



POLK COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 17, 2024

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Polk County Sheriff's Headquarters

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Tom Hockensmith, Supervisor Angela Connolly, Chief Judge Michael D. Huppert, County Attorney Kimberly Graham, Des Moines Police Chief Dana Wingert, Polk County Sheriff Kevin Schneider, Ankeny Police Chief Darius Potts, Director of BHDS Annie Uetz, 5th District Director IDOC Michelle Dix, Chief U.S. Probation Officer Daniel Caropreso, Asst. Public Defender Jennifer Larson, DMPS Liaison Stacie Nessa, Citizen Appointee Tracy Gryp.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ACTIVITY:

1. Meeting called to order by Board Chair Hockensmith and a quorum was established.
2. July 23, 2024, CJCC meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

INFORMATION:

1. CJCC Coordinator Evans updated the Council on the following CJCC activities:
 - a. Data transfer from the Jail Management System (JMS) to DataLakeHouse.io has started. It took some time to get all of the fields in the JMS in-sync with how the data will need to look to populate the charts/graphs in the CJCC Dashboard. Now that the data has been sequenced correctly, DataLakeHouse.io is in the process of building out the CJCC Dashboard. The Dashboard should be up and running by the next CJCC meeting in November.
 - b. Joseph Johnson, CEO of Change Course, and County Attorney Kimberly Graham, have been chosen Chair and Vice Chair of the Deflection and Diversion CJCC Subcommittee. Other CJCC Council Members who are a part of the subcommittee include JCS Chief John Hawkins and DMPS Liaison Stacie Nessa. Additional member includes Darnell Loatman (FOCUSS), Kameron Middlebrooks (Reform Alliance), Stephanie Swartz (DMPD), Eric Kool (CFYS), Chief Greg Stallman (Altoona PD), Rachel Adams (BHDS), and Jose Ruesga (Change Course). The first formal meeting for the subcommittee will be in mid-October 2024.
 - c. The Behavioral Health Subcommittee continues to meet regularly on the opposite months as the CJCC Meetings. At their last meeting, they listened to a presentation from Hickory Recovery Centers, who plan to open a residential treatment facility in Grinnell late this

fall. Also, Thrive Now visited with BHDS staff recently to talk about their new residential treatment facility in Pleasant Hill.

2. Ashlan Lippert, LMSW with the Des Moines Public Library, presented on the benefit of having a social worker in the library.
 - a. Social workers began embedding at libraries when it became clear that libraries attract patrons who might never show up at another government building.
 - b. Research has shown that staff at public libraries interact with almost as many homeless individuals as staff at shelters do.
 - c. The challenges patrons are dealing with are increasingly beyond the scope what most librarians are trained to handle- and that's where social workers can fill in the gaps.
 - d. A few of the needs the DMPL social worker assist patrons with include:
 - i. Housing/Emergency Shelter
 - ii. Employment
 - iii. Mental/Physical Health
 - iv. Benefits and Entitlements
 - v. Transportation
 - vi. Vital Records
 - e. Housing is the most common need that patrons look for assistance with when meeting with the social worker at the library.
 - f. Each week, the DMPL partners with community organizations to connect patrons with community resources and offer support to those in need. The Outreach Project is every Friday at the Central Library from 1-3 p.m. Over 20 community organizations participate.
3. Assistant Director of the 5th IDOC Mike Brown, and Supervisor David Hauser, presented on the 5th IDOC Pretrial Program:
 - a. In August 2024, 638 defendants were being supervised on pretrial release.
 - b. The level of supervision defendants receive is correlated with their risk for re-arrest or failure to appear for their court hearings.
 - c. On average, 302 interviews are conducted every month using a screening tool that assist the Court with release decisions.
 - d. Just in the last two weeks, the Court has moved to leaving the decision on the level of supervision up to the pretrial staff to determine. Similar to how it works with probation cases.
 - e. Success rates for defendants under pretrial supervision continue to be over 90% positive for all risk levels.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There was no new business.

Comments from the Public:

1. There were no comments from the public

Closing:

1. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.