

JRAC: Mental Health and Addiction Subcommittee

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

WED, May 3, 2023 at 12:00pm

- I. Welcome at 12 PM
- II. No Proxies
- III. Minutes from 4/5 meeting approved
- IV. Discussion regarding following topics:
 - a. JRAC received letter from FSSA that we have been approved for funding for the Opioid Matching grant. Amount of funding will be finalized in negotiations. Acceptance due by 5/8. Judge accepted the award on behalf of JRAC. FSSA and DMHA emphasized not to announce the award publicly at this time or grant could be at risk. More to come as information develops.
 - b. Judge will send a revised CARES form with proposed updates/changes.
 - c. Friday, April 28 was the System of Care community partner meeting. DMHA sent a vendor to the meeting to record and interview those in attendance with the possibility of using the video to create a training webinar. Meeting went very well and was well attended.
 - d. No mission statement proposed by any member yet. Judge Stiller will send out a proposal to get started.
 - e. Lengthy discussion among all criminal justice partners, in particular, Kelley Stafford (jail mental health), Kara Hodges (jail case manager), Daraius Randelia and Laura Elliott (FCCC), probation, and the courts regarding the CARES referral process and differing roles of each agency. The major take-aways from the discussion are:
 - i. “Substance use assessments” aka “Biopsychosocial assessments” are the key to ensuring the appropriate treatment plan is recommended and arranged for a defendant. FCCC is available, qualified, and will do those primarily for the Courts, the jail, and probation. Kara Hodges may make CARES referrals to FCCC as appropriate. If counsel request an “assessment” from Hodges/jail, then she will either notify both counsel that they should request an FCCC assessment or she may refer the defendant to FCCC first before she assists in making arrangements. The referral should be made via the CARES form and inform counsel that she has done so. The assessment step should not be skipped. If the person being assessed is a probationer, FCCC/jail should follow the lead of the probation officer and they should be informed at all times. SOC also has the credentials and ability to perform these assessments for those who may not be involved with FCCC or the jail.

- ii. All FCCC Assessments for inmates should be distributed to Hodges. If the FCCC Assessment is filed with the Court (always confidentially), the court staff should distribute to Hodges if FCCC requests so or FCCC may send directly to Hodges at the same time as the court.
- iii. Even if the jail (Stafford) performs their own form of an assessment, IF FCCC is requested by counsel or the judge to do an assessment, then FCCC may still perform their substance use assessment. However, there should be communication between FCCC and Hodges/Stafford to determine if there is a timeliness issue (such as insurance) and coordinate efforts prior to treatment being arranged.
- iv. FCCC may also refer inmates that they see to Stafford if mental health issues are identified outside of the norm expected of substance use disorder.
- v. Any of the criminal justice partners may make referrals to SOC where assistance is needed or where gaps exist.
- vi. As has always been the case, CARES referrals are intended for only those cases where such a referral is appropriate. Case types include Level 6 and below where charges are non-violent, drug-related offenses. Other offenses could qualify only if agreed in writing by both the State and the Defendant or ordered by the Courts. Hodges and FCCC will not undertake to make arrangements for treatment without both counsel in agreement or court order.
- vii. Kelley Stafford, LCSW, is a mental health service provider contracted by the jail. Her role, function, and purpose is different from that of FCCC or probation. She is governed by her contract with the jail and her duties/obligations there. Inmates have the opportunity to see her as they may request to do so through the jail process. She will perform whatever service she deems appropriate and are part of her duties. This is completely separate from whatever service that FCCC may provide for purposes of the inmate's case. Generally, she should not be ordered or requested by anyone other than the jail or the inmate to perform substance use assessments. However, the courts, FCCC, or probation may make referrals to her to identify mental health concerns that may arise with an individual that may require her attention.

V. Adjournment at 1pm.