

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES TUESDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2016

11:30

JUSTICE BUILDING –
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

MEETING CALLED BY	Beth Heckert
ATTENDEES	Beth Heckert, Cindy Mayo, Dan Penland, Danny Jordan, Doug Breidenthal, Doug Engle, Jodi Merritt, John Stromberg, Julie Evans, Lorenzo Mejia, Mark Orndoff, Mark Reagles, Michelle Morales, Nichole Houchins, Rita Sullivan

- Beth Heckert opened the meeting at 11:33 am
- Opening Remarks: Beth Heckert welcomed everyone to the January PSCC meeting. Welcome Cindy Mayo, the newest member to the PSCC. Cindy is the Chief Executive Officer at Providence Health and Services.

Agenda topics

MINUTES

BETH HECKERT

DISCUSSION	
Beth asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes for October. Danny Jordan proposed a motion to formally adopt the minutes, the motion was seconded by Danny Penland and all were in favor. The minutes for November were formally adopted.	

JACKSON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COURT

JUDGE GRIEF

DISCUSSION	
Judge Grief gave an update on the Mental Health Court program. The program only allows for ten participants at this time. They currently have eight participant in the program, all being white, four males and three females. One participant is being termed today but they also had one successfully graduate in December from the program. The current participant have problems with drugs and have mental health issues such as being bipolar, PTSD and/or schizophrenia. To date, they had seventeen closed referrals; referrals can be sent in by family members, Mental Health and/or the Criminal Defense Bar. Most participant's primary diagnosis is substance abuse with mental illness being second. Due to the small amount of space in the mental health court program, the staffing team are very selective. The whole process from submitting an application to being accepted could take up to four or six weeks. The program is going well and they are receiving good feedback from others in the community.	

CIVIL COMMITMENT PROCESS

LAURA CROMWELL

DISCUSSION	
	<p>Laura Cromwell did a presentation on the civil commitment process. The seven goals of the Division implementing these civil commitment standards are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To promote the well-being of persons who are allegedly mentally ill and who are mentally ill during involuntary care, custody and treatment of mental illness pursuant to ORS Chapter 426; 2) To promote the protection of the civil rights of each person who is allegedly mentally ill and who is mentally ill; 3) To encourage consistent application of ORS Chapter 426 as it specifically pertains to each of the following groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Persons who are alleged to be mentally ill; and (B) Persons who are mentally ill. 4) To encourage the provision of care, custody and treatment of persons in the least restrictive environment that currently is available within existing resources; 5) To encourage voluntary enrollment of persons in available mental health service in lieu of pursuing involuntary treatment through civil commitment, whenever possible; 6) To encourage that the director monitors the commitment process in their county, is knowledgeable of the statutes and administrative rules pertaining to civil commitment, provides leadership so that persons being held are afforded their civil rights and are treated with dignity in the implementation of ORS Chapter 426; 7) To provide for the safety of the community when threatened by a person who is dangerous as a result of mental illness. <p>A person can be committed if after hearing from witnesses a judge finds by clear and convincing evidence. The evidence submitted in court includes the Investigator’s Report and a certified copy of the Mental Health Division’s hospitalization history. Laura said family members are a great resource regarding information and history about the client. The civil commitment process starts with a notice of mental illness being filed. After that an investigation is done and probable cause is determined. If there is probable cause, the court will issue a citation and a hearing will take place. Most civil commitment hearing convenes within five days of the complaint being filed. Some areas reviewed include: chronic mental health issues and if they were placed in a hospital or in an inpatient facility twice within three years. A judge may rule at the end of a hearing whether to commit a person to Oregon Health Authority, provide a conditional release or dismiss the case.</p>

STEPPING UP PROGRAM

DOUG HUSTON

DISCUSSION	
	<p>Doug Huston provided information on a new initiative called, “Stepping Up.” Doug passed out handouts on the program and what it entails. The Stepping Up initiative is to help reduce the number of people with mental illness in the jails. The initiative is made of two parts: a call to action and a national summit.</p> <p>Mark Orndoff asked for approval from the council for Mental Health to move ahead with the Stepping Up program. Danny Jordan moved to allow Jackson County Mental Health to prepare a proclamation for the Stepping Up program. Danny Penland second the proposal. Beth asked for a vote; all were in favor.</p>

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: February 23, 2016

Meeting Adjourned: 12:52 pm