

Minutes – Criminal Justice Alternative to Incarceration Meeting

Date: June 28, 2023

Time: 12:00-1:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Bridgette Nugent, Jeremy Cranmer, Matt Van Houten, Deana Bodnar, David Sanders, Jerry Wright, Mary Osario, Tammy Baker, Rich John, Emily Ashby, Erica Cotraccia, Judy Griffin, Keegan Young, Lance Salisbury, Michael James, Peter Salton, Ray Bunce, Sherron Brown, Sue Robinson, Taili Mugambee

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Bridgette asked everyone to introduce themselves and to give updates.
2. **Changes to Agenda:** No changes.
3. **Minutes Approval:** May minutes approved.
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **Chair's Update- Bridgette Nugent** – No updates from the Chair.
 - b. **Introduction to Tammy Baker, Homeless Services Coordinator-** Tammy explained her role and the goal of the position. She worked in Community Outreach in Downtown Ithaca and then she was the Property Manager at the Arthaus. She has been meeting with other homeless services agencies. She will provide more updates as time goes on.

Dave let Tammy know that there have been many people at OAR recently that are under 24; OAR generally helps people over that age knowing that there are other agencies in the county that can help youth. He asked that Tammy help him make a connection to the proper resources for youth. Tammy suggested Youth Outreach and also making sure that the people he serves are on the coordinated entry list. Tammy said that one goal for homeless services is to have a youth shelter.
 - c. **Mapping ATI's in Tompkins County- Rich John-** Rich shared a flow chart of Alternatives to Incarceration Services. He asked anyone in the group that has the document to update it with information that he missed. The list shows prevention services, services once there has been an incident (even if they don't have police contact, and then the list shows services if a person has been arrested.

Rich talked about the existing ATI's in Tompkins County. The flow chart also shows ATI's during trial and post-trial as well as post-incarceration services. There was some discussion and some questions about how people will get to the crisis stabilization center and how that program will operate once it is

operational. Someone from CMC will be invited to talk more about the work they will do as part of the stabilization center.

There was some discussion about what is and is not happening regarding unarmed response, co-response in addition to the crisis stabilization center. Rich suggested that in addition to having CMC come present and share information that Monalita also be invited to share information regarding parts of the RPS plans. Rich said that this group can help identify gaps, such as youth housing.

Matt and David both said that looking at MH help and response is important. Judy asked to add housing as an ATI/support.

Tammy asked if MH evaluations are done for people that go to CMC in drug crisis. Judy agreed that having CMC attend a meeting to give more information about the crisis stabilization center is a good idea. Erica offered to make a connection to CMC. Rich asked the group if the ATI's were working.

Taili said that in comparison to other parts of the nation TC is a community that understands the challenges and the root causes of incarceration, but we need more resources. There is still more discussion to be had, Rich will have time on a future agenda.

Bridgette will share this document again along with the questions Rich has for the group.

- d. Jail Taskforce Overview and Feedback from Jail Working Group** Rich shared the report about the Proposed Jail Renovations. The current jail configuration makes it difficult to see into the spaces (cells). The cost of operating the jail in the existing building is expensive due to its age.

Rich shared the ideas for improvements that the group has come up with. The hope is to have more space to house more women and to have a crisis/stabilization to allow for safety when there is an inmate experiencing drug withdrawal or someone that is in mental health crisis; There is also a plan for a Central Arraignment area; Space for programming and classrooms as well as a library; expansion of the storage area for inmate belongings; lawyer meeting spaces; an updated inmate area. The overall goal is to add functionality and to contribute to officer and inmate wellness and safety. This group is made up of other Legislators, as well as jail personnel, probation employees, judges and people in the community including people that have been in jail.

e. Long Term Inmate Report- Matt Van Houten: Matt said the list still consists of people waiting for placement in a psychiatric facility, people waiting for trial and people with cases that have recently been resolved. Lance and Matt explained that there continues to be a serious issue at the State level of needing more funding for state forensic facilities to add more beds.

5. Adjournment- Bridgette asked members to reach out if they have agenda items. The next virtual meeting is July 26th at 12:00 p.m.