Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: *(If you are not shown in the list of attendees, please email Beya)*

Alzheimer's Association
Ariz Dept of Economic Security/RSA
Ariz Peer & Family Coalition
Care 1st/AHCCCS

Catholic Charities Housing
Child & Family Support Services
Clarkdale Police Department
Coalition for Compassion/Justice
Community and Board Member

Cottonwood Police Department
Crisis Response Network

Grossman & Grossman
Health Choice Arizona

Northern Arizona Peer & Fam Coalition
Prescott Police Department

Prescott Valley Police Department

Pronghorn Psychiatry
Recovery Homes
Sage Counseling
Southwest Behavioral & Health
Spectrum Healthcare
Suicide Prevention Advocate
Terros Health

Veteran's Administration

West Yavapai Guidance Clinic
Wexford
Verde Valley Homeless
Vive Hope Lives
Yavapai College
Yavapai County Administration
Yavapai County Adult Probation

Lesley Jenkins, Regional Director
Alycia Botkin, Supervisor – Vocational Rehab
Kathy Bashor
Chris Link Duarte
Mario Morales
Linda Poller
Mark Shen, Director
Vicki Cons
Terri Young
Mary Robbins
Randy Taylor, Chief
Jessi Hans, Executive Director
Jim Ledbetter
Jeanne Wellins
Steve Gesell, Chief
Marlo Rivera, Director
Kellyanne Smith
Davin Grossman
Amy Fehrs Bacon
Brianna Barrios
Joshua Napoleon
Laurie Verdier
Debora Black, Chief
Jason Small, Lieutenant
James Edelstein, Commander
Nancy Roberts, Sergeant
Robin Spencer
Damien Browning, Executive Director
Diane Ivan, Clinical Supervisor
Bonnie Goosic
Shawn Hatch
John Schuderer
Bryan Gest
Michael Lawhon, Clinical Manager
David Obergfell, Director
Nancy Devine
Julie Garver
Lisa Lahie, Suicide Prevention Coordinator
Kelly Legler, Chief Clinical Officer
Becky Payne
Rhonda Bishop, Executive Director
Troy Grover, Program Manager
Tyran Payne
Jack Fields
Alex Hope, Officer
Debra Kendall

Yavapai County Attorney's Office	Dennis McGrane, Chief Deputy Dana Owens, Drug Diversion Coord Sheila Polk, County Attorney
Yavapai County Comm Health Services	Leslie Horton, Director Lorena Padilla
Yavapai County Public Fiduciary	Kathryn Blair
Yavapai County Schools	Stan Goligoski, Executive Director
Yavapai County Sheriff's Office	Dwight D'Evelyn, Public Information Supervisor Audrey Dorfman, VIP Kristie Hambrick, Inmate Program Manager Brian Hunt, Captain Richard Martin, Captain Jeff Newnum, Chief Deputy David Rhodes, Sheriff Brian Silvernale, Inmate Services Commander Beya Thayer, Executive Director
Yavapai Regional Medical Center	Carole Freeman

Beya Thayer opened the meeting at 1:04 p.m. and welcomed the attendees. A rollcall was conducted. Jim Ledbetter was introduced as a new Board member of the Coalition and David Rhodes was welcomed back as the new Sheriff of Yavapai County.

The Coalition is stronger than ever. Partnerships are effective and people know who to call even with changing protocols. Connections and networks are advantageous in supporting the population living with behavioral health problems and/or in and out of the justice system. Thanks to everyone for continuing.

Ms. Thayer reviewed the Agenda topics for discussion.

Maintain understanding of statewide legislation & policies that could affect or contribute to building a health & safe community:

Sheriff Rhodes and County Attorney Polk provided a legislative update. Sheriff Rhodes discussed HB2189 for Jail Coordinated Reentry. Monies would go to the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission and cities and counties could apply for grants to develop their own jail plan involving screening at booking, behavioral health, etc. They would report data through an enhanced system originally built in Yavapai County, showing the reentry of persons released with risk factors, and form a coalition. The bill is based on the success of Yavapai County's Reach Out program and Coalition. A study by Northern Arizona University (NAU) showed our recidivism and jail population decline, reflecting the need to continue front end reforms. The programs slow the prison pipeline, which reduces the cost for the State. The Arizona Association of Counties will lobby to support it.

County Attorney Polk discussed a bill for pre-trial diversion which is being sponsored and has widespread support across the legislature. It would be run through individual counties. Under current law, the legislature restricts the type of person they can put in diversion programs. The bill will give more discretion to county attorneys for placement. They often see persons who would benefit but currently aren't allowed by law. All indicators show the bill will pass.

She also advised there is a reintroduction of legislation for housing for persons who are non-restorable. Currently, the government cannot proceed with charges against offenders found incompetent and non-restorable. Cases are typically dismissed and those persons, sometimes dangerous, are returned to the community. They are not under the purview of Title 36, are not treatable, are not under fiduciary care. The sponsored bill addresses the narrow gap of persons with proven dangerous, repetitive criminal

conduct, and would allow the court some authority to order them into a secure residential facility, if in the best interest of personal and public safety. (Note: since this meeting, this bill has been dropped.)

Ms. Thayer will disseminate the final report from the Supreme Court Committee on Mental Health when approved. The ability to extend our programs statewide would be key to justice reform. Coalitions are key, as are those entities willing to be collaborative and work on these projects. The Yavapai County Coalition is a model for other counties.

The data from the NAU report shows a drop in recidivism and jail population. NAU partners had to renew their process to evaluate and obtain data. They hope provide new data by April's meeting.

County Attorney Polk reported on HB2141 wherein an offender who has plead guilty or been found guilty of a Class 6 Felony may have that offense left undesignated. Once they successfully complete probation, the charge defaults to a misdemeanor. If they fail probation, it defaults to a felony charge. This allows the person more ability to get their life on track, i.e., with job and housing applications, but avoiding the felony designation.

Improve the T36/COE/COT process to better serve the needs of Yavapai Community:

Linda Poller reported they have been approached by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to develop an initiative and training for every county in regard to Title 36. Currently, COE and COT processes differ from county to county. They're developing a process everyone will follow and working with AHCCCS to go to stakeholders and providers. Great collaboration. Jeanne Wellins endured the Title 36 process and knows what needs improvement and has been asked to participate with this workgroup. She has provided recommendations for AHCCCS and counties coordinating in developing training statewide that include family focus. They are compiling a report and making recommendations to the initiative in standardizing training and processes across the state.

Robin Spencer with Pronghorn invited everyone to their quarterly online meeting. They would be grateful for feedback and questions. If you would like the meeting invite, please email CEO Amy Ledesma: amyl@pronghornpsych.com. Robin Spencer at Pronghorn will see if information on how to negotiate the Title 36 process could be added to their website. It has been added to the Coalition website.

Jack Fields is preparing to issue a Request for Proposals in anticipation of the new Title 36 Center at the Justice System complex. Groundwork should begin in April/May with footings and vertical structures. Pronghorn will continue to provide care through 2022. Looking at obtaining bids by the end of 2021 for a provider for the new facility to provide input on licensing and furnishings.

Increase behavioral health access to children, youth and families within the schools and the juvenile justice system

There is a need to increase behavioral health access for children and families. Mental health first aid training still being provided and managed by Nancy Gardner. A virtual training module was developed prior to Covid-19. Community training is still available. Understand these times are very stressful for youth and families. The Coalition is developing a resource manual to provide to youth and family throughout the County. Any input about safe places for children, please provide.

Lt. Tyran Payne reported Yavapai College has increased access to MHFA trainings. They are offering on line two Mental Health First Aid classes in April for Adults. They are always open to teaching the Police Version virtually to any agency state-wide that needs it. In conversation with Nancy Gardner, they are in the process of getting and should be authorized to instruct the Elder, Veteran and Youth curriculum which

will also be available virtually. Two of YC's trainers are in the process of becoming Safe Talk Instructors as well. The good thing about the college taking on the MHFA class is they now have access to its social media and notification platforms which have a very far reach. They are seeing an interest in the general public wanting to talk the MHFA class. Their focus moving forward will be to get this information out to the public not just Police/Fire/EMT. The more Mental Health First Aid Responders they have that are not public servants the better. The new curriculum has a TON of helpful information not just on assisting another in crisis. There is also information to help the individual with wellness. Yavapai College is very excited about the future with this training. The plan, as a team, is to assist as best they can in educating anyone interested in receiving the training. They hope to move to a blended model in the future. If anyone is in need please have them reach out to Lt. Payne and they will do our best to accommodate.

Stan Goligoski advised that schools are updated every week regarding COVID procedures. Information is published on the Arizona Department of Education website. Most rural schools are in person. Bigger schools are hybrid or online. They are in the process of setting up vaccination clinics for teachers and have been Working with Yavapai Regional Medical Center and Yavapai County Community Health for teachers and staff. Looking forward to turning corner and getting kids back to school.

Mary Robbins said the younger population is struggling with isolation. They're seeing an increase in suicide attempts. Trying to find different ways for kids to connect. Partnering with West Yavapai Guidance Clinic (WYGC) and the Coalition for resources. There is a real need to identify safe places and resources for our outlying areas.

Kelly Legler reported they are seeing severe impacts on a national level in 11-17-year old's struggling with increased depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. More screening for psychosis and severe depression, etc., being triggered by pandemic due to social isolation and reduced development socially, emotionally, and cognitively. Need to offer other support groups and unfortunately, most is online.

Launch Pad has some activities, but most are remote. Difficult to engage with kids over screens. Launch Pad is reviewing the resource guide.

Joshua Napoleon said they're seeing a disconnect with parents and kids. They're trying to reach out to families, especially older kids who are leaving home (i.e. high school seniors). They are seeing many who weren't prepared to leave home or enter workplace. Program called Adulting 101 provides social and emotional support, teaches perseverance, works on independent self-identity.

Alicia Botkin said they're seeing an increase in high school students wanting to join a remote learning transition program for those 14-24 years of age. Students need an IPE to qualify.

John Schreuder suggested the Teen Lifeline statewide number for young people to connect to another teen instead of adult. 800-248-8336 Peer counselors are trained in crisis work. Additional training in Safe Talk may be provided in the near future through MATFORCE, Yavapai College, and the Coalition.

Improve cross-system collaboration to reduce involvement in the justice system by people with mental health & substance use disorders:

Ms. Thayer provided an update on cross system collaboration. The jails' Reach Out program continues to have successful conversations with behavioral health providers in coordinating care. Persons who fall into Rule 11 are high need, are not competent, and may or may not be restorable. Care and reentry planning needs to happen as soon as possible. Judge Napper brought Rule 11 under Division III: Judge Ainley's court. She does weekly staffing with defendants who are in the Rule 11/Restoration to Competency process. Staffing is similar to recovery court or mental health court, where attorneys and judges meet to discuss possible outcomes. Attorneys on both sides get a full picture of where defendant is in process, what support they have at home, the Return to Competency program, and services coordinated through Reach Out.

There is still need for stabilization or therapeutic stabilization for many people who are incarcerated. Behavioral health providers are working through court orders and temporary releases. There is a clearer understanding of who is coming in and out of system. Continuing to provide supports to persons both in jail and post release. Thanks to court system and prosecution for their time and effort in this program.

County Attorney Polk provided an update on the Pretrial Diversion program which began a year ago. Marijuana legislation will bring changes. A PowerPoint was provided. The program was a partnership between County Attorneys and Complete Care Partners, which is a partnership of Spectrum and WYGC. Offenders were given the option to enter a diversion program to address substance abuse issues. A needs assessment would be completed, services and support provided, and upon successful completion, charges were dismissed. State statute limited the type of cases that qualified for the program. They began with 88 participants. Referrals since May of 2020 have ranged between 4-12 each month. Twenty persons have successfully completed the program; 31 remain enrolled. The remainder withdrew or failed. They are encountering many individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues who need extensive help in mental, physical, and behavioral health, as well as assistance in housing and other resources.

Yavapai Reentry is trying to keep people from reentering the criminal justice system. Their Community Coaches work to help released participants become productive citizens. MATFORCE runs the program and served 90 participants in December 2020. 17 are currently enrolled. Program model is like Big Brother/Big Sister, wherein a former inmate is matched with a community coach volunteer. Many need services but are not getting connected.

A current enrollee was addicted, had depression and anxiety, but discovered she can survive and thanked God for the Yavapai Reentry project, Coach Roxanne and others who gave her strength to help recover. She believes it saved her life. It is a back-end support program. They are now working with Reach Out, which is a front-end support program. Many subjects are enrolling upon release from jail. Alycia Botkin, who is on the board of Yavapai Reentry, reported she is providing training in six (6) other counties to duplicate the program because it's working.

Ms. Thayer and Kristie Hambrick are gathering data to support Community Coaching. Post release inmates find greater success when looking for housing, employment, etc., when working alongside peers, coaches, and behavior health professionals.

SIM Mapping Update: Intercept 4 – Reentry and Intercept 5 – Community Corrections

What we have available in intercept five affects plans for intercept four. Transitional planning by jail (intercept 4), such as Reach Out and Release Coordinators, access to behavioral health providers, intake plans, are all well set up. Need to mitigate barriers to access and identify additional resources. These include utilizing warm hand offs to providers, specialized caseloads in probation, medicated assistance treatment, behavioral health treatment, recovery services, benefits, housing, and employment.

There is an identified need for additional employment connections and services. Vocational Rehab is working with Recovery Court, Reach Out, Pronghorn Psychiatry, Southwest Behavioral, Granite Mountain Behavioral, Decision Point, the schools and sober living homes. In order to qualify for Vocation Rehab support, persons must have a documented disability, which can include physical, mental health, and substance abuse diagnosis. Vocational Rehab will provide a presentation if requested..

Lt. Brian Silvernale reported that since the detention center rolled out their tablet program last month, there have been 6,830 job searches completed, showing what and where inmates are looking. He would like to review with Vocational Rehab to see if any are community partners. Vocational Rehab would certainly partner to see about bringing other employers to the table.

Alex Hope and Debra Kendall were asked what probationers would benefit from in the community. They reported that jobs are tricky with the seriously mentally ill population coming out of the jail. Those that are

on disability are typically not that hire-able, due to ability and limited hours available. Many have jobs in the back of kitchens. Jobs are important in that they provide purpose, but they need jobs that won't affect their disability income. There has been some improvement in housing for probationers outside of Yavapai County. Groups homes are getting individuals treatment as soon as possible.

Ms. Thayer reported a gap in a lack of public transportation. There has been an increase in housing dollars due to Covid-19.

Ms. Thayer will update our Sequential Intercept Model and send out to the group. Please add ideas and identify processes in place. We will continue to address gaps.

Member Updates/Reports:

Dana Owens reported they have seen an impact in the number of persons arrested for marijuana and cannabis (highly concentrated THC). Can no longer arrest or refer to treatment or drug court. Will look to expand other types of diversion.

Chief Steve Gesell reported that the MATFORCE subcommittee met with people from both sides of county. There is immense concern on multiple levels regarding mental health, addiction, fentanyl, youth impact and overdose deaths.

Shawn Hatch reported that Spectrum has taken on Covid-19 testing and vaccinations. They received 3900 rapid tests before the holidays and exhausted the supply in three weeks. Curbside stats served over 9000 persons since October. In 2020 Spectrum conducted nearly 20,000 tests for Covid-19. They have three clinics for vaccination. Clinics are Monday through Friday and persons can schedule appointments online.

Commander Edelstein is concerned about overdose issues concerning fentanyl in the youth community.

Please provide flyers and calendar updates to Ms. Thayer to share with the Coalition. Thanks to everyone for participating.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8th, 2021.

Meeting adjourned 3:08 p.m.