

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024



PSCC



MEETING CHAIR:

Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck

FACILITATOR:

Ashlee Whitewood

NOTETAKER:

Liliana Garcia

MEMBERS:

Chairperson & Chief County Judge:	Honorable Tara P. Paluck
Administrative Circuit Judge:	Honorable Robert Branning
Chief Correctional Officer:	Chief Eric Smith
Chief Fort Myers Police Department:	Chief Jason Fields
Clerk of Court:	Kevin Karnes
County Commissioner Chair:	Ray Sandelli
County Manager:	Dave Harner
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 and 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:	Anthony Sizemore
Community Based Treatment Family Member:	Al Kinkle
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
Representative from Lee County Homeless Coalition	Michael Overway
State Attorney:	Amira Fox
State Probation Circuit Administrator (DOC):	Brad Rouskey

ATTENDEES

Administrative Office of the Courts	Liliana Garcia; Liza King; Amy Kinsey; Bridget Washburn; Ashlee Whitewood
Centerstone	Joseph Rea
CPE	Heather Cross
Florida Gulf Coast University	Dr. Sandra Pavelka
Florida Department of Corrections	Brad Rouskey
Fort Myers Police Department	Officer Urena
FTC & Surrender House	Kari Anne Spiller
Goodwill Industries	Debra Donatto; Angela Hemstreet
Kimmie's Recovery Zone	Al Kinkle; Heidi Webb
Lee County Clerk of Courts	Alicia Gonzalez
Lee County Human and Veteran Services	Julie Boudreaux; Tara Martinson
Lee County Sheriff's Office:	Lt. LaDonna Brady; Lt. Chapman; Jeanette Defaira; Sgt. Rudy Lepe
Lee County Court	Honorable Judge Josephine Gagliardi; Honorable Jude Tara Paluck
Nami	Regina Britton
Operation PAR	Ashley Alexander; Amanda Benlien
Public Defender's Office	Nicole Calderone; Kathleen Fitzgeorge
Salus Care	Windy Gavin
State Attorney's Office	Paul Poland; Stephanie Russell
TLS	Tanya Slater

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

DISCUSSION

Open & Approval of Previous Minutes

Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck

- Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
- All attendees introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.
- Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2024 deemed approved as proposed with no changes.

Item 1) LCSO Jail Population Trends/Update

Lt. LaDonna Brady, Corrections Services

- The LCSO Jail Population Report was provided to all council members in attendance.

Item 2) LCSO Jail Inmate Program Updates and Statistics

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

Lt. LaDonna Brady, Corrections Services

- RSAT Program
 - 42 males (21 court ordered), 14 females (6 court ordered)
 - 13 male completions, 3 female completions
 - Cost savings of \$38,743.60
- Life Skills Program
 - 40 males (2 court ordered), 3 females
 - 34 males completed, 3 females completed
- GED Program
 - 3 completed
- CBT
 - 2 males
- Work Release Program
 - 2 currently enrolled
 - 29 completed
 - 2 rearrests
 - 93% success rate
- Re-entry Programs
 - Res. Program Apps – 483
 - Res. Program Acceptance – 189
 - ID's 2023 – 42 (since 2019 = 459)
 - BC's 2023 – 18 (since 2019 = 198)
 - SS's 2023 – 138 (since 2021 = 396)

Item 3) LCSO Corrections Day Work Program Updates and Statistics

Jeannette Defaira, Corrections Day Work Program Coordinator

- Attendees discussed the status of the LCSO Corrections Day Work Program, noting the enrollment of 43-day program workers enrolled with savings to the county \$152,064.00 from the 12,672 hours worked by the day workers and \$225,090.30 for non-incarceration costs, totaling \$377,154.30. The grand total of savings to the county from the start of the program is approximately 18.4 million dollars. The current completion rate is at 72% with 23% still enrolled in the program. This program is an alternative

sentence to straight jail time so the defendants are less likely to lose their jobs, homes, as well as not missing out on family time and events.

- The Day Work Program helps countless county and local government agencies, as well as non-profit organizations such as Hearts and Homes for Veterans, Midwest Food Bank, United Way, Habitat for Humanity, Lee Health Military Support Program just to name a few. The Day Work Program helps them by providing labor from picking up and organizing donations to helping throughout the community. The Day Work Program helps Lee County DOT with roadside pickup of trash, Lee County Parks & Recreation Departments with anything from trimming trees to cleaning park amenities to picking up trash. These organizations are always in need of help. The program could be helping many other organizations if the program could increase their numbers.
- The Day Work Program Coordinator would love to sit down and speak with State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, Judges, and Probation to guide them on how the program can be utilized more so that the program can continue to help the community.

**Item 4) AOC Treatment Court Programs End of Year Information Updates
Bridget Washburn, AOC Treatment Courts Manager**

- Program numbers - 104 participants in Drug Court, 27 participants in Mental Health Court, and 21 participants in Veteran's Treatment Court.
- The Drug Court team has a meeting this week to continue discussions on implementing a secondary track within Drug Court that would allow moderate risk/high need offenders into the program, and would include MM and CT cases. Currently high risk / high need felony cases are the only cases coming into the program. The tracks will have to be separate for treatment, dockets, etc.
- May was National Treatment Court Month, Florida Problem-Solving Courts Month, National Mental Health Awareness Month, National Military Appreciation Month, and Florida Courts Opioids & Stimulants Use Disorder Awareness Month, an event was put on for the participants in the programs. Ryan Leaf, former NFL player, came to speak to a packed courtroom about his experiences in the justice system and his path to recovery. Thank you to the community partners that helped make the event happen!
- Coming up for treatment courts is International Overdose Awareness Day on 8/31 and September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and National Recovery Month.

**Item 5) Human and Veteran Services Opioid Abatement programs
Tara Martinson, Grants Analyst-Behavioral Health**

I. CJMHSA Planning Grant

- Q3 – Deliverable Update
 - *Completed:* Travel to at least one facility in Florida currently using EBT for target population
 - Polk County – Helping Hands Program – Site Visit – May 14th
 - *Completed:* Schedule two EBT trainings, webinar or seminar for stakeholders in the community
 - MHFA Training with NAMI at HVS - May 28th
 - Polk County – Helping Hands Program *Virtual* Training - May 30th
- Q4 – Deliverable Update
 - *Completed:* Develop plan to further incorporate Opioid Abatement Funding projects with target population
 - Kimmie's iThrive and WRAP classes were incorporated into Reinvestment Grant

- *In progress*: Finalize strategic plan and release to local stakeholders
- Strategic Plan Due from FGCU July 8th by 9:00am

II. **CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant**

- Applied: March 25th
- Notice of Award: Now July 15th

III. **Opioid Abatement Programs**

- Kimmie's Recovery Zone
 - First Contract Year Completed
 - Quarterly Highlight: Lee Health Partnership for Narcan Distribution
 - Handout: Jan 2024 to March 2024
- Centerstone
 - Referrals can be submitted to the WISH Supervisor – Gregory Novak
Greg.Novak@centerstone.org or by calling 239-208-6390
 - Currently Enrolled: 37
 - Handout: Jan 2024 to March 2024

Item 6) Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc.

Debra Donatto, Director of Communications & Marketing and Angela Hemstreet, Director of Employment Services

- **Digital Training & Certifications**
 - Digital Skills Training- Free on site digital training is offered to help bridge the gap that many job seekers face.
 - Digital skills courses are free and include everything from basic to advanced computer training, Internet navigation, social media, word processing, spreadsheet software, and typing courses.
 - Entry-level training and certification opportunities are also offered in English as a Second Language and Home Healthcare.
 - In an effort to keep job seekers moving forward and on a pathway to success, Goodwill offers workforce directed certificates and degrees that are in demand. Areas include healthcare, technology, business management, finance and ESL.
- **Want to be your own boss?**
 - Goodwill offers a program designed to help individuals with low to moderate income levels and other disadvantages to start or stabilize their own businesses.
 - The Microenterprise Institute is offered to aspiring small business owners who live in the SWFL area.
 - A small administrative fee may apply depending upon their income level. This pays for course materials.
 - Classes meet on Monday and Thursday evenings for 6 weeks. Students will work with an instructor and a mentor who will guide them through planning their business. The classes will assist in developing a business plan as well as assist students in applying for financial assistance.
- **Employment Services**
 - Goodwill assists job seekers to choose, obtain, and/or retain employment that matches their career goals.
 - Workshops are offered on resume building, how to fill out an application, how to dress for an interview as well as interview skills.
 - Participants are provided with 90 days of continued support from an employment consultant once employment is secured.

- Goodwill is a 2nd chance employer.
- **Community Service**
 - Offenders can complete community service hours with at a Goodwill location (no violent crimes).

Item 7) Centerstone (AOT Program Update)

Joseph Rea, M.S., Director of South County Practices

- **Partnerships & Collaborations**
 - Goal II: Develop/enhance infrastructure and capacity within the community/among project partners to implement and maintain a responsive AOT program and comprehensive continuum of care/supports.
 - Over the last four years, the AOT program has collaborated with 48 community partners (exceeding our cumulative goal of 14).
- **AOT Client Demographics**
 - AOT has enrolled 81 clients
 - The majority of clients: are between 26 and 54 years of age (64%)
 - Identify as white (74%) and heterosexual (58%)
 - Five clients (9%) reported past military service
- **Intensity of services provided by AOT staff**
 - Goal I: Provide evidence-based treatment, case management, crisis intervention, and wraparound/recovery support services among individuals with SMI engaged in civil commitment process.
 - Over the last twenty-one months, staff saw clients an overall average of 2.4 times per week. Further, clients received face-to-face contact with staff an average of 1.5 times per week, in addition to:
 - 1 medication management visit per week
 - 1.3 psychiatry appointments per month
 - 2 case management visits per week
 - 3 peer support visits per week
 - 2.3 therapy sessions per month
- **Costly Service Utilization**
 - Goal III: Obj. E & F: Reduce costly service use (e.g., hospitalization) related to SMI/COD by 40%; Reduce past 30-day criminal justice system involvement by 60%.
 - Overall costly service utilization by AOT clients decreased from baseline to follow up.
 - Psychiatric hospitalizations decreased by 76%.
 - Incarcerations decreased by 100%.
- **Discharges**
 - Goal III, Obj. H: Achieve 80% client retention rate.
 - Of the 64 total discharges, the majority (47%; n = 30) were discharged for mutually agreed cessation of treatment. More than half (58%) successfully graduated AOT or were referred to another provider. By the end of year 4, AOT's retention rate was 70%.
- **Length of Time in Program**
 - Of those who discharged for mutually agreed cessation of treatment (n = 30), clients spent an average of 8.6 months in the program. Clients are enrolled in AOT for 90 days, or the length of their civil commitment. However, 56% of participants chose to extend their petition beyond the initial 90-day court order.

- **Mental Health Symptomology**
 - Decreases were seen across all six feelings (nervous, hopeless, restless, depressed, everything in an effort, worthless) from baseline to follow-up.
 - There were significant improvements at follow up for clients who endorsed feelings of hopelessness, depression, and worthlessness.

- **Perception of Care**
 - Overwhelmingly, AOT clients reported satisfaction with their care as assessed on 6-month follow up.
 - Most clients feel that staff believe they can recover, feel comfortable asking questions about their treatment and like the services, they receive in the program.

- **Participant Feedback**
 - “I like everything about [AOT]. The regular contact, the help the team provides”
 - “I like how flexible [AOT] has been with me and my work schedule. They help me with medication management and therapy, and have been a great support to me”
 - “I like the staff, the resources they provide, and the consistency of my treatment”
 - “[AOT] is always checking on me and always respectful, polite, very helpful and caring”
 - “I like my nurse, APRN, and my therapist, the level of care provided and weekly therapy sessions. They are very helpful”
 - “[AOT] is like a friend to me”

Our next PSCC scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

Thank you to everyone that attended today.