

# Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force: Joint Behavioral Health and Legal and Justice Systems Committee

Meeting Summary for December 13, 2022

*Agenda item links to YouTube video are functional at the time this meeting summary was created, however, YouTube links may change. Links in this document will not be updated. Please refer to the time notation on each agenda item.*

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## 1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Raylene King called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. The meeting was held via remote-only Zoom Webinar and in person at the Whatcom County Council Conference Room, 311 Grand Ave., Suite 105, Bellingham, Washington

Members Present: Arlene Feld, Stephen Gockley, Perry Mowery, Mike Parker, Raylene King, Jackie Mitchell, Brian Estes, Dan Hammill, Mike Hilley, Michael Smith

Members Absent:

## 2. 988 Mental Health Crisis Line (from Behavioral Health Committee) [\(01:01\)](#)

Courtney Colwell from Volunteers of American gave a presentation on the 988 Crisis hotline. The 988 Crisis Center serves 32 counties in Washington State. The 988 # is an easy to remember lifeline for those in mental health crisis.

Mia Klick gave a presentation from Native and Strong Lifeline. Which is a specific crisis line for Native American and Alaskan Native clients and fully staffed by indigenous people. This lifeline can be accessed by calling 988.

Clarissa Young-Weiser gave a presentation on Washington Indian Behavioral Health Hub, which provides resources on cultural events, coordinates care and assistance with discharge services.

## 3. Competency Evaluation and Restoration Workgroup (from Legal and Justice Systems Committee) [\(33:00\)](#)

Perry Mowery and Barry Buchanan met with Disability Rights Washington (DRW) and the Legal Intervention and Network of Care (LINC) and got more information on their program and the challenges they face.

Mowery stated the topic of out of custody evaluations needs to be further discussed.

There was discussion on the effects of Pioneer Center North (PNC) closing.

## 4. Behavioral Health Workforce (from Behavioral Health Committee) [\(44:55\)](#)

Mike Parker spoke about a meeting with Joe Valentine and Representative Rule, where Rep. Rule asked for a “wish list” of items to bring forward as priorities for the Legislative Session. This was originally brought up in the Steering Committee and again at the Behavioral Health meeting to get the full force of the task force.

There will be a meeting on Friday December 16th with Representative Rule.

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## 5. **Other Business** [\(01:14:13\)](#)

Raylene King said don't be afraid to use your voices while in committee.

Jackie Mitchell announced she has resigned her position with the Whatcom County Health Department.

## 6. **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

## 7. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.