

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY,
November 24, 2020

11:30

ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

| | |
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| MEETING CALLED BY | Eric Guyer |
| ATTENDEES | Taji Allen, Joshua Aldrich, Pamela Ames, Lee Ayers, Stacy Brubaker, Dave Carter, Travis Christian, Chief Scott Clauson, Doug Engle, Eric Guyer, Beth Heckert, Jennifer Lind, Lorenzo Mejia, Gilda Montenegro-Fix, Robert Mountain, Tina Qualls, Jazmin Ramirez, Rick Rawlins, Mark Reagles, Nathan Sickler, Rita Sullivan, A. John Watson, Brittany Whitmire |

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

Agenda Topics

JACKSON COUNTY LIVABILITY TEAM AND GREENWAY- UPDATE

| DISCUSSION |
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| <p><i>Scott Clauson, Chief of Police— Medford Police Department</i></p> <p><u>Funding</u> FY 2019-2021 - \$1.2 Million \$1.06 increase to utility bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (3) Police Officers ○ Code Enforcement Officer ○ Records Specialist • Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enforce the Law to Protect the Public and Businesses ○ Build Rapport with the Homeless to Link them to Resources • Strengthen Partnerships with Stakeholders <p><u>Our Model</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem Solvers: Breaking down barriers • "We selected officers that considered a successful day to be one where connections are made and not the number of arrests made." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transportation ○ Trash bags ○ Bus tickets ○ ID for Employment ○ Housing Paperwork ○ Medical supplies ○ Coordinate with Courts and Criminal Justice System • Used GIS mapping program to pinpoint every camp location September 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green indicates an active encampment ○ Red indicates trash left behind • November 2020 there are 197 total encampments <p><u>City Vision</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless System Action Plan (HSAP) Goals: • Action 3.1: Create a Chronically Homeless Response Group to support activities and increase collaboration between key agencies and outreach partners such as outreach personnel, MPD, Behavioral Health and local businesses. • Role of the City: Convene all partners who have a stake in unsheltered homelessness and encampments. <p><u>Partnerships</u> Chronically Homeless Outreach Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access • Addictions Recovery Center • AllCare Health • Columbia Care • DHS Self-Sufficiency |

- Hearts with a Mission
- Jackson Care Connect
- Jackson County District Attorney
- Jackson County SO and Jail
- Jackson County Mental Health
- Jackson County Parole and Probation
- Jackson County Public Health
- LaClinica
- Maslow Project
- Medford City Attorney
- Medford City Planning
- Medford City Police
- Mercy Flight
- Medford Mission
- OnTrack
- Options
- Rogue Retreat

Outreach

- Access
 - Michael Burke
 - Kevin Knapp
- Addictions Recovery Center
 - Nathan Olson
 - Ben Spence
- Jackson County Mental Health
 - Bayley Putman
 - Jerri LaFord
- Jackson County Public Health
 - Tanya Phillips
 - Elise Jorgensen
- LaClinica
 - Yadira Flores
- Maslow Project
 - Matt Northrop
- Mercy Flights
 - Sabrina Ballew
- Options
 - Duward Brown
 - Clint Mooney
- Rogue Retreat
 - Justin Hon
 - Chris Hyde
- Veteran's Administration
 - Amanda Doemland
 - Brooklyn Gartman-Duble

Our Model Cont'd

MPD Livability Team

HSAP Goals

- Action 3.3: Create a pilot to address encampments on the Greenway, in Parks, and Downtown to assess individuals, provide intensive support, and offer housing placements.
- Role of the City: As Part of the Chronically Homeless Response Ad Hoc Working Group discuss idea of a pilot.

Proposal

70.2 Council Bill

2020-92

- Designating a portion of property Maplot 372W13AA103 as a transitional campground under ORS 446.265.
- Lease agreement through September 30, 2020
- Camp area and Parking lot
- Access to services

General Background

- Fire Danger
 - Fires in the City of Medford from 3/1/2020 to current: 99
- Environmental Impact
 - MPD posts 24- 48 hours in advance to give people an opportunity to take their belongings

Urban Campground

- Operated by Rogue Retreat
- Funded initially with COVID-19 funds
- Provides one location for other supportive services
- Ensures safety for clients and security of property

Livability Team Progress Report

July 2020- Today

- 226 referrals made
 - 167 individuals have cycled through
 - 32 individuals transitioned to the Kelly shelter
 - 24 individuals transitioned to other housing, i.e. veteran housing
 - 46 individuals elected to leave
 - 13 individuals left due to misconduct

Calls for Service November 9th- November 13th

- Campground
 - No calls for service
- Kelly Shelter
 - 4 calls total
 - assault 1
 - medical assistance 1
 - Property 1
 - UEMV 1

Connections Made

September 2019- Today

- 212 individuals to housing
- 7 individuals connected to high-level addiction services
- 5 individuals connected to mental health services
- 12 individuals connected to medical assistance
- 6 individuals received income assistance
- 15 individuals received relocation assistance

Why We Do It

"I am a transitional care nurse at Providence. I work with patients after discharge from the hospital. At times I work with homeless folks, often work with patients with substance use disorders and mental illness, and would love to fix everyone in the world. I would never support social workers going into those situations without law enforcement. Sometimes desperate people do desperate things and social workers would not be equipped to deal with those situations. "

-Susan Sanches RN

Questions/Discussion

Eric asked Chief Clauson if he could talk about the ways in which the fires reshaped the greenway, and what that has done to the population. Chief Clauson explained that some of the outlying county areas got burned heavily, so people relocated to the downtown area. Many people were camping out at Hawthorne park, which was later cleared out, but Chief Clauson found that many of the individuals camped there were not individuals affected by the fires but they were using the opportunity to camp out.

Travis Christian asked Chief Clauson what is the law in regards to encampments. He also asked Chief O'Meara and Sheriff Sickler if they knew the percentage of time and resources that go into dealing with the homeless. In response to the first question, Chief Clauson replied they use the prohibited camping law which is used specifically for the greenway. As long as they post in advance they can cite people for prohibited camping. Trespass situations are a frequent issue, so trespass citations are issued

for those individuals. Due to COVID-19, they are trying to avoid having individuals of this population go to jail. In regards to the second question asked by Travis Christian, Chief Clauson replied he would like to conduct more research on the matter. Chief Clauson estimated 20-30% of law enforcement calls are dealing with individuals having a mental health crisis, homeless, or dealing with substance abuse issues.

Travis Christian added that it seemed like Ashland local police spend the majority of their day dealing with individuals in the homeless population, and resources going towards this across the county seem daunting. Sheriff Sickler responded that the Sheriff's office may not deal with this as on the same level as the cities because their area tends to covers rural territory. The concentration of homelessness is not the same but there are other issues that could be related to homelessness that could be hard to capture.

Jennifer Lind commended Chief Clauson for the work that has been done, and the trust and partnerships that have been built. Jennifer added that it would be a good to begin a discussion regarding the services that have started locally as a result of COVID funds and/or disaster funds, because once those funds expire the problems will continue to exist. Chief Clauson added this is something they are concerned about, because they only have funding until December 31st. Chief Clauson commended Rogue Retreat for the work they do.

Contact Information

Chief Scott Clauson
541-774-2209
Scott.Clauson@cityofmedford.org

JACKSON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH-UPDATE

DISCUSSION

Rick Rawlins, LCSW, Crisis and Outpatient Services Manager — Jackson County Mental Health (JCMH)

Impact of COVID-19

- Outpatient services entirely remote
- Crisis services some level of in-person outreach available
- More staff working remotely
- Living room is closed down
- Outreach out on the greenway with those delivering food, offering Mental Health support
 - The partnership with the Livability Team led to continued outreach with law enforcement, Rogue Retreat, Urban Campground, and other local shelters
 - Staff goes out every week to do outreach with the MPD Livability Team and APD
- Working closely with Jackson County Public Health
 - Identified a need for people to isolate who tested positive for COVID-19
 - Working with individuals who have been identified by Public Health or Department of Corrections (DOC) as needing to isolate/quarantine
 - Staff is partnering with Probation Officers to conduct room checks
 - Pick up and deliver meals for individuals placed in isolation, as well as additional shopping as needed

Impact of fires

- Mental health services provided at the Jackson County Expo
 - Crisis team and overnight staff provided 24/7 mental health support for two weeks
 - 10-15 mental health volunteers daily
- Autumn Dozier assisted in transitioning medical building to the Red Cross
 - Transitioned sheltering components over to the Red Cross
 - Due to COVID-19, Red Cross transitioned displaced individuals to local motels
 - Expo closed fairly rapidly, but Red Cross supports are still available
- JCMH formed the Emergency Shelter Task Force due to the gap in services in the community
 - Identifies resources for individuals who were discharged from motels
 - Staffed with Crisis team and additional community partners
 - Provides support for the Red Cross
- Multi- Agency Shelter Transition Team (MASTT)
 - Connect in with Emergency Shelter Task Force and Transitional Shelter Task Force
 - Conduct individual interviews with displaced individuals, starting with individuals that are Red Cross placed
 - Identify individual transition plan and available resources

Gilda Montenegro-Fix asked if the MASTT provides culturally responsive services, including Spanish translation and/or LGBTQ services, and how attuned this group is to all those diverse needs. Rick Rawlins replied that this is a large part of the conversation, and they do have community partners in the Emergency Shelter Task Force, such as UNETE, to provide bilingual and bicultural services. There is still a huge portion of the community that has not come forward to get support due to concerns, such as documentation status, so they are still working on identifying those individuals.

Mental Health Crisis Services in Jackson County

National Best Practice Guidelines

What We Have vs. What We Need

National Best Practice Guidelines

National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care (SAMHSA)

3 Pillars of Community Crisis services

1. Someone to talk to: 24/7 Crisis call center
2. Someone to respond: Mobile crisis response teams
3. Somewhere to go: Crisis Stabilization Center
4. *Adding a 4th Pillar: A Place to Live: Increased shelter and supported housing resources

What we have vs. what we need

Pillar 1: Someone to talk to: 24/7 Crisis Line

1. We have:
 - a) This service is occurring via Jackson County Mental Health's Crisis team, covering our community crisis line 24/7
2. We need:
 - a) Additional resource for mobile response

Pillar 2: Someone to respond: Mobile Crisis Response Teams

1. What we have:
 - a) JCMH does have 24/7 coverage for mobile response
 - i. However, response availability is minimal due to funding levels. Not enough staff for mobile response teams during the day and only have 1 staff on from 5 pm - 8 am weekdays, weekends and holidays (more than 2/3rds of the week only 1 staff to cover 24/7 crisis line and mobile responses)
 - b) JCMH is doing scheduled outreach efforts with local police agencies, currently weekly scheduled outreach with Ashland and Medford Police Departments
2. What we need: Increased mobile response teams
 - a) Need increased funding for mobile response teams to cover 7 days a week
 - i. Have had initial conversations with Mercy Flights to create pilot project of Mercy Flight EMT with JCMH Crisis staff for community outreach response

Pillar 3: Somewhere to go: Crisis Stabilization Center

1. What we have:
 - a) We do not have this resource in our community
2. What we need:
 - a) To build and run a Crisis Stabilization Center
 - i. Have had initial conversations with Columbia Care to build and run a Center, as they run other such programs in other areas of the state

Pillar 4: Somewhere to live: Increased shelter and supported housing

1. What we have:
 - a) Rogue Retreat and their continuum of shelters and supported housing
 - b) Men's and Women's Gospel Missions
 - c) Ashland's shelters
2. What we need:
 - a) Increased capacity of shelter beds and supported housing
 - b) Need as options to keep have outflow from Crisis Stabilization Center to shelters and from shelters to supported housing

Quick note regarding "involuntary" treatment

Individuals can only be taken to the hospital for "involuntary" treatment if they meet State Criteria:

- Have a mental illness that results in
 - Immediate danger of harm to self
 - Immediate danger to others
 - Or, unable to care for themselves (not equivalent to homelessness)
- If they are taken to hospital, they must meet medical criteria to be placed on a Physician's Hold, which can remain for 5 days before going to commitment hearing. Average of only 5% of holds progress to commitment hearing.

Questions/Discussion

Beth Heckert asked Rick when the living room is up and running, how will that work hand-in-hand with the crisis services. Beth asked if the living room was available off-hours or just from 8am to 5pm. Rick replied that the living room was open just 8-5. Before COVID-19, MPD would bring individuals to the living room almost every week. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, and the facility space/staffing it is not set up for it to be a stabilization center.

Gilda Montenegro-Fix welcomed Taji Allen and thanked her for taking the outreach position. Regarding the first pillar, Gilda asked Rick if these services are available in Spanish as well. Rick responded that bi-lingual, bi-cultural services are not available

on a consistent basis but they do have access to a contracted language line. Previously, they did have staff that spoke Spanish. In a sense, yes, it is, but it is not as smooth of a process.

Gilda added that having Spanish, bi-cultural and bi-lingual staff would be a great project and with the mobile response increasing the number of staff, these are both urgent needs given the population we serve. These things should be on the table in regards to funding. Rick agreed that these are both urgent needs, and explained that conversations are occurring with many community partners to work on a proposal. They are ensuring that this is being done right, as it is a complex topic.

Gilda wished them luck, and wondered if there is federal funding available. Rick replied they went for the IMPACTS grant this Spring, but Jackson County was not selected for the grant. Some of the funds they were hoping to get would have gone towards this program, even without the grant their commitment to addressing these needs remains the same.

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: January 26, 2020
Meeting Adjourned: 12:56pm