

Behavioral Health Sub-Committee

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

March 5, 2020

9:00 – 11:00 am

(Russell Hall, CVH, Middletown)

Minutes

In attendance: Brian Austin, Judith Dowd, Tom Kocienda, Bailey Mulqueen, Loel Meckel, Michael Norko, Monte Radler, David Rentler, Chris Burke

1. Introductions
2. January 9, 2020 minutes approved without additions
3. Additions to agenda – included below
4. Proposals for dually-diagnosed, high-need, justice involved adults
 - various options have been discussed. No action will be taken until funding becomes available.
5. BH program updates
 - The states have received two federal grants to address the opioid issue and the second grant, Sate Opioid Response, was scheduled to end 9/29/20. The federal government has provided additional funds to extend the grant and CT is deciding how to use these funds.
6. DOC BH updates
 - While the total DOC census has declined from just under 20,000 to approximately 12,400, the number of inmates who need behavioral health services has remained fairly constant. DOC is reviewing and modifying services to most efficiently and effectively provide services to this population.
7. CJPAC: Next meeting March 26, 2020
8. Interest Area updates
 - A. BH Services/system barriers – not discussed
9. Other agency updates
 - The Department of Criminal Justice is providing a training on March 26 for managing cases of defendants with mental illness (MI) and/or substance use disorders (SUD). The training will be provided by DMHAS and is mandatory for recently hired State’s Attorneys and also open to other staff.
 - Following the retirement of Kevin Kane, the Department of Criminal Justice hired Richard Colangelo, Jr. to be the new Chief State’s Attorney for CT. Brian Austin reports that Mr. Colangelo is very interested in supporting programming for people with behavioral health needs.
10. Other Items
 - The nation has seen an increase in the number of adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who are justice-involved. CT DSS is funded to provide services to adults with ASD but funding is limited and there is a waitlist of about 1,600 people. DMHAS hosted a Grand Rounds on Autism and Violence that featured a presentation by staff of a program in England for justice-involved adults with ASD that was attended by staff of DDS. Meetings between DMHAS, DDS, and DSS will continue to identify possible options for programming.
 - Prior Behavioral Health Sub-Committee meetings identified the need to train staff of DMHAS and its contracted providers in assessing and treating criminogenic need. DMHAS and CSSD will plan for this outside of the Behavioral Health Sub-Committee.

Behavioral Health Sub-Committee

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

- DMHAS will provide training to Judges later in 2020 for persons committed to Whiting Forensic Hospital for restoration of competency to stand trial and for insanity acquittal.

11. Scheduled Meetings: 10:00am – 11:00pm, Russell Hall, 2nd floor, CVH Campus (note time change)

June 4, 2020
September 3, 2020
December 3, 2020