

**DUTCHESS COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL
SPECIAL POPULATONS COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes—September 18, 2017

Present: Jonathan Heller, Chairman, D.C. Probation & Community Corrections
Mary Ellen Still, D.C. Probation & Community Corrections
Kevin Warwick, ASAI, Consultant
Sam Busselle, Citizen Representative
Charles Robitaille, DBCH
Martin Lynch, Project M.O.R.E.
Thomas Angell, D.C. Public Defender, Re-Entry Committee Chair
Winifred Milkovich, D.C. Jail
Mark Sasvary, Hudson Valley Mental Health
Shirley Adams, Catharine Street Community Center, CIC
William Grady, D.C. District Attorney
Chief Tom Pape, City of Poughkeepsie Police Dept.
Dawn Hawley, CJC Coordinator

1. Approval of July 17, 2017 meeting minutes – Approved by Mary Ellen Still, seconded by Tom Angell.

2. Second Chance Act Grant update – Kevin reported that we have not yet heard if we will receive the grant that we applied for last year. We should hear in the next couple of weeks.

3. RESTART Update – Charlie reported that RESTART is fully staffed. New clinicians will be trained in Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT). Charlie reported that there is a waiting list and they are keeping the beds full. A recovery coach has been added. He is putting in 20 hours a week between the Stabilization Center and RESTART, primarily to work with high-risk heroin users who do not connect well with services in the community. Charlie added that this is an opportunity to work with people who might be successful in RESTART but not in linking with treatment. Charlie added that they have been receiving calls on the RESTART hotline that has been established to help people stay connected. The RESTART program has trained staff in the administration of Narcan. They will begin training RESTART participants and give them a kit at time of release. They would like to modify the release time for RESTART participants to 9:00 a.m. This would allow staff to give the kit as participants are walking out the door, make sure that they have a safe place to go and provide a ride to an appointment if needed.

Tom Angell asked if anyone has done studies on Narcan regarding risky behavior. Charlie said the consensus in the treatment community is that people are not going to intentionally overdose. They use because their body tells them they need to maintain a certain level. Jon added that he thinks the mindset of people leaving RESTART is positive. They have a choice whether or not to take a Narcan kit. The recovery coach is helpful with this as well.

4. Quality Assurance – Jon reported that the committee met today and discussed ways to assist people completing RESTART who are not on Probation or with Project MORE. The goal is to have more people connected with treatment.

Mark announced that Mike Miano holds a new position as Coordinator of Clinical and Community Services at Hudson Valley Mental Health (HVMH). The intent is to make those linkages to RESTART and other off site services. Mark said they are looking at some creative ways to link people to services upon release. Jon added that their next meeting will focus on fidelity across all the programs in RESTART and in the community. Kevin added that all agencies are working together and MRT has become a core program. Our next Quality Assurance (QA) meeting will be focused on QA for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and programs.

5. Subcommittee for Special Needs update - Tom Angell said they met three times and have identified names of people who may have remained unknown without this meeting. As a result, they have been able to move cases. Tom also reported that the District Attorney has a process whereby they screen cases in correctional facilities prior to arrest and possible incarceration. Tom said that they are hoping that a similar protocol could be instituted for people who are in Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) facilities in the community. Tom said that he has instructed all of his arraignment lawyers to request a judge note on the commitment order that the person comes from a group home or OPWDD facility. Jon added that when we see that on the commitment order, we can take steps to preserve that bed in the facility. Charlie added that they have been working as a department to encourage these homes to call the mobile team for assistance. Charlie said he has been on calls where he has been able to deescalate incidents that may have led to arrests. Tom said they are working on training staff that go to the jail to be able to identify people with developmental disabilities. Kevin said training for people who work in the facilities might also be a good preventative. Tom added that he has been impressed with the care that jail staff are giving. Right now the physical layout of the jail is problematic, but the design of the infirmary in the new facility will be much better.

6. Substance use screening process update – Kevin reported we introduced a screening instrument, the Texas Christian University (TCU), in August and will provide an update on this at our next meeting. Cases are being reviewed faster and the inevitable issues that arise with a new protocol are being worked out. All involved have worked hard on the planning. Jon said that there is a proposed written protocol that the workgroup will review.

Tom Angell added that he has already seen a positive change in terms of time and has been impressed with how fast the turnaround was. On one case, it probably shaved off four to six weeks. The shorter turnaround also helps move people into treatment while they are still interested. Tom thinks it is important to have a meeting for the lawyers in his office and maybe the District Attorney's Office as well. Mary Ellen said that we can use Probation's training room to train all departments.

7. Recidivism data update - Kevin said that Gary sent him statistics on recidivism that are promising. Gary will do a short presentation on this at our October meeting.

Other Business – Exodus held an open house which was well attended.

Next meeting – The next meeting will be October 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Pape, seconded by Kevin Warwick.