

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Behavioral Health Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for June 10, 2019

1. Call To Order

Committee Chair Dan Hammill called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. at the Health Department Creekside Conference Room, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham.

Members Present: Dan Hammill, Kelli Linville, Ryan King, Mike Parker

Members Absent: Byron Manering, Megan Ballew

2. Plot programs on strategic plan inventory map

Hammill suggested adding existing programs and the need for specific programs to the inventory map:

- Medication assisted treatment (MAT)
- Young adult court
- Domestic violence offender treatment
- Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement (GRACE) Program

Perry Mowery, Health Department, answered questions on the status of the request for qualifications (RFQ) for a domestic violence offender treatment program.

- The Health Department is working with the Probation Department to develop a referral, payment, and reporting structure for the service on behalf of individuals who are certified to provide the service.
- There are only three certified providers, not enough at this time to meet the capacity. There may be additional certified providers in Skagit County.

Committee members discussed the reasons why the Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) organization did not submit an RFQ for the domestic violence offender treatment; medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in the jail and in the community; the differences between treatment for opioids and methamphetamine; funding shift to managed care organizations (MCOs); funding for housing; taking advantage of an available sales tax retention through House Bill (HB) 1406 and developing a plan to leverage and use the funds; identify key areas regarding incarceration prevention that could benefit from additional housing dollars; including information on a north county healthy youth coalition; Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) sites throughout the county.

The committee concurred on adding to and amending a number of the sequential intercept inventory sections:

- Add domestic violence offender treatment to sections 3.C and 4.C
- Add Community Outreach and Recovery Support (CORS) to 1.B
- Add the law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD) program to 1.C
- Add young adult court to 3.C

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- Add the need for affordable supported housing across all intercept levels
- Add school district prevention programs and Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center to 0.A

3. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information

The Committee concurred to schedule the following to future meetings:

- An update on changes in behavioral health funding through managed care organizations (MCOs) and the Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (BHASO). Invite representatives from each MCO to participate in a future full IPR Task Force meeting.
- Invite representatives from school districts, the Dispute Resolution Center, the Bellingham Police Department's school programs, and Northwest Youth Services to give updates on their programs.

The Committee continued to discussed inviting program representatives to give presentations to the full Task Force as a general overview, and then assigning more in-depth discussions to committees.

Parker moved that the Committee invite representatives from the GRACE program to give updates on their programs at the next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.