

Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Mental Health Committee Minutes Wednesday, August 15, 2018

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Others Present: Rebecca Luczaj, Janelle McClain, Ronda Baxter, Laurie Kohler

Robertson called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m.

Presentation: Overview of HHS Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Adult Protective Services (APS) Kohler distributed and reviewed a document titled "Working with Adults and Elder Adults at Risk; Waukesha County APS."

Kohler stated that IMPACT 2-1-1 serves as the after-hours intake line for APS. APS does not go into facilities and investigate someone who is self-neglecting. They can only enter a facility for abuse or neglect allegations, such as sexual abuse between residents, or if staff are neglecting clients.

APS works within the lines of decisional capacity. There needs to be evidence to show that the person is incompetent before APS has the authority to take over the case. Kohler stated that APS is noticing a trend in financial elder abuse cases increasing.

Mueller arrived at 12:56 p.m.

Under an Emergency Protective Placement (EPP) petition (Chap. 55), a patient can be held for a maximum of 72 hours, excluding weekends or holidays. During that time, APS and Corporation Counsel gather all of the information necessary to prepare the petition for a probable cause hearing. If they do not succeed in completing everything within that timeframe, the patient is released and APS is unable to attempt another EPP until new evidence is discovered.

Mueller commented that he would like to see more facilities "treating in place" rather than calling police right away when there is an issue, as the patient is impacted emotionally and psychologically by being removed from the facility. He has noticed that those facilities that keep patients are typically located in remote locations where there is continuity of care because better pay results in less staff turnover. When there is staff turnover, those with dementia have difficulty handling the change. McMahon added that the staffing consistency also allows staff to be more aware of the patients and know how to handle a situation before it escalates.

Kohler mentioned that the state is in the process of developing their next 5-year Dementia Strategic Plan. Through a grant that Waukesha County was awarded, Kohler is serving on the coordinating committee and working with consultants to develop a countywide plan for those with dementia in crisis. The committee has been hosting a series of Dementia summits, and hopes to have a plan in place by the end of the year.

In response to a question from Luczaj, Mueller stated that a patient could only be converted from a Chapter 51 to a Chapter 55; they cannot convert a Chapter 55 to a Chapter 51.

Kohler stated that the county's process for determining EPPs needs to be examined to ensure that we are detaining the right people, as Waukesha County has the highest rate of Chap. 55 detentions in the state. Robertson and Mueller agreed that this issue should continue to be examined after the October Dementia Summit, and that the summit should be used as an impetus for this discussion.

The committee discussed methods that other communities are utilizing to ensure that APS staff have access to necessary patient information at the beginning of a case, such as family and health care provider contact information. McMahon stated that the public would likely respond better to having something like an "information magnet" that is placed on the client's refrigerator with the information, versus having the information in a central database.

Statistics show that Waukesha County is detaining individuals who should not be detained. Mueller confirmed that many cases are dismissed due to APS not meeting the required 72-hour timelines. He added that dismissals might be reduced if there is a process implemented similar to crisis services, which would involve APS in the case prior to the patient being taken to the hospital. He stated that if crisis is called for a particular case, they are handling the Chapter 55. If a facility requests to have a patient placed on an EPP, Waukesha County can send a crisis worker to the location at the same time.

Madden stated that a module on Chapter 55 can be added back into the CIT and Youth CIT trainings. The next CIT training will likely be in February or March 2019.

The committee requested that Kohler present at the next quarterly meeting with the area emergency department physicians in October.

Approve Minutes from July 30, 2018

Motion: Madden moved, second by Dresang, to approve the minutes from July 30, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Dresang left at 1:29 p.m.

Review and Discuss Recent Crisis Services Statistics

This agenda item has been tabled until a future meeting.

Update on Creation of State Legislative Mental Health Committee

Ruzinski is meeting with Senator Darling tomorrow to discuss how state mental health legislation can be improved. Ruzinski will also mention the issues surrounding Chapter 55.

Update on Plan for Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program FY2019 Grant Application

This agenda item has been tabled until a future meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.