

# **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023**



**PSCC**



**MEETING CHAIR:**

Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck

**FACILITATOR:**

Ashlee Whitewood

**NOTETAKER:**

Iris McDonald

**MEMBERS:**

Chairperson & Chief County Judge:	Honorable Tara P. Paluck
Chief Circuit Judge:	Honorable Frank Porter
Chief Correctional Officer:	Chief Eric Smith
Clerk of Court:	Kevin Karnes
County Commissioner Chair:	Cecil Pendergrass
County Manager:	Roger Desjarlais
Court Administator:	Scott Wilsker
Department of Children and Families Representative:	Nekesha Nash
Director of a Community Mental Health Agency:	Stacey Cook Hawk
Director of County Probation or Pretrial Program:	Amy Kinsey
Director of Department of Juvenile Justice Facility:	Director Bill Naylor
Department of Juvenile Justice Chief Probation Officer:	Margaret LaMarca
Director of a Local Substance Abuse Treatment Program:	Tanya Slater
Lee County Sheriff:	Sheriff Carmine Marceno
Police Chief Cape Coral:	David Newlan
Community Based Treatment Family Member:	Daleen O'Dell
Primary Consumer of Mental Health Services:	Dana Foglesong
Primary Consumer of Substance Abuse Services:	Kari Anne Spiller
Public Defender:	Kathy Smith
Representatives from County and State Jobs Programs and Other Community Groups:	Kate Geist & Roger Mercado
Representative from Lee County Homeless Coalition	Janet Bartos
State Attorney:	Amira Fox
State Probation Circuit Administrator (DOC):	Brad Rouskey

**ATTENDEES**

Administrative Office of the Courts	Jennifer Alvarez; Dorian Jerez; Liza King; Amy Kinsey; Iris McDonald; Bridget Washburn; Ashlee Whitewood; Scott Wilsker
Center For Progress and Excellence (CPE)	Heather Cross; Zoe Pierce
Centerstone	Joseph Rea
Department of Corrections Circuit Administrator	Michelle King
Department of Juvenile Justice Facility (LCSO)	Director Bill Naylor
Florida Treatment for Change	Eileen Kappenman
Fort Myers Police Department	William Beaton
Guest	Danny Ben-Tal
Kimmie's Recovery Zone	Heidi Webb; Al Kinkle
Lee County Human and Veteran Services	Tara Martinson
Lee County Sheriff's Office:	Lt. LaDonna Brady; Lt. Candy Chapman; Jeanette Defaira; Lt. Jeremy Hardin; Master Corporal Krystal Lavoie
Lee County Court	Honorable Judge Tara Paluck
NAMI	Regina Britton
Operation PAR	Amanda Benlien; Maryann Hack
Oxford House, Inc.	Aspasia Gatchell; Sara Rivera; Tyler Sykes
Public Defender	Kathleen Fitzgeorge
SalusCare	Windy Gavin
State Attorney's Office	Lindsey Donato; Tyler Lovejoy; Paul Poland

**Lee County Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting  
Lee County Administrative Office Building  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**DISCUSSION**

**Open & Approval of Previous Minutes**

**Deputy Criminal Division Director Ashlee Whitewood**

- Deputy Criminal Division Director Ashlee Whitewood called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
- All attendees introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.
- Meeting Minutes from March 07, 2023 deemed approved as proposed with no changes.

**Item 1) LCSO Jail Population Trends/Update**

**COVID-19 Protocols and Quarantine**

**Lt. Jeremy Hardin, LCSO**

**Sgt. Andreas Reisinger, LCSO**

- The Corrections Bureau population has gone up from the first of the year until now a monthly average of 100.00. COVID has gone down, only two or three within the last several months. We quarantine as needed.

**Item 2) LCSO Jail Inmate Program Updates and Statistics**

**(Life Skills, RSAT, Re-entry, Peer Mentor Program, Work Release)**

**Lt. LaDonna Brady, Corrections Services**

All of the programs are up and running at this time.

- RSAT-
  - 25 individuals have graduated the program this year, 13 of those 25 were court ordered with early release upon successful completion. This saved 732 days of incarceration for those 13 graduates. It also saved the county, \$94,879.40 in housing.
- Community work release program is doing well. We have had seven complete and two have been removed for rule violations. Three of seven are still employed; three have moved out of county or out of state and one was re-arrested. We currently have four in the program, and five awaiting to be interviewed.
- Sheriff Carmine has started up Carmines Corrections clean-up crew to help Lee County clean up the trash. We have a six-man clean-up crew that works Monday thru Friday picking up areas of the county, based on citizens request. We are working with DOT to get that trash removed.
- We currently have six dogs in the cell dog program. Inmates go through 12 weeks of program. There is a primary handler and secondary handler for every dog. They are with the dog 24 hours a day and have 2 hour mandatory training with the dogs once in the morning and one in the afternoon.
- We have five participants in the coaching program; they have been meeting weekly with their coaches in the community.
- The Veterans population absolutely love the mediation, so we will try to bring it to the female population as well in August.
- Since the beginning of the year, the Re-entry task force has issued 81 identification cards to inmates, 135 Social Security Cards, 27 Birth Certificates, 117 Bus passes, and have submitted 622 program applicants with 230 acceptances.

**Item 3) LCSO Corrections Day Work Program Updates and Statistics**

**Jeanette Defaira**

**Sgt. Rudy Lepe**

- We have 43 active individuals currently in the program. We would like to have at least 80-100.
- County dollars saved to date this year \$189,288.00.
- Savings in non-incarceration costs is \$309,390.64.
- Currently 77% completion rate with 17% still enrolled in the program.
- We are always looking to increase our numbers and help out in the community.

**Item 4) AOC Treatment Court Programs End of Year Information Updates**

**Bridget Washburn, AOC Treatment Courts Manager**

- May was National Treatment Courts Month! Most everyone in the room came to at least one of the celebrations and some of you even presented during our celebrations, so thank you for supporting our programs!
- In May, we had nine DC graduations and 1 VTC graduation. We had 5 new entries for MHC, 4 new entries for DC, and 1 new entry for VTC. We got one new VTC mentor, one of whom is a graduate of the program! We had one healthy DC baby born and two MHC babies born, one in the NICU, one healthy.
- Up next, September is National Recovery Month, National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, and National Opioid & Stimulants Awareness Month so that will be another busy month for our programs.
- Also coming up, Judge Hayes will be retiring in January 2024; a celebration will be held in December of this year. More info to come on that.

**Item 5) Park Royal Behavioral Health Services**

**Jennifer Brady, Business Development Representative**

**Not Present**

**Item 6) Oxford House, Inc.**

**(Self-run, Self-supported Addiction Recovery Houses)**

**Tyler Sykes, Senior Outreach Coordinator**

- 501-(c) (3) Non-Profit Organization, we have 135 houses in Florida, with 12 houses located here in Lee County. 7 houses for men five for women, 1 men's home in Fort Myers, 2 women houses in Fort Myers, 6 in Cape for men, 3 women's houses in Cape Coral. With a capacity 43 beds for men in the county and 61 beds for men in Lee County.
- Oxford house provides a safe place to recover as well as a place to learn basic life skills. There is weekly house meetings that discuss and teaches finances.

**Item 7) Housing Outreach & Treatment Team (HOT Team)-FMPD**

**Officer William Beaton**

- The HOT Team started a few years ago. It is a street level outreach, we directly go into camps, we talk to people, refer services. We are not like normal cops that are there to trespass or arrest, we are there to find out what is going on, why are they still in the situation that they are in, and refer services. Help with licenses and social security cards.

## **Item 8) Open Discussion**

### **Tara Martinson Lee County Human and Veteran Services**

#### **Lee County -Opioid Abatement**

- Official Council will be conducted at the Public Safety Coordinating Council Meetings.
- Centerstone is working with subcontractors, they are also in the process of hiring staff for their programs, we should also see here in the near future the vending machines for fentanyl testing strips, and Narcan.
- Kimmie's Place has hired Eileen, whom has 20 years of experience in non-profit management. They are in the process of interviewing for the CRPS staff member. They have started many different partnerships. They have started many trainings, and outreach activities.
- Our next PSCC scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 5, 2023.
- Thank you to everyone that attended today.