

***Incarceration Prevention & Reduction Task Force / Law & Justice Council
Meeting Summary October 14, 2019***

1. Call to Order

Task Force Co-Chairs Jack Hovenier / Stephen Gockley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Barry Buchanan, Anne Deacon, David Doll, Arlene Feld, Heather Flaherty, Stephen Gockley, Daniel Hammill, Mike Hilley, Jack Hovenier, Raylene King, Scott Korthuis, Kelli Linville, Moonwater, Dave Reynolds, Eric Richey, Tyler Schroeder, Kevin Turner, Bruce Van Glubt, Wendy Jones (proxy for Bill Elfo), Mike Parker (proxy for Greg Winter)

Absent: Travis Brockie, Bill Elfo, Deborra Garrett, Deborah Hawley, Rachel Lucy, Byron Manering, Eric Petersen, Darlene Peterson, Maia Vanyo, Greg Winter

The Co-Chairs introduced new members and announced recent media attention about the crisis stabilization facility and the Task Force and the Peace Builder award.

Deacon introduced Tim Hunter, Office of Forensic Mental Health at the State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). Hunter spoke about the work of his agency.

2. Sequential Intercept Service Inventory and Strategic Plan

Hovenier reported on the strategic plan and its background.

Deacon reported on the sequential intercept model (SIM) and communicating the Task Force's work to the public.

Gockley reported on narrowing the scope of Intercept 0 and which programs would be included.

Task Force members discussed creating links in the document to the specific program websites, developing a communication plan, the approval process, printing a brochure for the public, approving a format versus policy, informing the Task Force when the Steering Committee updates the plan, and hiring a marketing firm to create a marketing plan.

Deacon moved to adopt the format as the communication strategy to the public. The motion was seconded.

Gockley restated the motion to approve the sequential intercept service inventory and strategic plan communication process for the public, with revisions to be approved by the Task Force Steering Committee on an ongoing basis. The motion carried unanimously (Parker, Schroeder, and Jones out of the room).

3. Community Communication Strategy for all IPR Task Force Efforts Progress

Buchanan reported on the need for better communications on what the Task Force is doing

The Task Force members discussed all jurisdictions in the county joining efforts to report on plans and results, since the public doesn't differentiate; add the information on the websites and social media for the County and the cities; and demonstrating successful outcomes via both data and personal stories.

4. Update on the County Council Public Health, Safety, and Justice Initiative (IPR Task Force acting as the Law and Justice Council)

Buchanan reported for the County Council:

- Background of the initiative
- The needs assessment

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- Public engagement plan
- Creating a stakeholder advisory committee, as part of the public engagement plan, that would include IPR Task Force members

Task Force members discussed the proposed stakeholder advisory committee, the scope of the needs assessment, recommendations of funding mechanisms, the need for reentry support, and improved State funding for services.

Buchanan moved to recommend to the County Council that it appoint one member from each Task Force committee to the stakeholder advisory committee. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously (Parker, Schroeder, and Jones out of the room).

5. Summary Report on Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program

Richey reported:

- They have received a grant from the Department of Justice
- Funds from the grant will go toward caseworkers with the Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement (GRACE) Program and SeaMar
- Services provided will be similar to the GRACE Program services
- They need to set up policies and criteria for qualifying for the program
- They will lean on the Seattle program as a resource to get the program started
- The program will begin March 1, 2020, per the grant requirements

The Task Force members discussed participants who are drug addicts; how to work with other existing services, such as the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) and law enforcement behavioral health officers; how the program will work in other communities; monitoring success; and a new case management system.

8. Other Business

Jones reported on the Yakima jail contract

- Kittitas County has beds at a cost of approximately \$66 per day
- Whatcom County can be a hub for all jurisdictions in the county for transportation, reporting, and tracking

The Task Force members discussed the number of inmates being sent to Yakima now and the planned shutdown of jail units due to a remodeling project.

6. Committee Updates

Deacon reported for the Crisis Stabilization Facility Committee on the groundbreaking event, opening next summer, and the need to ensure that the State provides general funds for operation.

The Task Force members discussed the City and County legislative agenda for its lobbyist and the existing beds and facility.

Hammill referenced the Behavioral Health Committee meeting summary in the agenda packet.

King and Feld reported for the Legal and Justice Systems Committee on a recent presentation in the committee from reentry specialists and the need for more in-jail learning opportunities.

Gockley and Richey reported on the collaboration between the courts, public defenders, and prosecutors to change the calendar system so it's more efficient.

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The Task Force members discussed the current in-jail learning opportunities and demand for more opportunities. Those increased opportunities are limited due to space restrictions.

Schroeder reported for the Information Needs and Data Exchange (INDEX) Committee and getting direction from the Task Force on next steps, including defining the policy questions for the LEAD and GRACE programs.

The Task Force members discussed getting updates on each jurisdiction's records management projects at the INDEX Committee.

7. Update by Jurisdictions on Jail Diversion Programs

This item was not discussed.

8. Other Business

The Task Force members continued to discuss the status of the jail inmate population and where they will be housed, small cities post-conviction only being sent to Yakima, the use of electronic home monitoring and Superior Court pretrial services reducing the number of people incarcerated, warrant amnesty programs, creating clarity for the community about the types of charges being sent to Yakima, the mix of pretrial and post-conviction in the jail. Inmates will be sent to Kittitas County based on classifications such as upcoming court date, not jurisdiction.

9. Public Comment

Irene Morgan, Restorative Community Coalition, spoke about a court navigation system, the new facility, including system users in the stakeholder advisory committee, maximize court diversion, her appreciation of jail educator David Goldman.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.