

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Minutes October 29, 2019

**Members Present:** Anthony Marsh, Ben Haas, Ben Rose, Commissioner Wendy Jacobs, Councilor Vernetta Alston, Deborah Williams, Eric Johnson, Gudrun Parmer, Tara Blackley. Alex Lombardi

**Members Excused:** Jodi Miller, Joseph Laizure, Kristen Rosselli, Lao Rubert,

**Members Absent:** Alexander Williams, Don Baker, Lawrence Campbell, Omar Taylor, D.A. Satana Deberry, Judge Shamieka Rhinehart, Syretta Hill, Tamario Howze

**Guests**: Ann Oshel

**Staff:** Kelley Waggy, Roshanna Parker, Christie Long, Alex Lombardi

**Welcome and Introductions**

Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm. CJAC Vice Chair Vernetta Alston welcomed everyone and asked those present to introduce themselves.

**Review and Approve August Minutes**

Vice Chair Vernetta Alston asked the committee to review the minutes and minutes were approved.

**DEAR, Project Update**

Joseph Laizure was unable to attend and the item was moved to the next meeting.

**Coming Home Project**

Ann Oshel, with Alliance, explained that the Coming Home Project is permanent supportive, not transitional, housing.Ann Oshel sharedthey had started receiving calls directly from jails. They are looking to prevent and end homelessness. Alliance hopes to access housing vouchers in December. They have housed their first person and several more are waiting in the wings. They will be tracking outcomes, other data and other true indicators, like quality of life surveys. LRC is supporting the project. Coming Home is working together with wrap around services. This program is for individuals with low level, nonviolent offenses and is treated as a pilot so that they can reduce some of the strict guidelines associated with other programs. With this project, the lookback period has been shortened, and reasons for denials are being clarified. Coming Home can pay rent for 6-8 months; 10 of the placements will be in public housing, 10 will be subsidized and in the private market.

**FY20 Services for Uninsured Consumers**

Ann Oshel shared Alliance is soon to be cut by another $7 million, which this is the 4th consecutive year of funding reductions for Alliance. They were able to absorb the first round of cuts. Alliance has been defunded by $80 million, yet they are required to maintain the same level of services as in 2015. Last year, Alliance depleted all of its savings and is no longer able to avoid cutting services. There will be no money for opioid treatment aside from federal funding. DCo’s detention center is the first to administer medication assisted treatment inside the jail and they are hopeful that federal money will offset reductions. The following are the numbers of consumers in specific services that are considered for elimination or cuts:

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| --- |
| **Durham IPRS person served** |
| **SERVICE** | **FY17** | **FY18** | **FY19** |
| ACTT | 163 | 110 | 84 |
| CST | 267 | 140 | 88 |
| DBT | 78 | 106 | 83 |
| SACOT | 15 | 33 | 20 |

SAIOP is 3 days a week, referrals will be limited to 1 treatment episode or 13 visits but can be authorized for extended episodes. CJRC staff stated that loosing ACTT and CST was a major blow to Jail Mental Health and Mental Health Court.

**Pretrial Services, PSA Implementation Update**

Christie Long, with CJRC, provided an update on the change to a different risk assessment tool, the Public Safety Assessment. A team of court officials has been meeting regularly and is in process of finishing the implementation steps. The committee is working on the design of report along with setting the matrix. County IS&T is involved with developing new and updating existing software to integrate the assessment and related information. The hope is to test in November and launch in January.

The assessment currently used in Durham is a modification of Virginia’s VPRAI. The new tool asks 9 basic questions and will make a recommendation on type and level of supervision. The PSA balances the assessment and takes away personal bias. A public meeting will be held at a later time to provide information about the tool.

**Committee Updates**

**LRC –** Roshanna Parker shared that D. Lynn has accepted a position with the City of Durham. She reported 547 referrals, 358 intakes, 167 active clients thus far. Funding from NC DPS available through December 20, 2019 and the new proposal for continuation funding has been submitted. The Council is planning a Reentry Simulation event that will be geared toward community members. With the help of a mini-grant, LRC is working to update the website, host a community resource forum and an employment fair.

**Stepping Up Committee -** Alex Lombardi shared that they have had two recent meetings focusing on IPRS Services and Housing. SUI committee members are planning to attend the Mayor’s Landlord Roundtable as well as talking with Alliance about the Coming Home Program. Alex shared a brochure on mental health resources and asked CJAC members for feedback. She further provided a brief update on the status of the Integrated Reentry grant which is moving towards selecting program staff and getting closer to implementation. Once staff members are hired, they will begin identifying and recruiting program participants in the detention center.

**Meeting Adjourned 5:05pm**