

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Triage Facility Ad Hoc Committee

Meeting Summary, December 03, 2015

Whatcom County Health Department Conference Room

509 Girard Street, Bellingham WA

9:00 – 10:30am

Attendance

Present	Representing
Bernstein, Jill	Citizen Representative
Brubaker, Jeff	Bellingham Fire Department
Deacon, Anne	Whatcom County Human Services
Hovenier, Jack	Consumer Representative
Kruse, Betsy (call-in, 9-9:30am)	North Sound Mental Health Administration
Mann, Ken	Whatcom County Council Member
Phillips, Chris, Ad Hoc Chair	PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center
Schroeder, Tyler	Whatcom County Executive Office
Walker, Kathy (proxy for Dave McEachran)	Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney
Wight, Dean (proxy for Stephen Gockley)	Whatcom Alliance for Health Advancement
Staff	
Fehrenbacher, Alisha	
Smith, Veronica	

Meeting Summary

1. Call to Order

Veronica Smith called the meeting to order. Chris Phillips was designated Chair of this Ad Hoc Committee.

2. North Sound Mental Health Administration (NSMHA)

Betsy Kruse answered questions from the Committee regarding the changing role of NSMHA in 2016. She spoke about gaps chemical dependency treatment services in the region. She answered questions about potential funding sources, and the impact that the closure of Pioneer Center North in 2018 will have. The Ad Hoc Committee would like to ask Ms. Kruse to share information and answer questions regarding a needs assessment from the Task Force at the December 14, 2016 meeting.

3. Draft Statement of Work

The draft Statement of Work was reviewed, modified and approved by the Ad Hoc Committee.

4. Subject Matter Expertise

All agree that having the right people at the table is critical to success. Jack Hovenier will bring forth language at the next Task Force meeting that affirms this approach and add it to the Task Force Meeting Rules and Procedures

5. Vision – Key Themes

- Our citizens deserve to be treated with dignity and respect
- We need to develop of an integrated delivery system with sufficient resources in the community to reduce relapses or re-offenses
- We need to invest in programs and services that can prevent incarceration of our mentally ill and chemically dependent citizens
- We need to take action now

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Triage Facility Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting Summary, December 03, 2015
Whatcom County Health Department Conference Room
509 Girard Street, Bellingham WA
9:00 – 10:30am

6. Next Steps

Chris Phillips will provide Ad Hoc Committee Report to the Task Force on December 14, 2015

Veronica will work with Anne Deacon to assemble a list of key questions for NSMHA regarding the needs assessment for residential treatment beds for Whatcom County

Betsy Kruse will present to the Task Force on December 14, 2016 re. needs assessment and NSMHA's role.

Jackie Mitchell will present behavioral health information to this Committee at the December 10, 2015 meeting.

Veronica will provide the utilization data that is on hand to the Committee for the December 10, 2015 meeting.

7. Meeting Schedule

December 10, 2015, 9 – 10:30am, Whatcom County Health Department Conference Room

January 07, 2016, 9 – 10:30am, TBD

January 14, 2016, 9 – 10:30am, TBD