

# ***Incarceration Prevention Reduction Task Force***

February 01, 2016

Whatcom County Courthouse, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham

9:00 – 11:00am

## **AGENDA**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Attachment</b>
<b>9:00</b> 5 Minutes	<b>1. Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introductions</li><li>• Review January 11, 2016 Meeting Summary</li></ul>		Co-Chairs	Meeting Summary
<b>9:05</b> 90 Minutes	<b>2. Review DRAFT Phase One Report</b>	Discussion Decision	Ad Hoc Chairs Dean Wight	TBD
<b>10:35</b> 15 Minutes	<b>3. Review Phase Two Timeline</b>	Discussion Decision	Co-Chairs Dean Wight	TBD
<b>10:50</b> 5 Minutes	<b>4. Summary &amp; Next Steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set Task Force meeting schedule for 2016</li></ul>	Decision	Dean Wight	
<b>10:55</b> 5 Minutes	<b>5. Public Comment</b>		Co-Chairs	
<b>11:00</b>	<b>6. Adjourn</b>		Co-Chairs	

# Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Meeting Summary, January 11, 2016

Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514

311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham WA

## Attendance

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Anderson, Angela	Whatcom County Public Defender
Bernstein, Jill, Co-Chair	Citizen Representative
Brubaker, Jeff	Bellingham Fire Department
Deacon, Anne	Whatcom County Human Services
Elfo, Bill	Whatcom County Sheriff
Foster, Vince (proxy for Chris Phillips)	PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center
Gockley, Stephen	Whatcom Alliance for Health Advancement
Gribbin, Susan	Consumer
Hammill, Daniel	Bellingham City Council
Heydrich, Alfred	Whatcom County Superior Court Commissioner
Hovenier, Jack, Co-Chair	Consumer Representative
Kruse, Betsy	North Sound Mental Health Administration
Linville, Kelli	City of Bellingham, Mayor
Manering, Byron	Brigid Collins
Mann, Ken	Whatcom County Council Member
McEachran, David	Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney
Moonwater	Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center
Morgan, Irene	Restorative Community Coalition
Peterson, Darlene	Bellingham Municipal Court
Winter, Greg	Opportunity Council
<b>Alternates Present</b>	
Garrett, Deborra (alternate)	Whatcom County Superior Court Judge
Parks, Jeff	Whatcom County Sheriff
<b>Staff</b>	
Wight, Dean - Lead	
Smith, Veronica	

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order

Jack Hovenier called the meeting to order.

Sign-up sheet for opportunity to tour Francis Place was circulated

### 2. LEAD Program – Seattle Police Department

Undersheriff Pugel from Seattle Police Department spoke about the development, implementation and success of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program in Seattle, including:

- Risk assessment
- Qualifications for the program
- Case management
- Development of plans for housing, job training, mental health and chemical dependency treatment

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- Success measurements, and additional analysis being performed by the U of W.
- The development of a workgroup (much like the Task Force) from multiple sectors of the community
- The utilization of community referrals instead of criminal referrals
- Harm reduction programs like “Housing first” for people with chemical dependency issues

### 3. Smart Justice - Spokane

Brean Beggs from Spokane shared information with the Task Force about the work that Spokane has done in regard to incarceration reduction and prevention.

The three goals of the Smart Justice program are:

- Reduce crime
- Reduce or limit costs
- Transform lives

He discussed the utilization of evidence-based pretrial risk assessment tools and the implementation of pretrial service enhancements, and the additional staffing needed to support the work.

Additional programs include:

- Electronic home monitoring for pretrial defendants
- A proposed diversion court
- Portability judge within the jail (proposed)
- Veterans Court
- FasTrack (Bellingham program)
- DWLS 3<sup>rd</sup> diversion program

He also informed the group about the development of online dashboards to reflect measures, the utilization of WSIPP for data about savings in specific programs.

### 4. Scope of Task Force

The Task Force briefly discussed the scope of work, and the need for a broader perspective that includes early prevention strategies as well as work that impacts the things that drive substance abuse. Other, on-going work in the community was noted.

### 5. Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Jack Hovenier reported for Chris Phillips re. Triage Ad Hoc: Robust discussion with recommendation centering on 2-16 bed facilities (one MH, one detox) co-located, voluntary (with some reservations), and an on-going discussion regarding location recommendations.

Commissioner Heydrich reported that the Legal Ad Hoc heard a presentation on the Jail Alternatives programs, and that they are narrowing a list of program enhancements or new program recommendations for consideration.

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Anne Deacon reported that the Behavioral Health Ad Hoc is in the process of mapping current programs in the Sequential Intercept Model, with the following goals and objectives under development:

- Programs should represent a continuum of care, and be integrated and coordinated
- Workforce development is critical
- Prevention strategies like early engagement are important
- Recovery support services
- Improvements to infrastructure (transportation) need to be made to help people in their recovery

## 6. Summary & Next Steps

Dean Wight distributed a DRAFT table that reflects local and regional facilities and discussed the timeline for the Phase One Report.

- Draft will be reviewed in Ad Hoc meetings
- 2<sup>nd</sup> draft will be shared with the TF prior to the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

The Task Force supports the idea that LEAD and Smart Justice should be included as goals for future work.

Task Force Meeting Schedule is as follows:

February 01, 2016, 9-11am, Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514

## 7. Public Comment

Joy Gilfilen asked if the Task Force has considered engagement of the business community.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am



January 19, 2016

To: Tyler Schroeder  
Ken Mann  
Jill Bernstein  
Jack Hovenier  
Chris Phillips  
Fred Heydrich  
Anne Deacon

From: Dean Wight

Re: IPR Task Force Phase II process recommendations

A great deal of information about alternatives to incarceration has been gathered and presented to the IPR Task Force during Phase I of its work. The draft Phase I report just circulated refers to those alternatives in summary form, and WAHA has created a library of detailed materials describing them. Now that the Phase I report is delivered for Task Force review, I'd like to suggest how we might proceed with the work of Phase II. I'm sending this first to you as County Council and County Executive representatives, Co-Chairs and Committee Chairs for your feedback. It can then be presented to the Ad Hoc Committees for discussion, and ultimately the whole Task Force.

1. Task Force Meetings: I would suggest that the Task Force meetings for this next period be more limited in frequency, scheduled to review reports and recommendations coming out of the Ad Hoc Committees, where the detail work will proceed. This will make the best use of time for very busy Task Force members.
2. Triage Ad Hoc Committee: This committee has a very specific set of questions to address between now and November, 2016, which are identified in the Phase I report. They relate to options for licensing, obtaining commitments for development and operational funding, program design and staffing, and assisting the County Council and Executive with evaluating site options. The goal is to establish a crisis triage facility that will intercept individuals in crisis or involved with law enforcement, and divert them from jail or the emergency room. In the short term, there may also be opportunity for innovations in the way the current triage center is operated and



accessed, and these should be explored as well. I assume much of the work of researching and negotiating the development and operational issues will fall to the appropriate County departments (Health Dept., Facilities, Executive, Legal, Finance), and involve input from or negotiations with the North Sound Mental Health Administration/Regional Behavioral Health Organization (NSMHA/BHO), legislators, and state licensing and certifying bodies. I would view the Committee's role as being a sounding board for County staff and, where appropriate, an advocate for County proposals. WAHA's role would be to assist County staff in organizing and presenting information to the Committee, facilitating discussions in the Committee meetings, and documenting Committee discussions and actions for presentation to the full Task Force.

3. **Behavioral Health Committee:** This committee should complete its description of current behavioral health programs and how effectively they function to prevent or divert individuals with mental illness/substance use disorders (MI/SUD) from incarceration, using the framework of the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM). It has begun to develop suggestions for enhanced or new programs in the behavioral health continuum of care, and needs to complete that work. At that point, the Committee should engage in a process that prioritizes options for enhanced or new programs, based on criteria such as potential for effectiveness, how quickly they can be implemented, and others the Committee should identify. County Health Department and NSMHA/BHO will provide detailed information and advice in this process. WAHA's role again would be to assist County staff in organizing and presenting information to the Committee, facilitating discussions in the Committee meetings, and documenting Committee discussions and actions for presentation to the full Task Force.
4. **Justice/Legal System Committee:** This committee has generated information about current jail alternative and diversion programs, which are mapped in the Phase I report using the SIM. A wide range of enhancements or new programs have also been presented for review, and will also be mapped in SIM in the final version of the Phase I report. The Committee now needs to have a series of structured and facilitated discussions that identify the opportunities and costs of enhancing current effective programs, reach a common understanding of what suggested new programs entail, and prioritize options for both based on an agreed set of criteria (e.g. effectiveness, management of risk, timeline for implementation, etc.). WAHA's role



would be to assist Sheriff, Court, Prosecutor, City Attorneys and Public Defender staff in organizing and presenting information to the Committee, facilitating discussions in the Committee meetings, and documenting Committee discussions and actions for presentation to the full Task Force.

Given the challenges faced by the Sheriff, cities and tribes in managing jail census at the present time, each committee should be looking at what changes would bring “early wins” in diverting individuals from incarceration. However, some members of the task force have expressed an interest in beginning to address underlying causes of criminal behavior – unemployment, inadequate housing, environments that shape and encourage antisocial behavior, adverse childhood experiences, and the like. I would suggest that a full Task Force agenda be set aside for such a discussion in the near future, perhaps while the individual Committees are conducting their focused work to bring forward recommendations to the full task force.

I welcome your comments and feedback on the above suggestions.