

***Incarceration Prevention Reduction Task Force
Joint Behavioral Health and Legal & Justice Systems Committees***

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., May 11, 2021, Remote-only virtual meeting

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Update on Behavioral Health Crisis Response Expansion program
Reentry, especially due to the Blake Decision and Covid restrictions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to divide reentry review between committees• Next steps
How to include development of the Recovery House in the Annual Report?
Status of involuntary treatment at the Crisis Stabilization Center, including law enforcement and emergency medical services drop-off?

DRAFT



Whatcom County Behavioral Health Funds

Annual Report 2019

Manager's Comments:

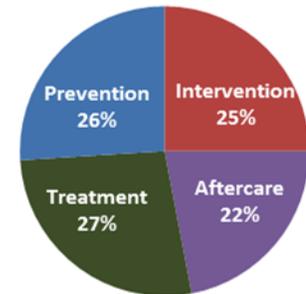
The Behavioral Health Program Fund, supported by a local sales tax, continues to provide positive investments in the lives of our residents. This past year we were successful in expanding some important programs in our community. The GRACE program was launched in 2018 and has now reached its current capacity, serving 80 individuals at any given time. GRACE stands for "Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement," and serves residents who frequently use crisis services, but have not experienced long term stability because they don't receive the benefit of coordinated care. The GRACE team have joined with law enforcement and emergency medical personnel to engage these individuals in supportive services. These services have reduced 911 calls and improved health and mental wellness for GRACE members. Arrests and incarceration have also been reduced as a result of this program and its collaboration with a multitude of community partners in the delivery of effective treatment and support. We are proud that this home-grown program has delivered such positive outcomes and appreciate our partnership with SeaMar Behavioral Health in the delivery of these services. The City of Bellingham and PeaceHealth have shared in the financial support of the GRACE Program.

We continue to enhance our services to youth and their families through programs with our seven school districts. Healthy Youth Survey data demonstrates that these collaborative services make a positive difference in reducing academic and behavioral health concerns while promoting improved health and wellness.

As we move forward, we are aware that this fund has maximized its ability to add more programs. Indeed, as the COVID-19 pandemic challenges our financial economy, our fund will experience reduced revenues. We will need to reevaluate all programming supported by this fund and commit to ensuring that the services it supports produce the expected outcomes and remain a priority for our community.

Service Expenditures for 2019

Percentage by Service Area



Total \$5,862,605

(see back for budget details)

VISION AND GOALS

Develop a comprehensive infrastructure of behavioral health care that will:

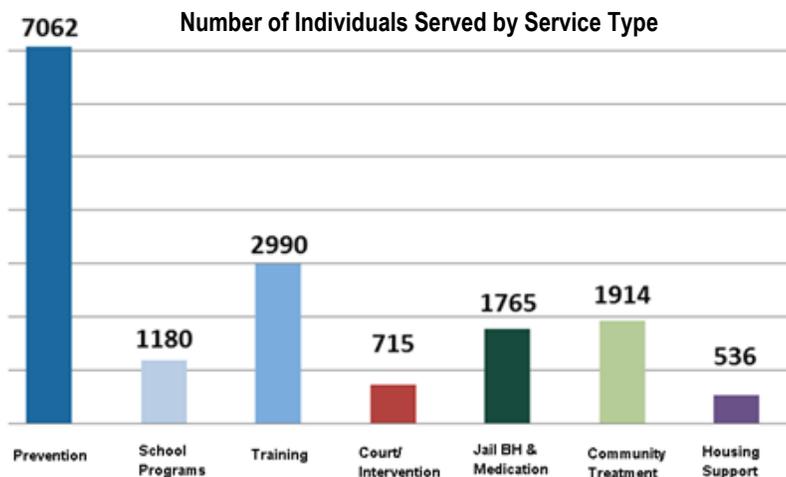
Provide effective recovery-oriented services that mitigate the need for individuals to default to utilization of the emergency room, hospital beds and the county jail.

Provide access and availability for intervention and treatment services to individuals who have limited access.

Promote the provision of services in natural environments in order to reduce the incidence and severity of substance use and mental health disorders.

Provide interventions that divert individuals with mental health and substance use disorders from the criminal justice system to more appropriate options of care.

Support young children and families with early interventions and behavioral health promotion.



2019 Accomplishments

- Ensured that Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement (GRACE) reached full capacity.
- Began construction of the new Crisis Stabilization Center facility.
- Braided BH Sales Tax with a Drug Free Communities grant resulting in \$1.25M in leveraged funds over 5 years.
- Provided support to individuals who are homeless and suffering from mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Initiated partnership between community partners for the construction and development of a Recovery House.

INCARCERATION PREVENTION & REDUCTION TASK FORCE SEQUENTIAL INTERCEPT SERVICE SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 2020

Programs IN BOLD are developed or expanded through or in consultation with the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>
<p>0.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEE APPENDIX A: Health Department, Human Services Division, community health programs • Gang prevention programs • Community Paramedic • Opiate Outreach and Engagement • GRACE Program • School District Prevention Programs • Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) (<i>Opp. Council</i>) • Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) • Community Medicated Assisted Treatment • Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC) youth restorative practices/justice services and conflict resolution training • WDRC adult conflict resolution training and skill building workshops • Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) • Brigid Collins Parenting Academy 	<p>1.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighborhood Policing • Specialized training for law enforcement and first responders • Truancy/discipline school-based services • Law Enforcement crisis intervention team (CIT) training • Crisis Stabilization Facility (Mental Health and addiction stabilization services) • Specialized training for case managers • GRACE Program • Behavioral health specialized law enforcement officers & deputies (multiple jurisdictions) • Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) • Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) 	<p>2.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Screening • Suicide Assessment • Superior Court & District Court Pretrial Risk Assessment • Superior Court Pretrial Services Unit • Electronic Home Monitoring in Lieu of detention when applicable • District Court phone call and text reminders for select court calendars • Bellingham Municipal Court: Pretrial SCRAM, Pretrial GPS EHM, Pretrial Risk Assessment, and 2x/week warrant quash • District Court: Pretrial Unit and Pretrial Electronic Equipment Program 	<p>3.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEE APPENDIX A: Health Department, Human Services Division, community health programs • SEE APPENDIX B.1 and B.2: Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau Programs • DUI Victim Impact Panel • Work and School release • In-custody work crew • Specialized courts (Teen, Drug, Mental Health, Family) • Enhanced Drug Court • Health Dept. Jail Behavioral Health Program • Sheriff's Office reduced fees and increased eligibility for jail alternatives • Expanded and increased out-of-custody work crew and work release capacity • District Court Post-Conviction Electronic Equipment Program • Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) • Coordinated Entry Referral Specialist • Bellingham Muni Court: Mental Health Court, DV Court, EHM in lieu of incarceration • Dist. Court High Risk DV Unit, court text messaging • Juvenile Court Behavioral Health Program 	<p>4.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term housing for stabilization • Health Dept. Jail Reentry Program • Prescriptions and access to prescriptions upon release • Specialized Behavioral Health Unit in District Court • GRACE Program 	<p>5.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialized Behavioral Health Program • Community Outreach • Peer-to-peer community supports (12-step programs, volunteer organizations) • Community Medicated Assisted Treatment • GRACE Program • WDRC adult conflict resolution training and skill building workshops • Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) • City Gate Supportive Housing

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry (LJS)	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>
<p>0.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sex offender ADA accessible housing • Funding for affordable housing, clean and sober housing, and other specialty housing • Employment resources, including “second chance employers” • Supportive shelters • Eviction prevention assistance 	<p>1.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Outreach and Recovery Support (CORS) • Law enforcement direct referral to Crisis Mobile Outreach Team (BHASO) • Additional behavioral health trained officers • Funding CSF beds for non-Medicaid individuals, especially 12-hour holds <p>Training for Law Enforcement & First Responders (BH)</p>	<p>2.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health-Assisted Outpatient Treatment / Lesser Restrictive Orders (LRO) • Superior Court Pretrial Services Unit 	<p>3.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPENDIX B.3: Sheriff’s Office Corrections Bureau Programs • Vocational and Literacy Training for Offenders, with bilingual accessibility • Jail Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) program • Dedicated housing for drug court participants • Increased warrant quash opportunities • Housing Lab in Jail • LROs – more teeth • Increased work release capacity • DV Offender Treatment <p>Can Drug Court have a program that is less than 2 years, as an incentive to participate? (BH)</p>	<p>4.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jail Reentry Services, including from contracted jail service agencies • Community-based reentry service • Access to mental health treatment • 2nd Sheriff Corrections fulltime re-entry specialist • Goodwill reentry employment services • Employment resources, including “second chance employers” • Expand work release • Improve pathway for voluntary removal of protection orders / DVSAS services • Brigid Collins Family Support Services 	<p>5.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and sober housing • Community SUD Treatment • CJTA Rental Assistance • Supportive Shelters • Improve pathway for voluntary removal of protection orders / DVSAS services

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry (LJS)	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
Programs needed but not in existence:	Programs needed but not in existence:	Programs needed but not in existence:	Programs needed but not in existence:	Programs needed but not in existence:	Programs needed but not in existence:
0.C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Storage • Youth Street Outreach Team (NWYS) • Eliminate criminalization of homelessness 	1.C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seamless protocol for CSF discharge treatment plans for individuals admitted on a 12-hour peace officer hold • Dedicated DCR to BPD/WCS • DCR procedures evaluation • Triage mental health unit for juveniles 	2.C <p>Can Housing be an incentive to participate in Specialty Court? (BH)</p>	3.C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offender treatment for Domestic Violence • Young Adult Court • Young Adult reduced incarceration • Court processing and case workload efficiency improvements • Brigid Collins family support services • Intensive case manager for the jail • MAT: include possibility of temporary release for evaluation and new treatment <p>Housing for Mental Health Court? (BH)</p> <p>Youth Court (BH)</p>	4.C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forensic program for Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) • Offender treatment for Domestic Violence • Reentry navigators • Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau: Reentry services for release from incarceration other than Whatcom County jail. • Warm handoff • Employment assistance • Discharge planning and mainstream benefits re-enrollment • Peer re-entry specialists <p>Community Resource Handout for defendants (LJS)</p>	5.C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/7 staffed permanent supportive housing • Behavioral Health consultation to housing providers • Recovery house (3/4 way house after treatment) • Sex offender ADA accessible housing • City Ambassadors / hiring program like Metropolitan Improvement District in Seattle • Safe storage

Affordable supported housing **and more funding sources and opportunities are** necessary across all intercept levels.

In addition to expanding existing and developing new programs, the Task Force will continue to identify best practices and engage in ongoing review and monitoring of current

programs for quality assurance purposes.

CRISIS STABILIZATION COMMITTEE ONGOING REVIEW

- Programmatically effective and financially sustainable Triage and Crisis Stabilization facility for Whatcom County
- The Triage Center programming is effectively integrated with new and existing programs

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ONGOING REVIEW

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Coordinate with other agencies and workgroups
- CORS Program
- GRACE Program
- Jail MAT Program

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEE INFORMATION GATHERING

- Look into connections to other factors, besides age, such as economic, employment, diversion programs, and foster care
- Look at the drivers of and identify the best practices regarding criminal behavioral
- Look at and identify the best practices regarding age groups
- Get information about family treatment court, and hear from Northwest Youth
- Existing programs from the following agencies: Brigid Collins Family Support Center, Lummi Nation, School districts, Health Department regarding their school services, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS), Northwest Youth Services, Child Protective Service (CPS) services, Peace Health pediatricians, Other

LEGAL AND JUSTICE SYSTEMS COMMITTEE ONGOING REVIEW

- Integrating restorative practices & their role in the criminal justice system
- Policies and procedures, to reduce number of bench warrants / warrant quash
- Opportunities for individuals to pay off fines
- Pretrial Services
- Court case processing and workloads

LEGAL AND JUSTICE SYSTEMS COMMITTEE INFORMATION GATHERING

- Ease of entry into behavioral health services
- Policies and procedures that will reduce number of bench warrants issued for FTAs
- Review of Juvenile Justice Systems

The Information Needs and Data Exchange (INDEX) Subcommittee works to support policy and program data efficiency enhancements across all intercept levels.

The Task Force will first prioritize specific requests from the Whatcom County Council.

2021 Committee Priorities

From January Meeting

- How has Covid impacted the behavioral health population (a needs assessment)?
- Reentry, including on-boarding the new full-time reentry specialist. Can the reentry specialist work outside the jail to maximize the possibility of a successful warm hand-off?
- Methamphetamine treatment and recovery. Are there additional services to provide for people who want to recover? Examine the problems of meth use in supportive housing.
- Enhanced juvenile SUD treatment and services
- Dedicated mental health professionals in ride-along program with law enforcement, similar to the Impact Program in Skagit County.
- Review outcomes of the new recovery house.

From March Meeting

- Additional services for inmates being released from incarceration as a result of the Blake Decision: behavioral health treatment
- Substance use disorder, figuring out treatment options for methamphetamine use
- Upstream prevention, such as a children's initiative
- House Bill 1590, House Bill 1406, Economic Impact Development (EDI) funds, the real estate excise tax (REET) fund, review how funds are being spent from the one-tenth of one percent sales tax, and other potential funding options
- Work with other committees, such as INDEX, to make sure they have data
- Review niche issues at the nexus of behavioral health and criminal justice and recommend promising new practices
- Determine what services are already in place and working in the community
- Teacher training, including trauma-informed work
- Apply a GARE overlay to everything they do, including determining priorities
- Expand local behavioral health capacity however possible, such as establishing training programs at local colleges or using local funds that don't have as many restrictions as State or federal funds
- Care navigators/coordinators for people leaving incarceration or the Crisis Stabilization Center. Enhance existing connection gaps between the emergency department and the crisis stabilization center
- create a better transportation system between service programs both in and outside of Whatcom County,

SET CRITERIA FOR RANKING: most important idea or the most feasible idea?
 Examples of criteria: Most important, Time needed, Cost, Urgency, Feasibility, Desirability, Next step.

Have each member of the group rank the ideas in ASCENDING order by assigning a number to each item, from most important (1) to least important (15).
 Calculate average scores based on the individual rankings. Lowest score = highest priority

ITEM #	ITEM	RANK
1	Covid Impacts Assessment Needs assessment of how Covid has impacted the behavioral health population	
2	Reentry and Warm Handoff Jail Reentry, including on-boarding the new full-time reentry specialist. Can the reentry specialist work outside the jail to maximize the possibility of a successful warm hand-off?	
3	Reentry and Warm Handoff Enhance existing connection gaps between the emergency department and the crisis stabilization center. Care navigators/coordinators for people leaving incarceration or the Crisis Stabilization Center.	
4	Reentry and Warm Handoff Develop better transportation between service programs, both in and outside of Whatcom County	
5	Reentry and Warm Handoff Evaluate the need for additional services for inmates being released from incarceration as a result of the Blake Decision: behavioral health treatment	
6	Meth Use Methamphetamine treatment and recovery. Are there additional services to provide for people who want to recover? Examine the problems of meth use in supportive housing.	
7	Juvenile SUD Enhanced juvenile SUD treatment and services	
8	Crisis Response Dedicated mental health professionals in ride-along program with law enforcement, similar to the Impact Program in Skagit County.	
9	Program Review Review outcomes of the new recovery house	
10	Upstream Upstream prevention, such as a children's initiative	

11	<p>Funding House Bill 1590, House Bill 1406, Economic Impact Development (EDI) funds, the real estate excise tax (REET) fund, review how funds are being spent from the one-tenth of one percent sales tax, and other potential funding options</p>	
12	<p>Data and Program Review Work with other committees, such as INDEX, to make sure they have data Review niche issues at the nexus of behavioral health and criminal justice and recommend promising new practices</p>	
13	<p>Data and Program Review Determine what services are already in place and working in the community Teacher training, including trauma-informed work</p>	
14	<p>Racial Equity Apply a GARE overlay to everything they do, including determining priorities</p>	
15	<p>Service Capacity Expand local behavioral health capacity however possible, such as establishing training programs at local colleges or using local funds that don't have as many restrictions as State or federal funds</p>	

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