



Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Alternative Interventions Committee Minutes Tuesday, July 7, 2020

Members Present

Jeremy Perri (Chair)
Sue Opper

Hon. Brad Schimel
Shelby Maruszczak

Duane Paulson
Mary Wittwer

Members Absent

Tina Freiburger
Hon. Laura Lau

Marla Bell

Kirk Yauchler

Others Present

Rebecca Luczaj
Denise Rawski

Janelle McClain
Amanda Nimmer

Jason Popp (proxy for Bell)

Perri called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Approve Minutes from March 3, 2020 Meeting

Motion: Maruszczak moved, second by Wittwer, to approve the CJCC Alternative Interventions Committee meeting minutes of March 3, 2020. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Review Progress of Diversion Grant Implementation

Review Screening and Enrollment Data

Maruszczak distributed and reviewed a document titled "Pre-Charge Diversion and Post-Charge Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA) Statistics."

While applications are still coming in, they decreased during the pandemic. Applications are picking up as the courts are returning to normal operations.

Review Diversion/DPA Monitoring Outcomes and Discuss Changes to Monitoring Due to COVID-19

Rawski distributed and reviewed a document titled "Day Report Center (DRC) Diversion/DPA Program – June 2020."

Update on Project Evaluation

Luczaj distributed a document titled "Waukesha Day Report Center Participant Feedback (Interviews 1-11)." If anyone has questions on the document, contact Luczaj who will forward questions to Freiburger. Freiburger will plan to update the committee on the progress of project evaluation at the next meeting.

Update on Project Timeline and Project Sustainability Plan

Luczaj recently reviewed the grant budget, and primarily due to lower-than-anticipated spending for project evaluation and training/travel due to the pandemic, Waukesha County is currently under budget. She anticipates requesting a no-cost extension through at least December 31, 2021.

Luczaj detailed her plan for sustaining the project. Waukesha County currently receives TAD funding from the WI Department of Justice (DOJ) for the drug court program. The solicitation will be released in 2021 for competitive funding for the years 2022-2026. TAD funding can be utilized for treatment courts and/or diversion programs, so Luczaj plans to submit two applications – one for Drug Treatment Court (DTC), and one to sustain the diversion program. Many other counties have successfully submitted separate applications and are funded for both programs.

The federal government has expanded eligibility for the diversion grant to include other drugs of abuse in addition to opioids; however, a change to project scope would have to be submitted. Opper needs to decide whether she would consider defendants charged with crimes related to substances of abuse other than opioids for diversions and/or DPAs through this project. The committee will continue to discuss the option at future meetings.

Update on Treatment Court Operations During the Pandemic

Wittwer reported that the treatment courts have been utilizing Zoom when possible to limit the number of people in the courtroom. Those who are scheduled for sanctions are required to report in-person. As of June 15, UAs have replaced the use of transdermal patches for drug testing. Face-to-face supervision meetings between clients and case managers are being slowly reinstated.

OWI Treatment Court (OWITC) has 30 participants. A graduation is scheduled for the near future, and two participants are scheduled to be enrolled in OWITC. At January's staffing team meeting, they discussed methods of having participants join the program earlier in the process, following treatment court best practices.

Luczaj reported that since OWITC is below capacity, she did not submit a request for funding from the Department of Corrections (DOC) to expand the capacity of the program, as she had previously intended when there was a waiting list for the program. If program enrollments exceed capacity again in the future, she will approach DOC for assistance at that time.

Schimmel commented that he has had many defendants appear in front of him that would have been good candidates for the OWITC, but they had pleaded out because the program wasn't taking new enrollments at the time due to the previous waitlist.

Luczaj will follow-up with the OWITC staffing team to determine the status of applications and enrollments.

Update on 2021 Treatment Court Funding from DOC

Luczaj has finalized the recurring Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DOC for the Drug Treatment Court (DTC) program. The funding from DOC will replace the expiring SAMHSA grant as of January 1, 2021.

Announcements

Rawski will email the DRC handbook to the committee for informational purposes.

Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

There were no additional agenda items discussed for the next meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion: Opper moved, second by Maruszczak, to adjourn the meeting at 12:51 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.