

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

**MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021**



PSCC



MEETING CHAIR:

Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck

FACILITATOR:

Jennifer Alvarez

NOTETAKER:

Anne Donohue

MEMBERS:

Chairperson & Chief County Judge:

Honorable Tara P. Paluck

Chief Circuit Judge:

Honorable Frank Porter

Chief Correctional Officer:

Chief Eric Smith

Clerk of Court:

Linda Doggett

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 via Suntel Conference Call:

Administrative Office of the Courts

Jennifer Alvarez; Amy Kinsey; Joseph Rea; Scott
Wilsker

Center Stone

Lee Fox, HOT (Homeless Outreach Team) Program
Supervisor

Department of Corrections Circuit Administrator

Deputy Admin. Michelle King; Administrator Brad
Rouskey

Department of Juvenile Justice Facility

Director William Naylor

Judiciary:

Honorable Josephine Gagliardi

Lee County Human and Veteran Services

Director Roger Mercado

Lee County Sheriff's Office:

Lt. Patrick Biel; Lt. LaDonna Brady; Sgt. Candy
Chapman

Public Defender's Office

Gary Bass

State Attorney's Office

Tyler Lovejoy; Paul Poland

Surrender House

Daleen O'Dell

Lee County Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting via Suntel Conference Call

DISCUSSION

Open & Approval of Previous Minutes

Jennifer Alvarez, Deputy Criminal Division Director Pretrial Services

- The meeting was called to order at 12:00 P.M. by Jennifer Alvarez.
- Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2021 stand approved as proposed with no changes.

Item 1) LCSO Jail Population Trends/Update

COVID-19 Protocols and Quarantine

Lt. Patrick Biel, LCSO

Sgt. Candy Chapman, LCSO Classifications

- Currently we have approximately 900 inmates. Average of inmates over the past 3 months has continued to rise, approximately 1,500. Currently DOC can house 7 males per week and 3 females twice a month.
- There has been no change in our COVID-19 protocols as the existing procedures are working quite well.

Item 1) LCSO Jail Inmate Programs (Life Skills, RSAT, Re-entry) Updates and Statistics

Lt. LaDonna Brady, LCSO CO Services

- Currently there are 34 inmates registered with RSAT.
- Between 2018 and 2020 151 males have completed program with 59 of those returning, 39%
- 73 females have completed program with 29 of those returning, 39%.
- 26 participants currently enrolled in GED Program.

Item 2) AOC Treatment Courts End of Year Information and Updates

Joe Rea, Treatment Courts Manager

- Lee County Homeless Service Day & Veteran Stand Down will take place on January 29, 2022 at City Gate Ministries in Ft. Myers. This will assist veterans and persons experiencing homelessness who have unpaid fees/fines including traffic fines as well as assistance with driver's licenses. Participants must pre-register. Please pass the word for maximum impact.
- Veterans Treatment Court held an event in honor of Veterans Day on November 9th in Courtroom 5B. The outcome was amazing. The program's focus on treatment are designed to address unique reasons behind participants involvement in the Criminal Justice System.
- Study tracking individuals discharged between 2017-2020 showed the following results:
 - 81% of Veteran Court participants successfully graduated and only 16% of those received a new law violation.
 - 70% of Mental Health Court participants successfully graduated and only 81% avoided new law violations
 - 54% of Drug Court participants successfully graduated with approximately two thirds avoiding new law violations. Success rates increased 43% in 2018, 55% in 2019 to 68% in 2020.
 - 1 year recidivism rates have dropped from 25% to 21% to 14% due to program changes and court responses.

- For FY 2020-2021 participation rose to a monthly average of 82 in Drug Court, 66 in Mental Health Court and 17 in Veterans Court.
- Veterans Court tied our all-time high in participation at 26 and Drug Court to 87.
- Many thanks to Judge Gagliardi and County Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass for their continued support.

Item 3) Lee County Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

Information Data and Updates

Roger Mercado, Director of Lee County Human and Veteran Services

Lee Fox, HOT Program Supervisor with Centerstone

- Along with collaboration with Lee Fox the HOT Program is offering case management, assisting with securing IDs, birth certificates, building network of community partners, therapy for specialty issues and access to medication. Community partners include the Bob James Triage Center and Salvation Army. We are working with multiple partners every day to reach needs of the community.
- We have programs in place to assist with shelter in cold weather along with Lee Tran, Salvation Army, Centerstone and Fort Myers P.D.
- Through opportunity from NOFA and the American Rescue Plan Act we are implementing the Rapid Transition Program with NOFA looking for a lead agency to plan, build, implement and develop a plan for sustainability for the creation of a behavioral health and substance use disorder continuum of care in Lee County. This is largely based on the work of the Ad Hoc Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Subcommittee.
- The agency will be asked to develop policy, building systems, outreach, preventive strategies, a governing board, tracking and sharing results.
- We will be going before the BOCC in January or February for final approval.

Item 4) Open Discussion

- Our next PSCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022. We anticipate meeting in person at that time.
- Please reach out to Jennifer Alvarez with any future agenda items.