

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

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

Minutes

In attendance: Magdalena Lekarczyk, David Rentler, Tom Kocienda, Monte Radler, Ed Mattison, Louise Pyers, Loel Meckel

1. Introductions
2. Review of minutes of January 8, 2015 meeting – approved without changes
3. Additions to agenda - none
4. BH program updates
 - A. Forensic funds initiatives – LMeckel reported that an RFP for a transitional residential program was released twice and did not yield acceptable proposals; next steps TBD.
 - B. Specialized CIT for Young Adults – LMeckel reported that this grant program is identifying an increasing number of young adults with behavioral health disorders. The NAMI Young Adult Coordinator has been training young adults in recovery from mental illness to establish and facilitate support groups in several cities.
 - C. Other – Senate Bill 1129 would have the State’s Attorney’s office create a pilot diversion program in Norwich, New London, and New Haven court to identify, screen, connect to services, and track defendants who are homeless, have addictions, or have mental illness. This would duplicate some existing programs. Relevant state agencies will meet to review options with this bill.
5. DOC BH updates
 - A. General – LMeckel reported that the maximum number of RREC credits for which an inmate is eligible will be reduced as security score increases to incentivize behavior change. TKocienda reported that a provider will be establishing a HWH; group space is being created at NCI, among others START NOW group will be started.
 - B. Discharge planning - LMeckel reported that DOC has a new Centralized Community Release Unit to streamline the release process and improve the ability to assign conditions based on risk; A re-integration center is now established at one male facility to include programming to reduce risk and prepare inmates for re-entry; a female cent will be established later in the year.
 - C. BHSC workgroup to review substance abuse services for inmates and for discharging inmates – nothing new
6. CJPAC Next April 30, 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 – LMeckel reported that the JJPOC has convened and data indicates that RtA did not result in an increase in cost and cases as predicted by some.
8. Other agency updates – LMeckel reported that CSSD has initiated a diversion program with Recovery Network of Programs for defendants in Bridgeport court to be diverted at arraignment to residential detox or treatment for opiates.
9. Other Items – LPyers reported that Manchester and Cheshire police departments are funding CIT trainings for their officers; this is in addition to 5 trainings/yr funded by DMHAS
10. Quarterly Meetings:

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