

# **Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force: Law and Justice Council**

Meeting Summary for December 19, 2022

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## **1. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Stephen Gockley called the meeting to order at 9:02 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: Donnell Tanksley, Jack Hovenier, Darlene Peterson, Dan Hammill, Maialisa Vanyo, Barry Buchanan, Dave Reynolds, Scott Korthuis, Bruce VanGlubt, Raylene King, Bill Elfo, Eric Richey, Arlene Feld, Stephen Gockley, Heather Flaherty, Jackie Mitchell, Perry Mowery

## **2. Review of Justice Project Needs Assessment (00:01:30)**

Mardi Solomon with Crossroads Consulting gave a summary on the Justice Needs Assessment report. There were two proposed changes to the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) update. Those changes were in Competency restoration and removal of the SIM addendum. She also spoke about the public engagement results, as well as, proposed changes to the Needs & Recommendations.

## **3. 2022 Year-End Report to County Council and Executive (00:44:00)**

Members took a vote on the approval of the Year End Report with the SIM addendum removed. Items on the addendum were integrated into the SIM update itself. This was passed unanimously.

## **4. Behavioral Health legislative priorities (00:57:15)**

Stephen Gockley spoke on the “wish list” of items to bring to Representative Alicia Rule and Senator Elect Sharon Shumake for the upcoming legislative session. Those included:

- 1) Secure on-going, non-budget funding for operational costs at the Crisis Stabilization Center, the Anne Deacon Center for Hope
- 2) Target re-imbusement rate increases for behavioral health services that benefit the rec. service providers and prioritize services for people who were in diversion, re-entry programs
- 3) Limited capacity for psychiatric prescribed medication. Long waits, limited people able to prescribe
- 4) Explore and provide adequate funding for development / expansion for local competency restoration programs

Members took a vote to endorse/adopt these legislative priorities, which passed unanimously.

## **5. 2023 Task Force and Committee calendar (01:13:44)**

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Jill Nixon shared with members the 2023 meeting schedule, which contained date changes. Discussion was had regarding the January meeting being on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>. Members stated 23<sup>rd</sup>, would work.

Members took a vote to accept the 2023 meeting schedule with changes, which was pass unanimously.

### **6. Committee Updates (01:20:32)**

Barry Buchanan spoke on discussions in the Steering Committee. He recently met with Perry Mowery and discussed the diversion program in King County and if they should bring that forward to the Task Force. Decision was to hold until they received more information.

Raylene King had an update on the Joint Legal & Justice / Behavioral Health Committee. Where they discussed the 9-8-8 Mental Health Crisis Line, Volunteers of America program and the Competency Evaluation & Restoration workgroup.

Bill Elfo and Chad Cristelli answered questions on how 9-8-8 calls were dispatched in Whatcom County.

### **7. Other Business (01:31:48)**

Jack Hovenier talked about the upcoming work for the 2023 year, as far as SAC and an upcoming facility before the voters.

### **8. Public Comment (01:34:54)**

Rupert Ayton

### **9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:39.