



Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Evidence-Based Decision Making
Alternative Interventions Workgroup Minutes
Monday, January 30, 2017

Members Present

Hon. Lloyd Carter – Co-Chair
Hon. Michael Aprahamian
Duane Paulson
Mary Wittwer

Sam Benedict – Co-Chair
Joan Sternweis
Marla Bell

Members Absent

Sue Opper

Others Present

Rebecca Luczaj
Kelsey Loshaw

Andrea Will (for Sue Opper)
Janelle McClain

Benedict called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Approve Minutes from January 12, 2017 Meeting

Motion: Carter moved, Paulson second, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and Consider Workgroup Name Change

Luczaj distributed a list of considerations for the name change.

Committee members shared feedback on the names presented. “Alternative Interventions Workgroup” was chosen to be the name of the workgroup, as members felt it is a good representation of the focus of this group moving forward.

Motion: Paulson moved, Bell second, to approve the name change of the workgroup to “Alternative Interventions Workgroup.” Motion carried unanimously.

Review Criminal Justice System Map

Due to technical issues, the group was not able to view the system map, but instead discussed the structure of the treatments courts and where they fit in the criminal justice system.

Alcohol Treatment Court (ATC) is a post-disposition model, occurring after conviction but before the sentence is completed. After graduating, the participant’s sentence may be modified. Participants may come from the jail or have already been released.

Drug Treatment Court (DTC) is a pre-conviction, post-plea model, where judgment is deferred until completion of the program (whether successful or unsuccessful). Typically the participant pleads guilty to a felony, and after graduating from the program, the participant’s sentence may be modified from a felony to a misdemeanor. The participant may also be sentenced to probation with the Department of Corrections, which would start right away. In response to a question about other populations being considered for Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPAs) with the DA’s Office, Will responded that the problem is there is not an agency to monitor these individuals, like we have with Drug Court.

The group discussed the 180 Diversion Program, which is not run by the District Attorney’s Office; however, they do process referrals to the program. The 180 Diversion Program is for those aged 17-21 years that are being prosecuted for a non-violent offense, typically a misdemeanor. There is a program fee. We may want to invite Rebecca Scott to a future meeting to ensure we have the most accurate information on the 180 Diversion Program.

Bell stated that we should discuss services in the jail. Currently, the focus is on education and skill building, but should also include treatment.

Luczaj will bring copies of the criminal justice system map to the next meeting for the group to review.

Begin Drafting Workgroup Goal Statement

Luczaj distributed a handout titled “Waukesha County EBDM Workgroups & Goal Statements” for the group to review.

Members brainstormed on possible workgroup short- and long-term goals.

GOAL BRAINSTORMING	
SHORT-TERM GOAL	LONG-TERM GOAL
Identify and evaluate all of the alternative intervention programs we currently have	Identify, explore, and promote opportunities to divert participants in the criminal justice system to sustainable programs that reduce expense, facilitate effective rehabilitation, and combat recidivism
Information gathering (identify needs and what alternative intervention programs we need in this community)	Continuously evaluate all of the alternative intervention programs we currently have
Planning for the budgetary needs of the treatment courts; develop a sustainability plan for drug court	
Look at available data sources to help measure the need	
Shorten the time period from referral to treatment; Incentivize participants to immediately enroll in treatment and/or programming	

Members discussed budgetary and personnel issues that arise with Drug Treatment Court, and brainstormed some solutions, which included looking for additional grant opportunities and hiring paralegals. Luczaj mentioned that Eau Claire County was able to hire a Diversion Coordinator with grant funding initially, and were able to then sustain the position through program fees. She will follow up to find out which grant they used to initially hire the position.

The group identified the following people as those who could benefit from the work of this workgroup:

- High risk, low need offenders
- A true first-time offender
- Those in jail, where there are no other mental health or drug dependency treatment alternatives currently available
- Those with chronic mental health issues
- Young offenders
- Medium-risk drug offenders

Adjourn

Motion: Aprahamian moved, Will second, to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.