

## **Minutes – Criminal Justice Alternative to Incarceration Meeting**

Date: September 24, 2025

Time: 12:00-1:30 pm

Location: Zoom

**Attendees:** Bridgette Nugent, Sherron Brown, Dan Cornell, Bridgette Nugent, Tom Kelly, Kate Shanks-Booth, Matt VanHouten, Marie Boyer, Deana Bodnar, Dominick Recckio, Jennifer Brownell, Lauran Harrison, Susan Tosto, Joanna Stergion, Holly Mosher, Sadie Crusade, Mike James, Taili Mugambee, Peter Salton.

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Bridgette welcomed the group and asked for any general updates.
- 2. Changes to Agenda:** No changes.
- 3. Minutes' Approval:** The minutes of the July meeting were unanimously approved.
- 4. Updates:**
  - a. Group Updates:**
    - i. Probation- grant for pretrial supervision continuing for 3 years.
    - ii. OAR- HUD grant for outreach with City of Ithaca and REACH Medical. One year program to expand outreach services and add to resources.
    - iii. Joanna Stergion is the new forensic counselor at the jail.
  - b. Chair's Update-Bridgette Nugent:** No update.
  - c. Incarceration, Re-Entry and Homelessness- City of Ithaca Deputy City Manager Dominick Recckio and Encampment Response Coordinator Kanji Fateema-**

Dominick said that the City of Ithaca only has one parcel of land that allows camping. He said that the outreach partners work to bring resources to people that camp in other areas. He said the city is trying to track encampments outside of the permitted camping area. He is looking for advice from CJATI that can help them to meet the needs of justice involving individuals that need housing. Tom Kelly said that there needs to be a higher level of commitment and follow through with individuals. Dave said that connecting folks to housing quickly was possible when there was a long-term shelter in the county. Deana said that there is a long-term shelter that follows the same process for people in need that the St. Johns shelter followed. Marie said that the waiting period for THA can be a barrier. St. Johns did accept some people that were not involved in THA, which decreased barriers for some. She said there is a decrease in people leaving program housing. She said a shelter that is truly free would be the solution. Dominick said there are other barriers people have related to seeking services in formal settings. Marie said she has spoken to people at the jail that indicated

that it is the only place they can have housing. She said a low or no barrier shelter option will decrease justice involvement for a lot of people. Dan shared that the monthly average: 39 out of 500 probation clients were unhoused or had unstable housing. That is 8% of their population. Bridgette asked how the probation department is connecting people to services. He said they refer people to DSS and the 1115 Medicaid Waiver. Taili asked if it is helpful for clients if someone goes with them to DSS. Dave said he does that when he thinks someone needs that support. Dave said that OAR has worked hard to develop good relationships with local property managers.

**Long Term Inmate report Lauran Harrison-** During the height of the staffing issues at state facilities there were 16-18 people that were waiting to be moved. There is now only one state-ready individual waiting to be moved. State-ready individuals are waiting 30-40 days to be moved. Matt said 3 of the people listed are co-defendants with a trial date of December 1<sup>st</sup>. One person plead guilty and then retracted, he is in litigation and will likely have a trial next year. One person has a trial in November. Another person is in litigation but will go to trial. Another person has a trial in the beginning of October. Susan said that there are a couple of people that need to be reassigned and Assigned Council is working on that.

**Meeting Adjourned;** at 1:10 pm. The next meeting is October 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm location TBD.