

From: Harriet Markell <harriet.markell@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 10:45 AM

To: Cathy Halka <CHalka@co.whatcom.wa.us>

Subject: Alternative Format I Promised

Hi Cathy,

I wasn't sure where to send this, so thought I'd start here. Please feel free to forward.

I do have a comment in general about the goals, and while it may be too late for this initiative, perhaps food for thought for something else. As written, the most of the goals themselves are not measurable; some of the recommendations are, but not all. I think that the voting public and those authorizing money would be better served if they could see language that identified a concrete outcome that could be measured or very clearly defined.

With all due respect, there is a lot of feel-good, aspirational language in the goals which has already been stated in the values. Goals should be getting down to brass tacks :-)

I started the template and inserted under the first goal the need and recommendations that pertained to that goal. I would complete the document in the same way and see if that made sense. If the goals are just a separate list of things, then they don't carry much weight --- a bit the same as the values, though I do think the vision and values are of a piece and are important.

Just my 25 cents (inflation, you know) -- maybe this will be helpful. Glad to pursue if someone so desires.

Harriet

"It is not incumbent upon you to finish the work, neither are you free to exempt yourself from it."

Pirkei Avot 2:16

GOAL I: POLICIES ARE IDENTIFIED AND CHANGED TO STRATEGICALLY ADDRESS SYSTEM GAPS AND ACHIEVE INTENDED OUTCOMES, SUCH AS REDUCING THE JAIL THE JAIL POPULATION.

Need I: Increased access to inpatient and outpatient competency restoration services for people evaluated as needing these services

Recommendation I: Work with partners to pursue needed state policy changes to increase access to inpatient competency restoration

Recommendation II: Convene a workgroup to research outpatient competency restoration program models for eligible incarcerated individuals (e.g., assisted outpatient treatment (AOT), prosecutorial diversion programs).

GOAL II: LOW-RISK OFFENDERS ARE SAFELY AND EFFECTIVELY DIVERTED FROM A WHATCOM COUNTY JAIL SENTENCE AND PROVIDED WITH SUPPORT TO HELP THEM SUCCEED.

GOAL III: PEOPLE ARE ASSURED SPEEDY AND FAIR RESOLUTION OF LEGAL ISSUES TO REDUCE UNNECESSARILY LONG JAIL STAYS AND HASTEN RESTORATION.

GOAL IV: SUFFICIENT FUNDING, STAFFING, AND RESOURCES ENSURE ADEQUATE SERVICE CAPACITY AT ALL POINTS OF CONTACT IN THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM.

GOAL V: PEOPLE WORKING WITHIN AND ALONGSIDE OUR CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM (E.G., ADVOCATES, NAVIGATORS, LEGAL COUNSELS, JAIL STAFF, PROVIDERS) ARE VALUED, FAIRLY PAID, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

GOAL VI: COORDINATED SERVICES AND PROGRAMS EFFECTIVELY CLOSE THE GAPS BETWEEN COMMUNITY, LEGAL, AND JAIL-BASED SERVICES AT ALL POINTS OF CONTACT IN THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM.

GOAL VII: PEOPLE RELEASED FROM JAIL HAVE IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE, HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS TO AVOID RE-INCARCERATION.

GOAL VIII: COMMUNITY AND JAIL-BASED SERVICES (E.G., TREATMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, AFFORDABLE SUPPORTED HOUSING) SUPPORT HEALING AND MAKE MEASURABLE DIFFERENCES IN REDUCING CRIMES OF POVERTY AND REPEAT OFFENSES.

GOAL IX: FACILITIES ARE DESIGNED AND OPERATED TO MEET THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE NEEDS OF THOSE INCARCERATED AND THE PEOPLE WHO WORK AND VISIT THERE.

GOAL X: FACILITIES ARE DESIGNED TO BE VERSATILE TO ADAPT TO CHANGING NEEDS.

GOAL XI: INCARCERATION FACILITIES BALANCE COMPASSION WITH ACCOUNTABILITY TO PROMOTE SAFETY, HEALTH, REHABILITATION, AND RECOVERY.

GOAL XII: FACILITIES ADEQUATELY SERVE THE WHOLE COUNTY, INCLUDING CITIES AND TRIBAL JURISDICTIONS.