

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 06, 2022



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; Liza King; Amy Kinsey; Bridget Washburn; Ashlee Whitewood;

AIM/Target

Mary Ellen Saba

Department of Corrections Circuit Administrator

Michelle King; Circuit Administrator Brad Rouskey

Department of Juvenile Justice Facility (LCSO)

Director Bill Naylor

Lee County Human and Veteran Services

Roger Mercado

Lee County Sheriff's Office:

Lt. LaDonna Brady; Jeanette Defaira; Lt. Jeremy Hardin; Sgt. Rudy Lepe; Sgt. Andreas Reisinger
Regina Britton

NAMI

State Attorney's Office

Lindsey Donato; Tyler Lovejoy; Paul Poland

The Center for Progress and Excellence, Inc.

Heather Cross

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

DISCUSSION

Open & Approval of Previous Minutes

The Honorable Judge Tara Paluck

- The Honorable Judge Paluck called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
- Thank you to all Mental Health, Law Enforcement and First Responders.
- All attendees introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.
- Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2022 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

- Initial quarantine period for newly admitted inmates has been discontinued. We continue to isolate inmates that test positive for COVID for 10 days, as well as the housing unit. The COVID positive trend is downward. Last positive inmate was on November 10, 2022.
- Discontinuing the quarantine allowed for movement and restructure. The jail is housing all the male violent felonies, and the Core is housing all the non-violent felonies, misdemeanors, females and juveniles.
- Population trend is moving slightly upwards, holding steady at 1,400 + inmates.

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 2022 totals-
 - Males 31 completions, 17 of those were court ordered with early release upon completion, which resulted in a total of 1487 days of non-incarceration after completion, saving the county \$210,261.80 average cost per day.
 - Females 12 completions, in which 6 of those were court ordered, resulting in 372 days of non-incarceration after completion, saving the county \$52,600 average cost per day.
- Recidivism rates for 2020 end of year-
 - 47 males completed program with 23 of those re-arrested making it a 48.9%. From the 23 only 5 were re-arrested for drugs or alcohol related charges putting it down to 21.7%. 11 of those males were in violation of the original charge. Of the 47, only 23 were court ordered to participate and 11 of the 23 were re-arrested.
 - 22 females completed program with 7 were re-arrested making it 31.8% down from 2019. From the 7 that were re-arrested only 2 were arrested for drugs or alcohol, and 2 were for violation of probation. Out of 22 completions 12 were court ordered, out of the 12 there were 5 that were re-arrested.
- Veterans MRT with Human Veteran Services-6 male veterans are participating in the program and 3 females.
- Work Release Program-currently have 3 ancillarys that are employing inmates while incarcerated. Employed inmates are provided with transportation to and from, civilian clothing, shoes, lunches, etc., to get through the day. Since the program started in September, there were 4 inmates that participated, 3 completed successfully with 1 failure, making it a 75% success rate. Two out of 3 are currently still

employed. The participating employers are Storm Smart, Southwest Waste and Waste Pro. There will be a few more interviews being conducted the beginning of the year to hopefully obtain more employers. One of the inmates is now able to obtain visitation rights back with his children since he has employment. There are six more interviews for potential candidates with the employers.

- Working with Bridget Washburn to get veteran participants in Veterans Treatment Court whom successfully completed the program to come in and speak to incarcerated veterans, in hopes to get them invested.
- Over the last 6 weeks, a debris pick up crew was created for the hurricane to assist the county with picking up any areas that may need it with a focus on illegal dumping.

Item 3) LCSO Corrections Day Work Program Updates and Statistics

Jeanette Defaira

Sgt. Rudy Lepe

- We have 50 active individuals currently in the program.
- County dollars saved to date this year \$316,359.00.
- Savings in non-incarceration costs is \$539,339.00.
- Current success rate is 77%. 13% still enrolled in the program.
- During the hurricane, the trailer that I was in for my office was damaged. My current office is back at the CORE Facility, orientations are being conducted in the visitation lobby. They are still meeting off Metro to do their days; however, any office business is being managed at the CORE.

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

Bridget Washburn, AOC Treatment Courts Manager

- October = Awful
- Mental Health, Drug Court, Veterans Treatment Court all went through the disaster. The aftermath relapse was the biggest fear for participants. The Treatment courts team pulled together to get a hold of every one via phone or in person. Only two participants verbalized needed help, and were able to obtain assistance. We were able to help them back on their feet, as well as make sure we worked on their mental health and recovery to ensure they did not relapse.
- In November were able to do a nice Veterans Day Celebration with a great speech by Judge Margaret Steinbeck.
- In January, we are planning to get some of the Veterans Treatment Participants whom graduated or are doing really well to go with Lt. Brady and speak to the Veterans whom are in custody.
- Next weekend I hope to get a group together to do Wreaths Across America.
- Still in need referrals and mentors.
- May 2023 is going to be a big month its National Drug Court month, Mental Health Awareness and Veterans Month again.

Item 5) NAMI CIT Training and Initiatives

NAMI Program Director, Gina Britton

- Unfortunately, due to the hurricane, the 2 November classes were cancelled.
- The first half of the 2023 schedule is available and on the website.
- Doing 40-hour classes in January and May 2023. The school resources will be in July. All classes are being held at the Academy.
- Received a grant to hire a part-time CIT coordinator. Currently going through the process of being certified with CIT National. I hope that by the end of next year we will have that certification. Would like to do five classes per year minimum. We are still hoping to do at least four but five is the goal. Would like to do dispatcher course, which is one that was cancelled.
- NAMI Walk was rescheduled for March 4, 2023.

**Item 6) Center for Progress and Excellence, Inc.
(Mobile Crisis Unit, Hurricane Response)
CEO, Heather Cross**

- I have been with The Center for Progress and Excellence since April 2021.
- Nonprofit mental health agency with the primary goal of mobile crisis response teams
- We have an 844 number that is live 24/7; also work with individuals that call the regular line that are in crisis. We work on a call list of three components to a call, emergent when we respond to call within 60 minutes or less cause a person is suicidal or homicidal. Urgent call list, which is 24 hours to respond. Routine, calls for those getting back in with services.
- Staff went through training on disaster mental health. We learned that 4-6 months after hurricane is when mental health is really going to hit. Individuals are still currently in survival skills.
- 80% of current calls are coming from Lee County School Systems. There is an MOU with the school system where if the counselors have a child with mental health issues they complete an instrument, which determines whether they are dispatched to the schools.
- Baker Act diversion rate is currently down, we usually divert 89-90% of the individuals who we meet mental health.
- School systems right now are at 71%, there is an uptick with baker acts in the system. One of the issues that we are running into is that the CSU Unit is not running at SalusCare so the kids are being sent to different counties, and parents are having a hard time with a means of transportation to pick up their kids.
- Operate the Empowerment Center-Homeless shelter here in Lee County; we have been working hard the last two days since they are trying to close down the North Fort Myers Shelter. We have upped our capacity, our normal capacity is 81, but we have an additional 20 cots. Trying to change dynamic at the Empowerment Center, as we know there is little to no housing in Lee County. We have also ensured that everyone has applied for FEMA and is on the waitlist.
- We try to partner a lot with the Police Department to be implemented us at the scene for Baker Acts so we can try to help and reduce the number of individuals Baker Acted.
- We have also added another component of individuals that have gone through total devastation without a home or car. Any donations as far as sheets, beds, pillows and personal hygiene items are always welcomed.
- We have a contract with the Department of Juvenile Justice; we do mental health evaluations as well as substance abuse evaluations for them.
- We also officer outpatient counseling on a sliding pay scale and have a psychiatrist as a medical director on staff, he bridges the gap with the mobile crisis response team if they go out on a call for those he need immediate assistance till they can get in with their psychiatrist.

Item 7) Open Discussion

- Roger C. Mercado, Director of Lee County Human and Veteran Services
 - Ryan Leaf had to reschedule due to hurricane.
 - There is a couple of folks that participated in the Sequential Intercept Mapping exercise at the Collaboratory, we did receive a draft and will schedule a virtual meeting in January for those who attended to talk about the results, then share with council for distribution.
 - Every December there is the Candlelight Vigil for those individuals who have died on the streets, provided by the Homeless Commission on December 21, 2022 at 6pm at the commissioner steps.
 - Opioid Settlement funding, we had three agencies apply the conditional recommendations for the commissioners to approve will be Centerstone and Kimmie's Recovery Zone to receive funding for the next five years. Maybe in a future meeting we can have them present on what the plan on providing as a result.

- Our next PSCC scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 7, 2023.
- Thank you to everyone that attended today.