

Minutes – Criminal Justice Alternative to Incarceration Meeting

Date: July 26, 2023

Time: 12:00-1:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Bridgette Nugent, Jennnifer Olin, Dominick Recckio, Lance Salisbury, Sherron Brown, Harmony Ayers-Friedlander, Matt Van Houten, Scott Miller, Keegan Young, David Sanders, Stacy Cangelosi, Deana Bodnar, Michael James, Tammy Baker, Rich John, Peter Salton, Judy Griffin, Emily Ashby, Monalita Smiley, Louise Miller, Erica Cotraccia, Taili Mugambee.

1. Welcome and Introductions: Bridgette asked everyone to introduce themselves and to give updates.

a. Sherron- College Initiative Upstate (CIU) is recruiting for the fall semester.

b. Jenn – Recruiting for Deputies.

2. Changes to Agenda: No changes.

3. Minutes Approval: June minutes approved.

4. Updates:

a. **Chair’s Update- Bridgette Nugent** – No updates.

b. **Discussion on Crisis Response & 24/7 Crisis Stabilization**

i. **Harmony Ayers-Friedlander, TC Whole Health** – Harmony presented information regarding the Crisis Alternative and Mental Health Response Team (CARE). It is a co-response between Mental Health and the Sheriff’s Department. 5-15 % of calls are MH related in the U.S. Co-Response has been in effect in other countries since the 90’s with positive results. She shared the Crisis Care Continuum graphic for Tompkins County. Harmony highlighted that Co-Response is part of the solution not the whole solution.

Taili asked if the objective is that police not show up to calls where they are not needed why are they part of the response. Harmony said that co-response is for instances of urgent response where there is potential for danger to the person or the community. She said it can be hard to determine if a situation will change.

Jenn said that the co-response model helps to gather the data needed to create other programs that can lead to non-officer responses.

Peter said that the community wants a program that allows for non-officer responses. He said that the 911 Emergency Response needs to be different so that there is not a law enforcement response when it is not needed, and this model is not what people in the community are looking for. Harmony, Jenn and

Bridgette responded that this is not what everyone is looking for now but it is a step in that direction. The Sheriffs Deputies that respond to MH calls now do a really good job and the Sheriffs Department is working hard to be a part of the Reimagining Public Safety Initiatives and this is a good first step.

Harmony showed the potential type of vehicle and uniform for the CARE team. The effort is to have a “softer” response that is less likely to cause trauma to the person in need. She said the responders are going to be licensed clinical therapists. When asked if the Community Outreach program was ending she said that the program has funding for 6 more months from the forensic section of OMH and that it was a good program that hopefully continues. What role do ambulatory services play in the transportation of people that need an evaluation at CMC. Jenn said that it can be the preference of the person in need.

Taili said that there is research regarding the color of vehicles and uniforms of co-response teams. He will look up that research and share it with Jenn. He also asked that the measurement data be shared on a public site.

ii. **Stacy Cangelosi**- ADC Services are a stop on the spectrum, there are many ways to access services. The stabilization facility has accepted a few clients that have already gone through detox. There are still some staffing issues so not all services are available.

iii. **Cayuga Medical Center**-Unable to attend. A write-up was provided to the group. Cayuga Health will be at the September Meeting.

c. **Long Term Inmate Report- Matt Van Houten**: Fewer people in jail as cases have been resolved.

5. **Adjournment- Bridgette** asked members to reach out if they have agenda items. The next virtual meeting is September 27th at 12:00 p.m.