

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY,
September 25, 2018

11:30

JUSTICE BUILDING -
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

MEETING CALLED BY	Eric Guyer
ATTENDEES	Joshua Aldrich, Stacy Brubaker, Marie Curren, Doug Engle, Amber Freitas, Bill Froehlich, Eric Guyer, John Hamilton, Beth Heckert, Barbara Johnson, Tommy Jones, Danny Jordan, Lee Tyler, Jennifer Mylenek, Robert Mountain, Mark Orndoff, Tina Qualls, Mark Reagles, Nate Sickler, Randy Sparacino, Bob Strosser, John Watson

- Eric Guyer opened the meeting at 11:30
- Opening Remarks: Eric Guyer welcomed everyone to the September PSCC meeting.

Agenda Topics

MINUTE ADOPTION – MAY AND JUNE

ERIC GUYER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION	
No suggested revisions were identified for the May or June minutes, Danny Jordan provided a motion to adopt, seconded by Randy Sparacino. A vote was requested, all were in favor, and none were opposed. The May and June minutes were officially adopted.	

ELECTION OF NEW PSCC VICE CHAIR

ERIC GUYER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION	
Based on Board Order No. 502-05 Bylaw IV. "If the office of Chair becomes vacant in midterm, the Vice-Chair shall assume the office of Chair for the remainder of the term. If the office of Vice-chair becomes vacant in midterm, the remaining members shall elect a successor to complete the unexpired term."	
Eric Guyer assumed the office of Chair. Danny Jordan was nominated as Vice-chair by Mark Orndoff and it was seconded by Sheriff Nate Sickler. A vote was requested, all were in favor, and none were opposed.	

JACKSON COUNTY THREAT ASSESSMENT

DISCUSSION	
<i>Stacy Brubaker – Health and Human Services</i>	
Stacy Brubaker has been leading a conversation around the county response for threat assessments. After the Parkland school shooting five cases came to the attention of the School District, Juvenile Justice, Law Enforcement, Jackson County Mental Health and/or the Hospital Emergency Room about kids that were thought to be presenting a risk of harming and making threats against their school. It quickly became a conversation around the difference between a suicide risk assessment versus a threat risk assessment. When HHS was getting called and asked to do a risk assessment they were really doing a suicide risk assessment and not a threat risk assessment. On April 4, 2018 HHS invited all interested parties to the PSCC Mental Health Task Force Meeting to discuss what a community response would look like. Over 60 representatives from a variety of agencies attended this first meeting. Mark Orndoff arranged for the Oregon State Police to do a demo of their "Safe Talk" line, but it did not seem to meet the purposes of what the PSCC Mental Health Task Force is looking for. It was determined that a small group of invested participants would spend the next several months becoming the experts and making recommendations back to the larger group. The question became "What can we do to prevent this rather than figuring out how to "recover" from it?"	
The members of the small group are: Stacy Brubaker – Jackson County Mental Health, DeeAnn Everson – United Way, Kris Allison – Central Point Police, Warren Hensman – Ashland Police, Nathaniel Sickler – Jackson County Sheriff, Phil Ortega – Eagle Point School District, Ryan Munn – Central Point School District, Amy Tiger – Medford School District, Tonya Tang – Medford School District, Joe Furgeson – Jackson County Juvenile Justice, Eric Guyer – Jackson County Community Justice, and Laurel Nickels – Asante. The focus of the small group is to review all schools threat assessment procedures, have all schools identify their key contacts and what MH resources they have in the school, meet with ESD to explain what they are looking at and what they would like to accomplish, identify the experts in the field and become the local experts through training, and develop recommendations to give back to the larger group.	
Various stakeholders attended the "Assessing Student Threats" training that was put on by John Van Dreal in Klamath Falls. It taught them how to use the Salem-Keizer System.	
A Level 1 Threat Assessment is focused on K-12 and defines threat as "the intention to commit harm to a target or be a menace or source of danger to a target." The objective of threat assessment is to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess threats of potentially harmful or lethal behavior and determine the level of concern and action required. • Organize resources and strategies to manage situations involving people that pose threats to others. • Maintain a sense of psychological safety within the community. 	

Most schools have some type of threat assessment in place but not to the level that they would like. Central Point and Eagle Point School Districts are improving their threat assessment response to be in line with the Salem-Keizer Model and it is hoped that all schools in the county will do the same. Schools with dedicated Resource Officers may have an easier time implementing Level 1 and enforcing plans. Local law enforcement from almost all of the jurisdictions in Jackson County have indicated that they are interested and willing to support the school districts efforts in Level 1 Threat Assessment Process. ESD has indicated that they are interested in supporting this process as well.

A group of community partners attended the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP) Conference in August 2018. Stacy was informed about ATAP after attending a conference in November and speaking with a panel of principals whose schools were affected by a school shooting. ATAP's is a program that has been designed by Homeland Security, FBI, and Secret Service. ATAP's mission is to share and facilitate the experiences and techniques of professionals in the field of threat assessment and/or threat management. The association affords its diverse membership base to a professional and educational environment for the exchange of experience and assessment/intervention techniques, which span all areas of case management. ATAP's ultimate goal is to assist our members in becoming better equipped to protect those in need and manage threatening or high-risk situations. ATAP offers specialized training that requires certification with only 71% passing the examination the first time.

Warren Hensman from the Ashland Police Department attended the ATAP Conference and felt that it one of the best conferences he had ever attended. He said it had a nice mix of case presentations and break-out sessions. Being one of the few mental health professional, in the room Stacy was not sure what to expect and was worried they were going to say it was all mental health and all that was needed was more mental health resources. However, the speakers explained that most of the people who do these types of mass shootings are not necessarily mentally ill or do not have a history of mental illness. They are often people who have unresolved grievances. For school interventions it is important to try to figure out who else they can get involved with these kids that could be an anchor and positive support from them, because a lot of them are not connected to anyone or anything.

ATAP certification is a process in which we are identifying individuals in Jackson County who have an agency that is committed enough to want to invest the time and money to become a "Certified Threat Assessor." The certification allows a person to be able to prove that they have the knowledge, experience and skills to perform a specific role as part of a threat assessment and management team. It also elevates professional standards and enhances individual performance of those who strive to be the "best in the business." If a school has a Level 1 Threat Assessment and if the school felt there was too much risk and they needed additional help they would bump it to a Level 2 Threat Assessment Team. The small group is currently trying to determine who is going to go through certification. The ideal treatment team for a Level 2 consists of:

YOUTH Level 2 Team

- School Psychologist
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Law Enforcement

As needed:

- Oregon Youth Authority
- DHS
- Juvenile Justice
- Hospital
- Other Case Managers

ADULT Level 2 Team

- Jackson County Mental Health
- Law Enforcement (all jurisdictions)
- Community Justice
- Law Enforcement
- Court Authority
- District Attorney's office

As needed:

- Involved Service Providers
- Hospital

Danny Jordan wanted to know why parents or guardians are not on the YOUTH Level 2 list. Samantha explained that it is a given that they would be invited. However, if they are the antagonist then they would not be involved in this process. Samantha said that she will add them to the list.

The next steps are to:

- Put a report out to the PSCC Mental Health Task Force.
- Circle back with ESD for recommendations and support.
- Offer community training on the Level 1 Threat Assessment Salem-Keizer Model.
- Identified the core group of individuals to become trained and certified as Level 2 Threat Assessors – giving us enough bench strength to not be dependent on single individual's availability.
- Identify existing groups that can serve as the Threat Assessment Review Teams or create groups that can do that regularly.
- Through shared resourcing hire a full time coordinator, housed at the county, to serve in this capacity to ensure implementation and response.
- Begin discussions with law makers about the possibility of "Red Flag" type laws.

Eric Guyer explained that each school district has some type of plan in place. However, some of the school districts did admit that it felt like they were flying without a net sometimes, because they have some high risk kids that present concerning behaviors, but they do not have the training and tools to properly address them.

Jennifer Lind asked what would be the best way get the school districts involved that are not as enthusiastic. Stacy replied she believes that the Ashland school district is on board. The Medford school district feels like they have their process dialed in.

Phoenix-Talent attended the ESD meeting and will begin attending the Mental Health Taskforce meeting. Prospect and Butte Falls also attended the ESD meeting. Stacy also wants to involve SOU, private, and charter schools in the county at some point.

Danny Jordan wanted to know if there was a mutual policing agreement that would involve the various agencies to respond to an incident. Danny feels that there would be a huge weakness in the smaller schools because the bigger schools have access to more resources and larger police agencies that are better equipped to handle an incident. Danny was wondering if the police agencies that are at the table are talking about a response plan as a whole police agency and not as individual agencies? Sheriff Sickler said yes. Chief Sparacino added that if there is ever an active event there will be all hands on deck. For instance, if there is an active shooter at Rogue River High School it will not just be the Sheriff's office responding.

Stacy said that one of the things that has been discussed is the sheriff's response plans for every school which was shared with the school districts. The school districts were not aware of the sheriff's response plans or where some of the meeting locations are. This is a perfect example of how important it is for the schools and local law enforcement all to be in agreement about what would happen if there was an event. The small groups hope is that they will start with the first two tiers of the threat assessment and continue to move forward with training and develop the community response.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

ERIC GUYER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION

There were no announcements.

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: October 23, 2018

Meeting Adjourned: 12:05 pm