

Dutchess County
Criminal Justice Council
Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2022

Present: Mary Ellen Still, Chair, Director of Probation
William O'Neil, County Executive's Office
Rachel Kashimer, County Executive's Office
Dr. Gary Christensen, CJC Consultant
Jon Heller, D.C Probation, Special Populations Chair
Tom Angell, Public Defender, Re-Entry Co-Chair
Matthew Weishaupt, D.C. District Attorney's Office
Hon. Susan Sullivan-Bisceglia, Town of LaGrange Court; Centralized Arraignment Comm. Chair
Pastor John Perez, Citizen Appointment, Faith Temple Church
Martin Lynch, Project M.O.R.E.
Kelly Bunt, KB Forensics, Victims Committee
Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP, Commissioner of Behavioral & Comm. Health
Jean-Marie Niebuhr, Deputy Commissioner, DBCH
Sandy Carroll, Probation, Juvenile Justice Co-Chair
Zoe Berko, DBCH, Juvenile Justice Co-Chair
Robin Peritz, DBCH
Hon. Frank Mora, Poughkeepsie City Court
Hon. Edward McLoughlin, Dutchess County Court
Hon. Gerald Hayes, Citizen Appt
Hon. Gregory Johnston, Beacon City Court
Hon. Joseph A. Egitto, Dutchess County Family Court
Alisyn Gaffney, D.C Probation, Justice-Involved Women's Co-Chair
Bridget Goddard, DCFS
John Penney, Community Engagement Director City of Poughkeepsie
Cherrell Evans-Tillery, Women's Committee Co-Chair, Project M.O.R.E.
Anthony Pica, Deputy Superintendent D.C. Jail
Shirley Adams, Catharine St. Center, CIC Chair
Michele Romano, Coordinator

Guests: Tom Morris, Dutchess County Probation
Paul Spagnoli, Dutchess County Probation

1. **Approval of September 20, 2022 Minutes**-The minutes of September 20, 2022 were approved on a motion by Tom Angell, seconded by Shirley Adams.
2. **Jail/ATI/Safe Act Report -Therese Lee, Mary Ellen Still, Jean-Marie Niebuhr** – The October Jail/ATI/Safe Act reports were sent electronically. There were no questions.
3. **Planning and Research Update—Gary Christensen**
Gary presented a PowerPoint detailing his findings on the impact of bail reform in Dutchess County. He gave a summary of why the study was made and then proceeded with his findings. The presentation included jail data, arrest data, discovery impact data and victim impact data. The presentation is attached. There was significant discussion on Gary's findings.

4. **Committee Reports:**

Quality Assurance—Gary Christensen, Tom Angell, Bill Grady — Quality Assurance was addressed above, and Gary had nothing further to add. There were no questions.

RTA Update—Hon. Joseph Egitto

Judge Egitto discussed Raise the Lower Age (RTLTA) of juvenile delinquency under the Family Court Act (FCA) from 7 to 12 years of age, with an exception for alleged homicide offenses. In addition, the amendment raises the lower age for youth in secure detention from 10 to 13 years of age unless the youth is alleged to have committed a homicide offense. He further discussed concerns of unavailable detention beds and the expectation of future beds in Westchester; however, this has not yet been confirmed. There were no questions.

Centralized Arraignment—Hon. Susan Sullivan-Bisceglia

Judge Sullivan-Bisceglia reported that the Centralized Arraignment Committee is working to finalize a location for Centralized Arraignment. There were no questions.

Diversion— Steve Miccio

Steve was unavailable to attend.

Victims—Kelly Bunt

Kelly reported that the Victims Committee meeting was held on the 4th of November. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the September 20th panel presentation was unable to be hosted and they will discuss hosting it at another location in the future. The committee meeting centered on hosting focus groups with victims. There were no questions or comments.

Re-Entry—Tom Angell

Tom needed to leave the meeting however, reported to Mary Ellen that the committee met on the 20th of October. They had a presentation on Operation Porch Light. Their next hybrid meeting will be held on the 22nd of December. They will have a presentation by ConnectNetwork. There were no questions.

CIC—Shirley Adams

Shirley reported that the committee met on the 19th of October and discussed hosting a virtual presentation on opioids the second week in December. There were no questions.

Justice-Involved Women — Alisyn Gaffney and Cherrell Evans-Tillery

Cherrell reported that the committee met on the 1st of November. They discussed changing their planned event from November to March. March was an obvious choice because it is Women's History month. They also discussed putting refrigerators around the community. Adriance Memorial Library will have the first community fridge for individuals experiencing food insecurity. In addition to distributing their resource guide with Hope on a Mission every 4th Tuesday of each month, they are looking for places to hang bulletin boards in the community where they can put up their QRL code link and resource guide. They are reaching out to the women in the RESTART program to discuss what their needs are and how Justice-Involved Women can help. Molly Shanley, a community member, would like to help the women publish their stories and poetry. The next meeting will be held on the 13th of December. There were no questions or comments.

Special Populations—Jon Heller

Jon Heller reported the committee met on the 21st of November. He gave an update on RESTART Quality Assurance. He reported a meeting was held with the JTC transition team to review the space and setup training. The RESTART coordinating team met to review the plans. Additionally, he gave highlights of the RESTART men's focus group that was held on the 22nd of September. Kevin and Nicole gave a RESTART program update. Kevin indicated that RESTART staff would participate in training all the Jail staff for the new facility. Nicole indicated that there are currently 24 males and three females in the RESTART unit with a total of seven on MAT. Tom Angell expressed that

he would like to see RESTART fully integrated into the court process. After some discussion, it was decided a smaller subgroup would be formed to explore this further. Kelly provided an update on Sex Offender treatment and indicated that everything is status quo. Jon and Tom gave an update on Incarcerated People with Special Needs subcommittee. The meetings are very productive, however there continues to be significant delays in obtaining mental health beds. There are 96 individuals statewide awaiting beds. Tom has contacted the NYS Civil Liberties Union on this matter. Locally, CPL 730 exams are being completed in a timely manner. Robin gave an update on Mental Health Community Challenges and indicated that implementation of the 2nd ITAP track for mental health is delayed. ITAP does, however, currently treat people with co-occurring disorders. The first staff member for the 2nd track starts in January. MHCC's next meeting is on the 13th of December. Kevin gave a MAT update and reported that the process at DCJ is going well. There will be a meeting scheduled to work on the data collection points soon. Tom Angell indicated concern over the rise of overdose rates in Dutchess County. There was further discussion about our county stats in comparison to other counties and possible reasons for the differences. Kevin and several other members stressed the importance of verifying the data before reaching any conclusions. Kevin gave a report on the progress of the new JTC. He indicated the amount of group space, and the efficiency of the design were as good as he has seen in any facility. He and Jon are enthusiastic about the plan to have training occur prior to occupation. The next meeting will be in-person on the 19th of December. There were no questions.

Juvenile Justice—Zoe Berko and Sandy Carroll

Sandy reported that the Juvenile Justice Committee did not meet for the month of October and the next meeting will be held on the 26th of January. Sandy also discussed the Raise the Lower Age (RTL) Law. The committee participated in another YPI last week. They are continuing with their trainings. There were no questions.

Police Reform & Reinvention— Mary Ellen Still

Mary Ellen reported that a new chair will be appointed soon. There were no questions.

5. **Old Business**—None
6. **New Business**— Mary Ellen reported that meeting schedules for 2023 were sent out electronically. CJC members should be aware that some meetings may not fall on the traditional meeting dates.
7. **Announcements**— Jon announced that Project M.O.R.E. received all four of the state grants that they applied for.
8. **Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn was made by Pastor John Perez, seconded by Bill O'Neil.

Next Meeting—January 10, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. The meeting will be in-person at 230 North Road's Training Room.