

# Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Triage Facility Ad Hoc Committee

Meeting Summary, January 07, 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
Morgan, Irene	Restorative Community Coalition
Parks, Jeff (proxy for Sheriff Elfo)	Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
Schroeder, Tyler	Whatcom County Executive Office
Walker, Kathy (proxy for Dave McEachran)	Whatcom County Prosecutors Office
Whitcutt, Sandy (proxy for Betsy Kruse)	North Sound Mental Health Administration
Absent	
Mann, Ken	Whatcom County Council Member
Phillips, Chris, Ad Hoc Chair	PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center
Staff	
Wight, Dean	WAHA-Facilitator
Smith, Veronica	WAHA

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order

Jack Hovenier (serving as Chair in Chris Phillips absence) called the meeting to order. Agenda and Meeting Summary were approved.

Dean Wight informed the Ad Hoc Committee that as draft iterations of the Phase One Report are developed, they will be circulated to the Ad Hoc Committee for electronic review. The goal is to allow 48 hours' time for review prior to a meeting where the draft will be discussed.

### 2. Triage Recommendations Discussion

Consensus:

- Two 16-bed facilities, co-located, voluntary
- No wrong door for service
- Space for 23 hour chairs in the new facilities
- A goal of a 10-minute drop-off window for law enforcement and EMS

Reservations voiced by Ad Hoc Committee Members:

- Concern a voluntary facility will have diminished utility for LE/EMS
- Concern that Whatcom County leadership promised the City of Bellingham and the community that the property would return to ordinary commercial use
- Concern that by limiting to a voluntary facility; we would limit treatment options to the people that need care

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- Concern that the involuntary services utilized at PeaceHealth need to be revisited

Other work that will further the recommendations of the Task Force:

- Formal needs assessment process will be implemented based on TF recommendation
- Identification of key funding sources for capital investment will be developed through the formal needs assessment

Pending Questions from the Ad Hoc Committee:

- Site options with pros and cons based on selection criteria
- The capital cost per square foot for involuntary treatment facility and for voluntary treatment facility
- Necessary staffing levels to provide the appropriate level of care
- Development of the continuum of care to better support the community's needs
- Additional information from Snohomish County and Skagit County facilities regarding program elements and budgets

### 3. Next Steps

Further discussion of site options (January 14, 2016)

Dean Wight will work with Veronica to have a draft of the Triage Facility portion of the Phase One report distributed by January 15, 2016.

WAHA staff will make the appropriate inquiries regarding programs and budgets in Snohomish and Skagit counties.

Tyler Schroeder and Anne Deacon will report regarding funding opportunities in the Governor's supplemental budget.

WAHA staff will distribute the DRAFT Facilities Grid at Monday's Task Force Meeting.

### 4. Meeting Schedule

January 21, 2016, 9 – 10:30am, Whatcom County Health Department Conference Room