



YAVAPAI JUSTICE & MENTAL HEALTH COALITION

Building a healthy and safe community through partnerships and collaboration.

www.justicementalhealth.org

Meeting Minutes

October 14th, 2021, 1 pm-2:30 pm

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Ms. Thayer opened the meeting at 1:00 pm and welcomed all attendees. If anyone was missed on the attendees, please email Ms. Thayer. (For list of attendees see last page.)

WELCOME:

Sheriff Rhodes: Welcome. It is fantastic to see so much participation and collaboration. Sheriff Rhodes provide an overview of exciting work within the Coalition: The Construction of the Re-entry Center next to the New Criminal Justice Facility; Working with Don Bischoff in Mohave County on the development of their Re-Entry Center; 911 Diversion; we are on the leading edge of Legislation going into this next year with more T36 Legislation changes and a lot of good work going on. There are so many people dedicated to this work and recognizing we really have an impact on public policy. Thank you for your dedication, commitment, and time today.

Ms. Thayer: Thanked everyone for joining today and greatly appreciates the hard work and making it through the change of the seasons, change during the pandemic, and change of delivery systems that are occurring.

Review and Approve of Minutes: If you have any corrections for July 8th, 2021, minutes, please email Ms. Thayer. Minutes are posted on the Coalition Website. If no responses, minutes to be posted as they are.

STRATEGIC GOALS:

Report Outs and Need identification - *Full Coalition*

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

- **Yavapai County Juvenile Court and Diversion Efforts; *Director Lockling***
- Yavapai County Juvenile Justice Center – Review of the Department with a focus on Diversion.

The Juvenile Justice Center was designed in 2008 for the needs of the kids in Yavapai County. The facility has a Court, Hearing Room, Clerks Office, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), probation staff, and a Detention Center. The 80-bed facility currently has staffing for 32 kids. There is a detention school that runs all year long, as well as a transitional school for kids in our community who are not doing well in a public-school

setting. Additionally, there is an 8-week Residential Treatment Program called Journey that is a collaboration with Spectrum, Polara, and Child and Family Support Services.

- Vision/goals
 - Influence positive change with kids and families
 - Kids at Hope (Rick Miller) – Our kids are capable of success, no exceptions.
- Juvenile Court
 - Dependency Court:
 - Children and families involved in the child welfare system
 - CASA Program: 70 volunteers; 360 children currently in dependency/the child welfare system in Yavapai County
 - Cross Over Youth Program: Juveniles involved in both Dependency and Delinquency
 - Delinquency Court:
 - Juveniles who have committed a criminal act. The jurisdiction of Juvenile Court, with extended jurisdiction provisions, is age 8 to 19. Currently 427 kids are in the delinquency system for Yavapai County.
 - **Diversión**: Term used to describe intervention approaches that redirect youth away from formal processing in the juvenile justice system, while still holding them accountable for their actions.
 - 152 kids in the diversion program as of the presentation.
 - **Paper Referral** - Starts the referral to the Juvenile Justice Center. Seven (7) days to reach out to the family. The probation officer works with the family to identify what resources they need. The goal is for the kid not to sink deeper into the system.
 - Programs identified: Life Skills Enrichment Academic Program, an after school program, provides education on topics such as Fentanyl and Making Amends Through Sincerity (MATS) , an apology letter to victims or parents.
 - Diversion records are automatically destroyed
 - October 2021 data reflects 75-80% success rate – meaning they do not return. Kids are typically self-correcting, need guidance, and consequences for their actions.
 - **Physical Referral** – the juvenile is brought into the detention center where a DSI (Detention Screening Instrument) is completed. The assessment will determine if the kid stays in the detention center or not. The goal is to avoid detaining lower risk kids. There are currently 16 kids in the Detention Center and 6 kids in the Residential Treatment program.
 - Bridges Assessment Center – provides 23-hour respite for the kids who do not score high enough to detain in the detention center. Bridges allows respite for kids who have domestic violence issues in the home or need a

cooling off time. Multiple assessments will be completed with the kid and an action plan is completed to help identify resources for the kid/family

- Once released from the center, there is follow by juvenile court staff with the kids/families.
- New Initiatives: Probation Resource Officers (PRO) involves Community Involvement, specifically in the schools. Entails school visits and collaboration with administration and SRO's.
- Juvenile Court Institute (JCI) – designed by Scott Mabery. Offered one (1) night a week for three (3) hours starting March 3, 2022 at BOS in Cottonwood. Overview: Describes what occurs in Juvenile Court, tour of the detention center, ride-along with probation officer, and court process. Contact: Diana Berra at 928.442.5970 if interested.
- Questions:
 - What about the youth aging out of foster care and facing homelessness? Youth aging out of the system usually go through the Department of Child Safety who have funds to assist with the transition. What we have seen is that frequently the youth are exhausted with the systems/agencies and choose not to take advantage of these funds. MATFORCE is now collaborating with DCS for the funds designated for this population should they apply for them.
 - What are the gaps and barriers in our systems that kids are trying to overcome? Mental health issues in the detained kids. The kids are often in the detention center for a very long period; family may be involved; most kids are simply lost. Some are waiting for higher level of care or placement. All agencies/treatment programs are suffering with the number of vacant positions, which make the waiting lists much longer.
 - For the kids who are waiting for placement, is their AHCCCS not suspended? Typically, no, all efforts are made to ensure that access to their providers is maintained. The treatment providers are trying to get in and see the kids as soon as they can. There is a no contact due to Covid – kids are seen through no-contact visitation. Zoom is an option.
 - How are you preparing them for working? One tool is with LEAP- Life skills Enrichment Academic Program. An extensive program that provides kids with basic skills on how to complete a resume and the interview process. A summer program, Learn and Earn is also an option for kids with restitution. This program is in collaboration with the Yavapai College.
 - Health Choice AZ will reach out to Director Lockling regarding additional ways to address gaps for children who are in custody.

- **Trauma Lens Care (TLC) – Sex Trafficking screening**
- Including on their APP a way to identify if a child is being trafficking or abused. The app can be accessed easily by a QR code. The Sheriff's Office is piloting the updated APP and will be reporting back. This is another way of continuing to support our youth.

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

- **Spectrum Healthcare Mobile Crisis and 911 Deflection; *Paige LeForte, Spectrum***
- Spectrum Mobile Crisis teams meet every other month with 1st responders and other community partners on what calls are being responded to.
- Most recent report demonstrated the following data:
 - 3107 crisis response events; 2232 unique individuals served; response time 26 minutes; primary reason for call is homelessness.
 - Danger to self about 1000 calls; increase of depression and anxiety; psychosis/delusions
 - Addiction and homelessness are high on the Social Determinants of Health
 - Post Crisis Follow Up – We use this to look for the gaps of care
- 911 Diversion Program: Partnering with dispatch communication centers and law enforcement agencies on identifying who are non-emergent callers, emotionally disturbed callers and diverting them to a Crisis Team to respond instead of a law enforcement. The Crisis Team would be able to help assist the callers with coping skills.
- How the flow of calls come into dispatch: All the calls come directly to 911 – it is identified as a non-emergent caller and a crime is not being committed. A decision tree was developed to assess for the threats and security of the caller. If the need is a lower threat for the non-emergent callers, we will triage those calls for individuals who need to talk. If the calls go bad, officer in charge will know where the mobile team is located. We have been added to call logs for our location. This will help maintain the safety of our team. The use of radios will tie directly into dispatch.
- Goal of 911 Diversion – Trying to reduce how many times a person must tell their story. Crisis teams are being dispatched at the same time of the officer. They will be right there to help assist the situation. How are you covering the HIPPA? Creating a MOU with each dispatch agency. We will share these two detailed items, location, and final disposition of the client. No information about the caller's mental health will be shared. Working with departments and rolling out slowly, as we grow in the program
- Questions:
 - How many crisis staff comprise the teams? The Crisis Team is 8 staff members. We currently have a Team of 6 staff members ready to go and available 24/7. Teams are dispatched individually and/or in teams of 2, as needed.
 - How many calls has Spectrum received in in Western Yavapai? Around 1300.

- **Upcoming CIT Conference Nov 1-5.** RSVP to Antoinette.Sablan@yavapai.gov
- The CIT Conference still has slots available and accepting RSVP. We offer the CIT conference 2x a year. If you need a flyer, Ms. Thayer will email you the flyer. Don Bischoff, Mohave, has requested a flyer.
- Reach Out Program: Work group is discussing ways to increase the quality of connections for post release. NAU helps with analyzing our data and what we have discovered is that individuals who leave the jail and are connected to a Behavioral Health, and has satisfactory engagement for at least 90 days post released, has the lowest recidivism rates. General population rate is 18.5% recidivism; homelessness has the highest rate of 25%. And how can we support – post/pre released stay engaged with the Behavioral Health?

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

- **AHCCCS & Care1st COE/COT Training Initiative: Update, *Linda Poller Care1st***
- Linda Poller: Update for COE/COT Training Initiative. Right now, we are in the development phase with AHCCCS, working through each slide the work group put together and working on the voice over. In the next month, the training will be available to everyone. There are five (5) questionnaire education checks throughout the video. Not sure how it will be distributed yet. Thanked everyone for the collaboration.
- RFQ for upcoming contract
- RFQ was closed for the T36 provider to contract with the county and to use the facility at the new justice center. Jack Fields with Yavapai County Administration is in contract discussions with Polaris. Kelly Legler with Polara stated that their goal will be improving the process and will soon beholding community meetings

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

- State appropriations extended Jail Reentry Coordination with Mohave County and Pinal County and Yavapai County has met with them to discuss the Reach Out model.
- Sheriff Rhodes: There are discussions regarding T36 legislation; changing transportation requirements for less custodial.
- Verde Valley Homeless Coalition Shelters are open full time with 15 beds and hoping for 20 beds by the end of the year. The address: 6540 N. Main, Cottonwood; Phone: (928) 641-4298
- Lori Verdier: Northern Arizona Peer and Family Coalition monthly meeting is Oct 20th and then Dec 15th 1-230 pm. For information NAPFC email info@napfc.org

- Mary Robbins: CFSS partner with City of Prescott and Teen Task Force for their 1st Annual Fashion Show
- Yavapai Justice and Mental Health Coalition Foundation has been incorporated as a 501(c)3 entity to support the projects of the coalition and seeking funds to keep the movement going forward.

Save the dates for upcoming 2022 Coalition meetings: January 13, 2022

Attendees: (If you are not shown in the list of attendees, please email Ms. Thayer)

*Alzheimer's Association
Care 1st/AHCCCS*

**Christine Stein
Linda Poller**

Catholic Charities Housing

Sarah Rendon

*Child & Family Support Services
Community and Advisory Council Member
Cottonwood Police Department
Health Choice Arizona*

**Mary Robbins
Jeanne Wellins
Gareth Braxton-Johnson, Commander
Amy Fehrs Bacon**

*Inside Out Network
Mohave County
Polara Health
Prescott Police Department
Prescott Valley Police Department
Pronghorn Psychiatry*

**Brianna Barrios
Denise Cox
Kimberly Sevier
Miranda Campos
Don Bischoff
Kelly Legler
Amy Bonney, Chief
James Edelstein, Commander
Kim Crooks
Carla Rivera
Justin Chase
April Rhodes
Shawn Hatch
Paige LeForte
Tracy**

*Solari
Spectrum Healthcare*

*Veteran's Administration
Yavapai College
Yavapai County Adult Probation*

**Julie Garver
Tyran Payne, Chief
John Morris, Chief
Cameron Doty
Kathy Ryder
Kathryn Blair
Audrey Dorfman, VIP
Nancy Gardner**

*Yavapai County Public Fiduciary
Yavapai County Sheriff's Office*

**Beya Thayer, Executive Director
Jeff Newnum, Chief Deputy
David Rhodes, Sheriff
Gay Lockling, Director
Robert Barth, II
Rhonda Bishop, Executive Director
Julie Garver**

*Yavapai Juvenile Court
Yavapai Regional Medical Center
Verde Valley Homeless
Veterans Administration*