

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Behavioral Health Committee

Meeting Summary for July 20, 2021

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1. Call to Order

Committee Co-Chair Mike Parker began discussion of the agenda items with the committee members present at 9:03 a.m. There was not a quorum of committee members until later in the meeting. The meeting was held via remote-only Zoom Webinar.

Members Present: Chris Cochran, Doug Chadwick, Arlene Feld, Heather Flaherty, Dan Hammill, Mike Hilley, Byron Manering, Mike Parker, Brien Thane, Jackie Mitchell (proxy for Perry Mowery)

Members Absent: Megan Ballew, Nathan Bajema, Seth Fleetwood, Stephen Gockley, Perry Mowery, Michael G. Smith

2. [2021 Committee Priorities \(00:01:13\)](#)

Parker reviewed the list of priorities and previous discussion at the June meeting; reported on the workgroup making funding recommendations, and; applying the GARE toolkit on racial equity within the committee and the full Task Force.

Committee members discussed developing substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health treatment for youth, including types of services, incentivizing youth, appropriate location for services, and finding a successful model for youth services; how the Blake Decision and other recent State legislation impacts youth; inpatient SUD treatment for youth; developing the new alternate response team (ART) for 911 crisis response that includes a behavioral health specialist and EMT-B(asic); the status of behavioral health responses from the Sheriff's Office, and; percentage of 911 calls that do not have a criminal component.

Parker and Hammill stated they will work with the Health Department to look for youth SUD treatment service models in other areas and possible schedule a presentation at a later meeting.

This item will be continued to the next meeting.

3. [New Funding Sources \(00:45:38\)](#)

Parker reported for the workgroup, which drafted a letter of recommendations for using America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Flaherty referenced the draft letter of recommendations and reported on the workgroup suggestions for behavioral health opportunities; pretrial and reentry support; developing a 24/7 mental health emergency center; supported and transitional housing, and; prioritizing youth and data.

Committee members spoke about incentivizing worker retention; barriers to providing increased salaries and other financial incentives; reentry support services from the Opportunity Council pre-pandemic and the impact of services from the Covid pandemic; using one-time funding for staff; funding for reentry navigators; connecting the suggested items to the sequential intercept model, and; how a 27/7 mental health emergency center would differ from the crisis stabilization center.

4. [Other Business \(01:33:05\)](#)

The committee concurred by general consent to increase the joint meeting schedule with the Legal and Justice Systems Committee to quarterly, with the first meeting in September.

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5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.