



**Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
Grant Planning Committee**  
April 18, 2019

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Barbara Berry, Lloyd Boulet, Michelle Hart-Wilhour, Cheryl Kauffman, Dr. Maggie Labarta, Michael Reeves, Joy Rhodes, Virginia Seacrist, Holly Stacy, William Wall, Carl Smart, Honorable Denise Ferrero

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Robert Hutchinson, Dr. Wandamaria Lopez, Jeanne Singer, Honorable Kristine Van Vorst, Brad Carter, Forrest Hallam, Chief Tony Jones, Captain Dawn McKinley, Rebecca Rogers

**Others Present:** Lori Stophel, Lauren Pilkinton, Erica Goldstein, Honorable Jim Nilon (for Honorable Denise Ferrero), Alan Paulin (for Dr. Maggie Labarta), Stuart Wegener, Bridget Baker, Kendra Oliver, David Johnson, Bob Swain, Amy Weber

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Call To Order**

Commissioner Hutchinson, Chair, was unable to attend this meeting, and Vice Chair, Honorable Judge Ferrero, was also unable to attend, so Honorable Judge Nilon (who originally appointed Judge Ferrero to the Circuit Court position on the board) "filled in" for Judge Ferrero as Vice Chair today.

**2. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2019 Committee Meeting**

Michael Reeves made a motion to approve the minutes. Holly Stacy seconded the motion, and the meeting minutes were approved.

**3. Forensic Diversion Team Progress Report**

Erica Goldstein presented the Forensic Diversion Team Progress Report, which covers October 2018 through March 2019. In this 6-month period, there were 256 referrals made to the program, 90% of which were accepted (or are pending acceptance). 75% of the programs discharges were successful. There were 70 clients participating in Forensic Treatment in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (not 65, as shown in the printed handout). 57 of those in Forensic Treatment were in traditional treatment (such as Probation, Veteran's Court, Mental Health Court, and Div V Felony). 7 clients were in Moral Reconation Therapy, with 4 graduates in this 6-month period. There are 104 clients engaged in the community – 82 in Case Management, 70 in Treatment, and 16 in Competency Restoration. 67% of the FS916 clients were committed to a State Forensic Hospital. For the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, 80% or more of the participants were maintained successfully in the community, rather than in jail. Of the 28 non-engaged referrals, 21 were due to "accepted, release, and no follow-up" meaning that they were accepted into the program, but never came to Meridian after being released from custody, and staff could not find them to follow up with them.

**4. CJMHSAG Grant Activities Update**

Alan shared that Meridian has been awarded the new grant which will go from 2020 to 2023. Some changes with this grant cycle will include treatment related-services at the jail post-booking, which will benefit the client immensely, as well increase the engagement rate once released (as mentioned above, there is a large number of "accepted, release, and no follow-up" non-engaged referrals). Mental Health First Aid Training is also part of the grant, and they are going to be offering training again in the near future.

Meridian received the top score out of all applicants (as were grant cycles 3, and 4). Both Stuart Wegener and Judge Nilon congratulated and complimented Alan and Meridian on their strenuous efforts to get this grant application done and submitted in such a short amount of time.

**5. Community Education Efforts**

Stuart spoke briefly about the presentation made to the 8th Judicial Bar Association on February 15th regarding the CJMHSAG program. Many of the CJMHSAG members or meeting attendees participated, including Alan Paulin, David Johnson, Judge Ferrero, Leslie Gray, and Stuart. There were 60 people who attended. This was the first effort by the committee to get information out into the public about what the CJMHSAG Program and Planning Committee does. Judge Nilon attended and said he felt it was very well received, but added that one downside of presenting to the 8th Judicial Bar Association is that the luncheon is generally not attended by *criminal* lawyers.

Stuart would like to be able to do this on a quarterly or bi-annual basis, to share information with the community. He would like to meet with the Rotary club who meets Tuesdays at the Wyndham Garden Gainesville Hotel on SW 13th Street, or the "Downtown Rotary," a much smaller group of 25-30 people. Judge Nilon believes the Rotary would be a great group to speak to. Stuart asked for suggestions for other groups to speak with. Alan asked that, moving forward, the PowerPoint presentation include information about upcoming MHFA trainings.

## **6. SIM Mapping**

Stuart shared two handouts that show the Alachua County Sequential Intercept Mapping from 2016, as well as a version captured from Policy Research Associates' website, based in New York. The map is a strategic planning tool that is considered evidence based practice, and is an assessment of available resources, existing programs and services, which identify gaps that exist, and identify a plan for changing the existing system.

When the new CJMHSAG grant begins in April 2020, there is the ability to choose three new technical assistance priorities on which to focus. This committee could choose to create a new SIM Plan at this point, as SIM Plans are suggested to be updated every 5 years. Policy Research Associates' model has been updated to include a new intercept at the pre-arrest stage. It is called "Intercept 0 Community Services".

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office is interested in creating a Co-Responder team for outside of city limits. Barbara Berry said that MHFA and CIT Training should also be included in the first Intercept. William Wall added that there is funding available for peers on-call at Emergency Rooms. Stuart suggested it should also be added to the SIM.

## **7. Stepping Up Day of Action, May 16, 2019**

The first National Day of Action, in 2018, was celebrated with a Town Hall event at GPD's Hall of Heroes and a panel of speakers including Lloyd Boulet, Sheriff Darnell, Leah Vail-Compton, Judge Ferrero and others. This event will be repeated, on May 16, 2019, again at GPD's Hall of Heroes. Stuart asked that everyone in the committee share the flyers with their groups. Mark Sexton will also share on Alachua County's social media.

## **8. Justice & Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) Update**

Since the last time David Johnson spoke to this committee, he has been successful in getting UF Health Shands somewhat on-board. The group is working on an Institutional Review Board (IRB), specialized to hospitals, to bring in the VA and UF Health Shands. There has been no success at this point in getting North Florida Regional Medical Center on-board. The VA needs an IRB1 to be able to share and participate with JMHCP. An IRB2 has been approved by UF Health Shands, which will trigger formal efforts for the process evaluation phase. Data production will continue through January 2020, with a consultant-written, data-driven paper being completed in March 2020. The IRB2 also triggered formal interviews, which have begun with Leah Vail-Compton, and will continue under the leadership of the two UF consultants during the summer. This grant will sunset in September 2020.

## **9. Other Business**

- Amy Weber reminded the committee that their appointment terms will expire on April 30, 2019. Most members can renew their appointments via contacting Amy, but three seats (currently held by Dr. Labarta, Dr. Lopez, and Ms. Berry), need to reapply on the Alachua County Advisory Board website, and be approved by the board in July.

## **10. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm**

Next Meeting Time: July 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM; County Manager's Training Room, County Administration Bldg.

*Audio Recording of Meeting Available Upon Request  
Attendance Report Distributed*

*Submitted by: Amy Weber, 06/06/2019  
Court Services, Advisory Board Staff Liaison*