



YAVAPAI JUSTICE & MENTAL HEALTH COALITION
Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

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

Alzheimer's Association	Leslie Jenkins
Ariz Dept of Economic Security/RSA Care 1 st /AHCCCS	Alycia Botkin Linda Poller Mark Shen
Catholic Charities Housing Child & Family Support Services	Terri Young Dawn Rutigliano Mary Robbins
Coalition for Compassion/Justice Community Health Center of Yavapai	Jessi Hans Penny Collins Willa Miller
Community and Board Member Cottonwood Magistrate Court Cottonwood Police Department Crisis Response Network	Jeanne Wellins Catherine Kelley, Judge Steve Gesell, Chief Marlo Rivera Kellyanne Smith
First Things First Granite Mountain Health Choice Arizona	Lynda Bennett Jeff Young Amy Fehrs Bacon DeniseCox Jermaine Barkely Bri Barrios Sharie Brock
Inside Out Network NAZCARE	Fred Nelson Greg Billi
Northern Arizona Peer & Fam Coalition Prescott Police Department Prescott Valley Police Department Sage Counseling Sana Behavioral Southwest Behavioral & Health Spectrum Healthcare	Laurie Verdier Debora Black, Chief Nancy Roberts Diane Ivan Brent Cope Christine Hayes Ryan McGinty April Rhodes
Terros Health	Bryan Gest Michael Lawhon David Obergfell
U. S. Vets Veteran's Administration	Carole Benedict Nancy Devine Julie Garver Colleen Ward
West Yavapai Guidance Clinic Vive Hope Lives Yavapai County Adult Probation	Kelly Legler Troy Grover Debra Kendall

Yavapai County Attorney's Office	Alex Hope Dennis McGrane Dana Owens
Yavapai County Comm Health Services	Leslie Horton Terri Farneti Milan Abbi
Yavapai County Public Defenders	Kennedy Klagge
Yavapai County Schools	Shari Sterling
Yavapai County Sheriff's Office	Audrey Dorfman, VIP Nancy Gardner, Program Manager Kristie Hambrick, Inmate Services Richard Martin, Captain Jeff Newnum, Captain Brian Silvernale Joseph Stewart Beya Thayer, Executive Director
Yavapai Regional Medical Center	Carole Freeman Robert Barth, III

Beya Thayer opened the meeting at 1:04 p.m. and welcomed the attendees. A rollcall was conducted.

Ms. Thayer thanked everyone for being willing to continue meetings through Microsoft Teams but looks forward to resuming in-person meetings in the future.

Interim Chief Deputy Newnum welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologized for the Sheriff's absence. Sheriff Mascher appreciates everyone's participation. Mental health cases have been identified within the detention center which should be placed for care outside of the jail. It's important to have everyone's participation in the intercepts going forward. Every intercept has a vital role in connecting inmates to service when suffering from a risk, no matter how minor. Need to create a case file that follows someone who is suffering from behavioral or mental health issues so that upon release, a plan is already in place to begin, regardless of the length of time jailed.

Ms. Thayer introduced two new board members: Jeanne Wellins, community member, formerly with MATFORCE and Kelly Legler of West Yavapai Guidance Clinic.

Networking, updates and announcements (Improve cross-system collaboration):

The Mental Health Coalition website has a calendar opportunity for events, activities, and notices. Please let Ms. Thayer know about opportunities from your agency for placement on the calendar.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey after the last full coalition meeting. The finished report on results will be shared with everyone upon completion.

Please continue to keep everyone posted on activities within your community and programs.

Mr. McGinty of Spectrum Healthcare reported a new residential program for men in Cottonwood called "Momentum". The new men's residential program is to what was formally called Women's World (which is now also called Momentum); 12 beds, to service individuals with co-occurring disorders, typically with SMI. The program is length of stay individualized, based on client needs.

Average stay is 3-6 months. Treatment plans and services are individualized and will incorporate primary and mental health care needs, including daily group counseling and weekly private counseling. Crisis team will be able to bring clients to avoid hospitalization. The unit will maintain close ties with outpatient resources, located next door, provide work adjusted training and discharge planning. The location is on Main Street, near the old bowling alley in Mingus Center and across from Dead Horse State Park. Everyone will be invited to the open house. Accepting referrals now. Please contact him with questions.

Ms. Miller reports that October 20th is Women's Health Day in Prescott, Prescott Valley and Cottonwood for physical and mental health. Community Health Center of Yavapai will accept all pay sources, including uninsured and underinsured, on a sliding scale.

Chief Black thanked the Coalition for their support of the training video created in Yavapai County on topics related to substance abuse and behavioral health manifestations exhibited by citizens who encounter law enforcement. MATFORCE funded the effort. The video will be rolled out to all Yavapai County law enforcement agencies in 10 days.

Chief Black also gave a huge congratulations to April Rhodes for her 2020 Award in Capital Times.

Ms. Devine reported the VA hospital will host a virtual community mental health summit on October 21st. Invitations will be sent out today. Ms. Thayer will forward the invitation as well. The summit will run from 8:30 to 12:30 and be broken into categories; suicide intervention; health programs; holistic care; intimate partner violence; homelessness; employment; workplace violence; each session will be approximately 45 minutes long. Agenda provided upon registration. Please share the invitation. Call Nancy Devine at extension 5281 at the VA hospital with questions.

Ms. Verdier advised there is an ongoing Thursday luncheon for anyone needing support. Information was sent to Ms. Thayer. Northern Arizona Peer and Family Coalition addressed health care disparities throughout the state. Topics included housing evictions, education, and training on implicit bias. County Attorney Polk participated. Connections were made between people with different disciplines.

Ms. Collins shared that the Community Health Center of Yavapai provides both mental and physical health services. They will share a flyer with Ms. Thayer for the group.

Ms. Dorfman let everyone know the Cottonwood Day Center is open from 1-5 p.m. for Verde Valley the community who are homeless. They are waiting on fire sprinklers and city water for the full shelter. Once open, they can house up to 35 people when the temperature is 35 degrees or below. The brochure will be forwarded to Ms. Thayer.

Ms. Hayes reports Southwest Behavioral and Health Services are partnering with Humboldt Unified Schools, such as Glassford Hill Middle School, Coyote Springs and Lake Valley Elementary and Bradshaw Mountain High School.

Mr. McGinty announced a new curbside care at Spectrum for primary care services including COVID testing. They will meet at your car and provide all needed services. Email Ryan McGinty or call the main line at Spectrum with questions.

Ms. Horton advised they are planning a virtual 3rd annual Connecting Communities Symposium on December 2nd. Topics will include mental and behavioral health, access to resources and

other things affected this year. They are seeing increases in behavioral health issues, suicide and overdoses, and other issues caused by COVID economic ramifications.

The Trauma Lens Care program has started again since schools resumed session. Please have law enforcement officers reach out when they encounter children at a crime scene. A TLC App is now available for your phone. Schools have been updated through the absence; they will be prepared for kids in need.

Ms. Barrios is getting more physical copies of crisis line materials. She will send out hardcopies to whoever needs them. The Northern Arizona crisis hotline allows for people to call in and interact without leaving home.

Mr. Abbi has been working in opioid harm reduction. Yavapai Community Health Services wants to increase awareness of treatment options and get naloxone into the community. There will be a presentation on October 22nd. He can provide more info for medication assisted treatment, addiction, and risk factors for addiction. A zoom link will be provided. Please email Milan Abbi for naloxone packages.

The Justice and Mental Health Coalition is partnering with the Alzheimer's Association for a lunchtime community discussion regarding service connections and support for people with dementia. Law enforcement, the jail and crisis are encountering individuals with dementia and do not have the resources to divert them to for needed support. This first discussion will occur at noon on November 5th. Please contact Ms. Thayer if you would like an invite and have not received one.

Ms. Benedict reports they have opened a service center for Veterans at risk of homelessness. Meals, laundry, shower, transportation are available. Masks are mandatory. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Verdier said they have opioid treatment services and encourage the justice system to coordinate with family/health home care providers and peer support.

Updating the Yavapai Sequential Intercept Map (Improve cross-system collaboration):

Ms. Thayer discussed the Sequential Intercept Model and its importance in developing the Coalitions goals and action steps. The Coalition is here to continue to strengthen programs and processes to access the programs. July's Coalition meeting discussed and updated Intercepts 0 and 1 in prevention; getting persons connected to services. This includes Deflection opportunities for law enforcement and diverting people out of the criminal justice system and into care.

Today's discussion will update the information our county has mapped for In intercept 2: when individuals are booked into jail and attend initial appearance; and Intercept 3: when individuals remain in jail, and/ or attend specialty court.

Everyone's involvement provides support when someone is released from jail. With the Reach Out program in the jail, Release Coordinators work through Inmate Services. Each person is screened for risk factors that may contribute to their involvement in the criminal justice system. Some individuals may refuse or be unable to cooperate. Coordinators will come back to discuss options. A post-screening report is generated prior to initial court appearance and provided to the judge for consideration. Reports include needs such as housing, transportation, behavioral health. The judge can consider initial information in conditions of release for the defendant. A

post-screening report may have requirements by the judge such as enrolling with a care facility. Release Coordinators work to ensure connection to services. Connection may occur after posting bond, release upon initial appearance, post-court hearing, etc. Probation may note intake/release and work to ensure connection with care. Behavioral health providers can do full assessment and intake for presentation to court. Public Defender and County attorney can also assist in coordinating care.

A State grant was awarded to Spectrum to provide transitional behavioral health services for persons upon release from jail, which includes transporting to a behavioral health home, residential, crisis assessment and other services to engage the individual.

Collaboration is beginning with the County Attorney's pretrial diversion program and the Inmate Services to identify potential pre-trial diversion participants. This program allows for suspension of charges.

There are difficulties in connecting individuals with high acute needs to a full range of services. It would be beneficial to increase coordination of care with the public defender.

Defense Attorney Klagge reported they are not receiving Post Screening reports from Inmate Services. If they are received, then clients who were not granted release could still discuss future options. Lt. Silvernale will find out why they're not being received; they should be included in the initial release packet. Defense Attorney Klagge will set up a meeting to discuss with judges at Justice and Superior Court to discuss tools available in screening recommendations.

Silvernale reports that from a jail standpoint, the weakness is a lack of engagement by some inmates. Need to better identify those with risk factors and keep them engaged in connected services. A release dependent upon conditions to include engagement may be more successful.

County Attorneys Owens and McGrane are willing to renew discussion on consideration of screening packets with judges in cooperation with Defense Attorney Klagge. County Attorney Owens found limited occasions where Justice Court judges asked subjects if they complied with suggested services.

Defense Attorney Klagge would like to see pretrial services involved. Ms. Thayer asked if judges could confirm that a person will follow through with suggested options.

Are behavioral health partners such as Spectrum, Southwest Behavioral and West Yavapai having any issues with getting assessments complete? Are they able to assist defendants in applying for other services outside of behavioral health?

Ms. Hambrick identified Felicia from Vocational Rehab and Arizona at Work as an excellent service partnership. They are actively getting people employed and working to continue the relationship and connect people to services.

Due to COVID 19, many outside partners had to be discontinued temporarily. Court has changed to video court vs. in-person. A classroom was lost, but there is priority in getting classes back together. The major concern is still health and safety of inmate population. Protocols with COVID and mixing inmate classifications within a classroom is still a concern. Trials are resuming but video court is still occurring and requires intensive manpower. It has been difficult to maintain programs inside jail. They will reevaluate in November while focusing on safety of inmate population.

Intercept 3 focuses on persons in custody. Conditions may involve partnering with specialty courts, and/or Rule 11. Yavapai County has a Restoration To Competency contract and collaborate with partners outside the jail system. Yavapai County courts have many specialty courts such as drug court, dui court, mental health court, VA court, family treatment court and juvenile court. Spectrum TIP may assist with specialty courts. Unless someone reoffends or has probation revoked, most specialty court attendees are out of custody. An exception would be juvenile drug courts. Many are still in custody and participating in program.

Wexford Health within the jail can provide medication assisted treatment; vivitrol and suboxone still being used for inmates within jail. Reach Out is trying to ensure person has behavioral health access via appointment or placement in temporary residential care upon release.

There have been delays in obtaining medical records to get persons on psychotropic meds. Health providers can't bill Medicaid while someone is jailed. It's difficult to keep individuals on medications.

Dr. Stewart reviewed the Rule 11 process in which defense attorneys petition the court to determine mental competency of an individual. At that point, court ordered evaluations need to be done by a psychologist to make a determination. If a person is found not competent, a 2nd evaluation is ordered. The court may order further care in the Restoration to Competency program in county jail. Psychotropic medications are used when ordered to attempt to restore a person to mental competency. They have 15 months to hold a person and make the effort. After 15 months, they can petition court for an additional 6 months in program. The court makes the determination if competent or not competent. 80% success rate in restoring persons to mental competency. Information is sent back to court to inform if the individual is restorable or not.

Rule 11 process glitches can include sudden release from jail, even though the individual is enrolled in the program. Inmate Services may scramble to connect to a person to available services immediately upon their, but it's unknown if they remain connected. Sometimes inmates are released without connection to services, yet they need continued care and follow-up which was not established prior to release.

The Public Defender's office and the County Attorney's office are working to ensure connection. They are often caught off guard at the same time when the court releases a subject without notice. Medication and care may not follow the individual and they fall through the cracks in the system.

How do we coordinate care immediately when rule 11 is discussed? What can we do to follow person with outside providers having them in purview as well? Want to ensure coordination to care even if person may be sentenced to DOC.

Public Defender Kennedy stated there is a barrier through their office in that they are unable to communicate with behavioral health care providers. It is unethical for defendants to sign release with care providers while ruled incompetent.

Statewide updates:

We need to maintain statewide understanding in legislative sessions – Ms. Dorfman is tracking bills and watching what happens with behavioral health.

Governor Ducey is wanting to pull together a special session in November with important bills including jail coordination. A pretrial diversion bill is also there; unknown if will be addressed.

Mental health committee of the Supreme Court is working on a full report, to include legislation and court ordered evaluation. It was placed on hold during COVID.

Ms. Poller reports a workgroup is being formed under Care1st. They are taking the lead on different key points for select groups throughout state. AHCCCS may even change policy to have universal processes and documentation. If anyone is interested, please contact her to meet every two weeks for next 8 weeks.

Title 36 COE/COT Coordination:

Title 36 - improving process for Yavapai County an ongoing goal. An inpatient unit is part of the construction of the new justice facility, to include a connection center and screening and evaluation area, all licensed for outside providers to provide screening and evaluation of individuals. Yavapai's Administration and Jack Fields oversees Title 36 contracts. Yavapai Regional Medical Center and other care providers are working on what the contract will look like.

Increase access to children, youth and families:

The Coalition began a work group for youth outreach and engagement, through a request from CFSS. CFSS was alarmed by increased risky behaviors in youth and teens over the last few months. Safe places for youth/teens to be outside of home have been restricted or taken away. Sometimes home isn't safe; where can they go? Some areas have higher options for access than more remote areas. They are working to create teen-centric resource book in cooperation with other behavioral health homes, YMCA, and Parks & Recreation. West Yavapai Guidance Clinic offered their marketing director to ensure appeal to teens. They need events, activities, and resources to add to booklet, including crisis care, financial care, etc. They want to distribute to youth and families, but also get into the hands of kids through schools, advertising, and other departments.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14th, 2021.

Meeting adjourned 2:54