



## YAVAPAI JUSTICE & MENTAL HEALTH COALITION MEETING

*Address: 2970 Centerpointe E Drive - Prescott, AZ 86301*

*Room: Giffin Taylor Training Room*

*Building a healthy and safe community through partnerships and collaboration.*

[www.justicementalhealth.org](http://www.justicementalhealth.org)

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 11, 2024 1pm-2:30pm**

Ms. Thayer opened the meeting at 1:03 pm, welcomed all attendees, and had participants introduce themselves and their role in the county. If anyone was missed on the attendee's list, please email Ms. Thayer. (For a list of attendees, see last page.)

#### **WELCOME: Chief Deputy Jeff Newnum on behalf of Sheriff Rhodes**

Good afternoon everybody. It's good to see so many faces here again. We seem to be coming together and meeting in person which is nice. I'm here on behalf of Sheriff Rhodes. I just want to thank everyone for continuing to participate in this important venture that is the Mental Health Coalition and share with you a few stats that I was given last week when we were working on our budget and our annual data. Around the same time that we started this coalition, the Sheriff's Office and all the stakeholders came together and tried to find out what our recidivism rate was. I think we used the DOJ-accepted rate of recidivism of around 39 – 40%. Beya and I always wondered if that was true because we had no baseline. We were just going off of numbers. I will tell you, that number for the DOJ is much higher today across the nation from some of the stats that I've looked at. But because of what you guys are helping us do and because of the partnership that we have, since June 2021, released 14,000 inmates back into our communities with a recidivism rate of 17%. Think about that. For me, it's always impressive when I see many individuals going back into our communities, being connected to meaningful care, and staying engaged. We are reducing crime and people who are victimized in our communities. I would submit, and I always ask Dennis McGrane, I know he's having more trials – the number of trials by jury is increasing – and our arrest rate and bookings are way down. We went from over 10,000 bookings back then and now we see under 7,000 bookings per year as our population continues to grow in Yavapai County. So, our communities are becoming safer and it's because of the work that is happening here.

Yavapai County, is being heightened in Corrections On national magazine this month the new facility and especially our Connections Center that we just built and opened up a few months ago. This is due to the work you all have done. It's impressive and it's appreciated. The success stories out there with families are too numerous to count. I just wanted to say thank you and share that one piece of data.

Two legislative updates to share:

Sheriff Rhodes, the Sheriff's Association, and I have been down at the Senate and House for the last few months, and we've been successful in strengthening laws referencing the sale of fentanyl. We have now, with Dennis McGrane, strengthened the mandatory sentencing for someone who is in possession of 200 grams or more. For the first offense, you are looking at 5 years, with repetitive offenses going up to 10-15 years for distributing such a large quantity of a deadly drug.

The Attorney General's Opioid Funds are continuing to go forward. \$20 million will be dedicated to jail reentry coordination. Things are continuing to go forward. I'm excited about what the year has to come as we start to open up. I'm interested to hear about where we are with the rest of the county.

Question – What was the rate of recidivism before the program?

Chief Newnum - We don't have a baseline, so Beya and I worked hard back in 2016 to try and find the baseline for Yavapai County but there wasn't one. What did exist, we knew that every year, 210,000 inmates were being released a year from Arizona jails. That didn't include people being released from DOC. They estimated the overall recidivism rate for that population was 39% - statewide.

Beya –As a group we needed to define recidivism: how long are people released before tracking new arrests and does our recidivism rates include all arrests, or just new charges? The difficulty in having a comparison is not knowing how other studies are defining it or how long they are tracking new arrests post-release. The Coalition decided that we study two years' worth of people being released, waiting an extra 6 months at the end, before pulling recidivism data. Our recidivism rate of 16.9 % includes new arrests inclusive of the whole jail population. Our data has demonstrated the individuals that Inmate Services, along with our behavioral health partners, attorneys and the courts, work to coordinate a release order and are diverted out of jail to services, had a 16.4% rate. Coordinated diversion works.

Chief Newnum - , what we're doing is making a difference. I just want to encourage you to keep doing what you are doing because you are reducing our jail population and you're increasing success in our communities. If we did not have this program, if we did not have Reach Out and the partnership, we all enjoy, our inmate population per day would be at least 150 – 200 more. That's significant. We just opened up the Prescott jail, we are operating at 100% capacity at the Prescott Jail right now with inmates and are going to use it to the best of our ability. We're at 82% capacity at the Camp Verde Jail so we have that cushion. But if we did not have these programs, we would be over capacity at both today.

**Presentation: Hushabye Nursery, Executive Director Tara Sundem**

We are a non-profit that serves pregnant and parenting families. We opened in 2017 but did not open the nursery until 2020. We have served 800 babies and three times as many

parents. We have a 12-bed nursery in Phoenix. We can meet families prenatally and for however long they need help postnatally. The three peer supports have been through the program; currently 2 moms and 1 dad. Within 24 hours of delivery, families receive a HOPPE (Hushabye Opioid Pregnancy Preparation and Empowerment) binder which helps educate, empower, and advocate for the family and can keep paperwork readily available. Our program was designed specifically for parents and babies going through withdrawal. We provide a quiet, dark environment and one-on-one caregivers. We continue working with the family after discharge if they want and offer over 50 services and community collaboration partners. 74% of mothers who are prenatally involved with Hushabye Nursery safely maintained custody of their infant.

[tara.sundem@hushabyenursery.org](mailto:tara.sundem@hushabyenursery.org)

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#### **COALITION UPDATES:**

- Maintain an understanding of statewide legislation & policies that could affect or contribute to building a healthy & safe community:
  - Legislation update
    - Title 36 legislation is going through. The workgroup has been following one that includes substance use disorder and court-ordered evaluation.
    - One has to do with penalizing the folks that are providing the drugs.
  - Grant updates
    - AG'S Office awarded us opioid monies. These monies were only allowed to go to the counties with jail re-entry coordination programs in place. The Sheriff's Office decided to apply the funds to rebuild the database we have so every county has the same structure to get started.
  - Site visit
    - The coalition is a law enforcement mental health learning site. This means we get to talk about what we do and learn what the other learning sites are doing. We were asked by the National Association of Counties and the National Justice Institute to host some jurisdictions from around the state, centered around the courts. Four states come in: Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, and Louisiana. They all brought a judge as well as one or two other county officials. We hosted them for 1.5 days. Other attendees were advisory members, coalition members, and Judge Napper. We discussed how the coalition got started, what the jail re-entry looks like, Rule 11, pre-arrest conversion, complete care partners, Title 36, and more.
- Improve cross-system collaboration to reduce involvement in the justice system by people with mental health & substance use disorders:
  - Temporary Guardianship Attorney Position, *Kathy Ryder, Yavapai County Superior Court*
    - Data collected from October through January was analyzed by a team at

Embry Riddle. They compiled a report to determine if a temporary guardian was assigned, would it be beneficial for the invested person to move forward with whatever they needed in their life. It was decided to move forward and start a pilot program. We are looking to contract with an attorney who the referrals would go through and what the person needs. Currently working on what the referral process would look like. Reach out to Kathy for May meeting information if you would like to participate.

- Opioid Funding Opportunity, *James Tobin, YCHSA*
  - Mental Health Conference in Prescott, at the resort, on May 6 and 7. It will be a great opportunity to network. The conference is about 80% filled. Some scholarships are available if funding is an issue.
  - The state received over a billion dollars in Opioid Settlement Funds from pharmacies and pharmaceuticals. 44% goes to the state and 56% goes to the counties. The county health department handles the funds and portions it out to the cities and towns. This year, there are 5 grantees. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, more funding will become available. The grant opened up on March 26<sup>th</sup> and will close on April 26<sup>th</sup>. If interested, please reach out for the application.
- Connections Center Update, *James Tobin & Sabath Oliver, YCHSA*
  - A new resource was discussed for the center - Peer Support Navigator position - who will work with the participants initially and stay with them to try and help them get into recovery treatment. They have about 150 clients that they connect with each month. Out of these, 20 – 30% have transportation issues. They are working with some groups to improve on that but in the meantime, they are trying to create a ride connect program which would not be just for recently released people, but also for those who might need help getting to critical appointments such as court, work, etc.
  - They now have iPads for providers to do video intakes. They also have a bookshelf where people bring in books for free and others can take them if they want. If permission is given, they are doing two follow-up calls which has been very well received. They are doing a drive for their clothing closet, anything is accepted. Manzanita is providing food boxes, snack bags, and water for those who need it.
- Suicide Prevention Coalition Yavapai County, *Kelly Lee, MATFORCE*
  - They have quarterly meetings. The next meeting is May 20<sup>th</sup> if anyone is interested in joining. Their goal is to reduce suicides in Yavapai County. They attend events and sponsor the “Out of the Darkness Event” yearly. This year, it will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Granite Creek Park.
  - Completed suicides are down from 90 in 2022 to 88 in 2023. There is an increase in completed suicides in those over 61. Overdoses are also increasing in the senior population. A full overdose fatality review report can be found at

matforce.org.

- They have a Trauma Lens Care (TLC) Program where law enforcement arriving on scene, are completing a referral for children experiencing trauma through the TLC App. Those referrals go to Kelly so they can wrap services around those children when they return to school. They also received grant funding to do a program as an offshoot of the TLC Program called TLC Teacher Mentors. This program is currently in 7 schools. When the referral is received, the student is matched with a Teacher Mentor every day, sometimes twice a day, for the remainder of the school year.
- Crisis call update:
  - Morgan Sexauer from Care 1<sup>st</sup> reviewed metrics for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the FY:
    - Crisis Line Calls
    - Call Disposition
    - Third Party Callers
    - Primary Presentation
    - PD Identifiers
    - Mobile Team Dispositions
    - Response Times
    - Total Admissions
    - Referral Sources
  - Next meeting is Crisis June 11<sup>th</sup>. Reach out to Bill Mitchell with any questions.
- Improve the T36/COE/COT process to better serve the needs of the Yavapai Community:
  - Workgroup Update
    - If interested in joining, reach out to Beya for an invite.
  - Polara Update, *David Dohm*
    - They are getting close to having licensing come out.
- Increase behavioral health access to children, youth, and families within the schools and the juvenile justice system:
  - Assessing needs to support schools, *Beya Thayer & Dawn Rutigliano, CFSS*
    - Tera Newman at JPO continues to express the high level of needs with juveniles coming into their system and seeing them for the first time.
    - They are seeing an alarming new trend. They have a new population of kids they are getting and detaining with very high needs and very violent offenses, but no previous connection to the Juvenile Justice System.
    - The group is also assessing which schools might need partner support.
- Coalition Member Updates & Announcements
- SIM Intercept 0 and 1 Update

Next upcoming Coalition meetings: July 11, 2024

Please contact [beya.thayer@yavapaiaz.gov](mailto:beya.thayer@yavapaiaz.gov) to receive calendar invites for workgroup dates.

Name	Organization
Allison Lenocker	Coalition for Compassion and Justice
Amy Bonney, Chief	Prescott Police Department
Amy Devins	Arizona Complete Health
Angela Ramos	Public Defender
Ann Norton	Care1st
Anthony Mancini	Care1st
Becca King	Hope Inc.
Beya Thayer	Yavapai Justice MH Coalition/YCSO
Bill Mitchell	Care1st
Brent Kimbriel, Commander	Yavapai County Sheriff's Office
Bryan Campbell	US Vets
Chris Dowell, Interim Chief	Cottonwood Police Department
Dan Haley	Hope Inc.
Dan Hays, Lt	Prescott Valley Police Department
Dana Horne	
Dana Owens	Yavapai County Attorney's Office
Danielle Moore	Catholic Charities
Daryl Butricks	Hope In.
Dawn Rutigliano	CFSS
Deb Jorgenson	OIFA Care1st
Dennis McGrane	Yavapai County Attorney's Office
Don Kirchner	Return to Honor Coalition
Donella Sas	Yavapai County Sheriff's Office
Dr. Diana Orem	Embry Riddle
Erin Kantor	Polara Health
Gema Lopez	Yavapai County Community Health Services
Heidi Howard	Yavapai Justice MH Coalition/YCSO
Jacque Barnes	Yavapai County Adult Probation
James Tobin	Yavapai County Community Health Services
Janet Billiet	Yavapai County Community Health Services
Jeff Newman, Chief Deputy	Yavapai County Sheriff's Office
Jericho Galindo	Sonoran Prevention Works
Jess Howard	Solari
Jim Ledbetter	Ledbetter Lawfirm
Josh Brock	Care1st

Juston Knight	Arizona Complete Health
Kathy Bashor	Arizona Peer & Family Coalition
Kathy Ryder	Yavapai County Superior Court
Kelly Lee	Matforce
Kimberly Brown	Catholic Charities
Kristin Bandy	Solari
Laura Waters	Northland Cares
Linda Rodkey	Summit Behavioral Health/Granite Mountain
Maria Fuentes	Hushabye Nursery
Mario Lippy	Spectrum Healthcare
Mario Morales	Care1st
Mary Robbins	CFSS
Melinda Tincher	Spectrum Healthcare
Mia Santamaria	Care1st
Morgan Hatch	Spectrum Healthcare
Morgan Sexauer	Care1st
Nicole Reisman	Stoneridge Centers
Paris Sundown	
Raquel Oliver	Sedona Police Department
Sabbath Oliver	Yavapai County Community Health Services
Shannon Williams	Care1st
Sherie Gifford	High Country Early Intervention
Shawn Hatch	Spectrum Healthcare
Tara Newman, Director	Juvenile Courts
Tara Sundem	Hushabye Nursery
Wendy Dittbrenner	Care1st