

**Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice System Committee Meeting**

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., March 10, 2020

Whatcom County Courthouse Conference Room 514, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham WA

AGENDA

If you plan to bring handouts to this meeting, bring at least 15 for committee members and the file

Meeting summary of the previous meeting is included at the end of the packet for information only. Committee members may suggest changes and/or corrections to the draft summary to jnixon@co.whatcom.wa.us. Audio recordings are the official meeting record and can be found on the IPRTF and committee [website](#).

Topic	Requested Action	Presenter	Packet Page(s)
1. Call to Order			
2. Report on the Washington State Patrol presentation to INDEX Committee on Live Scan Fingerprinting	Report	Raylene King	N/A
3. Report on December 19 Juvenile Justice Roundtable programs • Are there new committee work plan items?	Report & Discussion	Eric Richey	N/A
4. Brainstorming session to incorporate prevention into the committee's work (cont'd from Dec.) • Limit discussions to things in which there are evidence-based or promising practice for impacting criminogenic factors that would prevent or reduce incarceration.	Discussion	N/A	1 - 5
5. Other Business			
6. Public Comment			
7. Adjourn			

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

See [Website](#) for meeting locations

IPR TASK FORCE 9-11 a.m.	COMMITTEES				
	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 2:30-3:30	LEGAL & JUSTICE SYS. 11:30 am -1:00 pm	INDEX 1:30-3:00	CRISIS STABILIZATION FACILITY 9:30-11:00 a.m.	STEERING
April 20	March 16	March 10	March 5	March 19	January 23: 11:00 – 12:30
June 1	April 20	April 14	May 7	May 21	April 9: 10:30 – 12:00
August 3	May 12: Behavioral Health and Legal and Justice Systems joint meeting		July 9	July 16	June 4: 11:00 – 12:30
October 5	June 15	June 9	September 3	September 17	July 23, 11:00 – 12:30
November 2	July 13	July 14	November 5	November 19	Sept. 24, 11:00 – 12:30
	August 3	August 11			Oct. 22: 11:00 – 12:30
	September 21	September 15**			
	October 5	October 13			
	November 10: Behavioral Health and Legal and Justice Systems joint meeting				
	Tuesday, December 15*	December 8			

*Alternate Date, time, and/or location

The most up-to-date meeting schedule can be found online at:

<http://wa-whatcomcounty.civicplus.com/calendar.aspx?CID=40>,

INCARCERATION PREVENTION & REDUCTION TASK FORCE SEQUENTIAL INTERCEPT SERVICE SUMMARY

Programs IN BOLD are developed or expanded through or in consultation with the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>	<i>Programs in Place:</i>
<p>0.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEE APPENDIX A: Health Department, Human Services Division, community health programs • Gang prevention programs • Community Paramedic • Opiate Outreach and Engagement • GRACE Program • School District Prevention Programs (various school districts) • Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) (Opp. Council) • Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) • Community Medication Assisted Treatment (various agencies and medical professionals) • Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC) youth restorative practices/justice services and conflict resolution training • WDRC adult conflict resolution training and skill building workshops • Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) • Brigid Collins Parenting Academy 	<p>1.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighborhood Policing • Specialized training for law enforcement and first responders • Truancy/discipline school-based services • Law Enforcement crisis intervention team (CIT) training • Crisis Stabilization Facility (Mental Health and addiction stabilization services) • Specialized training for case managers • GRACE Program • Behavioral health specialized law enforcement officers & deputies (multiple jurisdictions) • Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) • Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) 	<p>2.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Screening • Suicide Assessment • Superior Court & District Court Pretrial Risk Assessment • Superior Court Pretrial Services Unit • Electronic Home Monitoring in Lieu of detention when applicable • District Court phone call and text reminders for select court calendars • Bellingham Municipal Court: Pretrial SCRAM, Pretrial GPS EHM, Pretrial Risk Assessment, and 2x/week warrant quash • District Court: Pretrial Unit and Pretrial Electronic Equipment Program 	<p>3.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEE APPENDIX A: Health Department, Human Services Division, community health programs • SEE APPENDIX B.1 and B.2: Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau Programs • DUI Victim Impact Panel • Work and School release • In-custody work crew • Specialized courts (Teen, Drug, Mental Health) • Enhanced Drug Court • Health Dept. Jail Behavioral Health Program • Sheriff's Office reduced fees and increased eligibility for jail alternatives • Expanded and increased out-of-custody work crew and work release capacity • District Court Post-Conviction Electronic Equipment Program • Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) (Opp. Council) • Coordinated Entry Referral Specialist • Bellingham Muni Court: Mental Health Court, DV Court, EHM in lieu of incarceration • Dist. Court High Risk DV Unit, court text messaging • Juvenile Court Behavioral Health Program 	<p>4.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term housing to stabilize • Health Dept. Jail Reentry Program • Prescriptions and access to prescriptions upon release • Specialized Behavioral Health Unit in District Court • GRACE Program 	<p>5.A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialized Behavioral Health Program • Community Outreach • Peer-to-peer community supports (12-step programs, volunteer organizations) • Community Medication Assisted Treatment (various agencies and medical professionals) • GRACE Program • WDRC adult conflict resolution training and skill building workshops • Parent Child Assistance Program (PCAP) • City Gate Supportive Housing

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry (LJS)	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>	<i>Programs in place with resource shortage:</i>
<p>0.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex offender ADA accessible housing Funding for affordable housing, clean and sober housing, and other specialty housing Employment resources, including “second chance employers” Supportive shelters Eviction prevention assistance 	<p>1.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Outreach and Recovery Support (CORS) Law enforcement direct referral to Crisis Mobile Outreach Team (BHASO) Additional behavioral health trained officers Funding CSF beds for non-Medicaid individuals, especially 12-hour holds <p>Training for Law Enforcement & First Responders (BH)</p>	<p>2.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health-Assisted Outpatient Treatment / Lesser Restrictive Orders (LRO) Superior Court Pretrial Services Unit 	<p>3.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APPENDIX B.3: Sheriff’s Office Corrections Bureau Programs Vocational and Literacy Training for Offenders, with bilingual accessibility Jail Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) program Dedicated housing for drug court participants Increased warrant quash opportunities Housing Lab in Jail LROs – more teeth Increased work release capacity DV Offender Treatment <p>Can Drug Court have a program that is less than 2 years, as an incentive to participate? (BH)</p>	<p>4.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jail Reentry Services, including from contracted jail service agencies Community-based reentry service Access to mental health treatment 2nd Sheriff Corrections fulltime re-entry specialist Goodwill reentry employment services Employment resources, including “second chance employers” Expand work release Improve pathway for voluntary removal of protection orders / DVSAS services Brigid Collins Family Support Services 	<p>5.B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean and sober housing Community SUD Treatment CJTA Rental Assistance Supportive Shelters Improve pathway for voluntary removal of protection orders / DVSAS services

Intercept 0	Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Community Services	Law Enforcement	Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings	Jails/Courts	Reentry (LJS)	Post-Incarceration Community Supports
<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>	<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>	<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>	<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>	<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>	<i>Programs needed but not in existence:</i>
<p>0.C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Storage • Youth Street Outreach Team (NWYS) • Eliminate criminalization of homelessness 	<p>1.C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seamless protocol for CSF discharge treatment plans for individuals admitted on a 12-hour peace officer hold • Dedicated DCR to BPD/WCS • DCR procedures evaluation • Triage mental health unit for juveniles 	<p>2.C</p> <p>Can Housing be an incentive to participate in Specialty Court? (BH)</p>	<p>3.C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offender treatment for Domestic Violence • Young Adult Court • Young Adult reduced incarceration • Court processing and case workload efficiency improvements • Brigid Collins family support services • Intensive case manager for the jail • MAT: include possibility of temporary release for evaluation and new treatment <p>Housing for Mental Health Court? (BH)</p> <p>Youth Court (BH)</p>	<p>4.C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forensic program for Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) • Offender treatment for Domestic Violence • Reentry navigators • Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau: Reentry services for release from incarceration other than Whatcom County jail. • Warm handoff • Employment assistance • Discharge planning and mainstream benefits re-enrollment • Peer re-entry specialists <p>Community Resource Handout for defendants (LJS)</p>	<p>5.C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/7 staffed permanent supportive housing • Behavioral Health consultation to housing providers • Recovery house (3/4 way house after treatment) • Sex offender ADA accessible housing • City Ambassadors / hiring program like Metropolitan Improvement District in Seattle • Safe storage

Affordable supported housing **and more funding sources and opportunities are** necessary across all intercept levels.

In addition to expanding existing and developing new programs, the Task Force will continue to identify best practices and engage in ongoing review and monitoring of current

programs for quality assurance purposes.

CRISIS STABILIZATION COMMITTEE ONGOING REVIEW

- Programmatically effective and financially sustainable Triage and Crisis Stabilization facility for Whatcom County
- The Triage Center programming is effectively integrated with new and existing programs

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ONGOING REVIEW

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Coordinate with other agencies and workgroups
- CORS Program
- GRACE Program
- Jail MAT Program

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEE INFORMATION GATHERING

- Look into connections to other factors, besides age, such as economic, employment, diversion programs, and foster care
- Look at the drivers of and identify the best practices regarding criminal behavioral
- Look at and identify the best practices regarding age groups
- Get information about family treatment court, and hear from Northwest Youth
- Existing programs from the following agencies: Brigid Collins Family Support Center, Lummi Nation, School districts, Health Department regarding their school services, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS), Northwest Youth Services, Child Protective Service (CPS) services, Peace Health pediatricians, Other

LEGAL AND JUSTICE SYSTEMS COMMITTEE ONGOING REVIEW

- Integrating restorative practices & their role in the criminal justice system
- Policies and procedures, to reduce number of bench warrants / warrant quash
- Opportunities for individuals to pay off fines
- Pretrial Services
- Court case processing and workloads

LEGAL AND JUSTICE SYSTEMS COMMITTEE INFORMATION GATHERING

- Ease of entry into behavioral health services
- Policies and procedures that will reduce number of bench warrants issued for FTAs
- Review of Juvenile Justice Systems

The Information Needs and Data Exchange (INDEX) Subcommittee works to support policy and program data efficiency enhancements across all intercept levels.

The Task Force will first prioritize specific requests from the Whatcom County Council.

ACRONYMS

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
BH	Behavioral health
BHASO	(North Sound) Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (formerly NS Behavioral Health Organization: NSBHO)
BPD	Bellingham Police Department
CIT	Crisis Intervention Training
CJTA	Criminal Justice Treatment Account
CORS	Community Outreach and Recovery Support
CSF	Crisis Stabilization Facility
D/C	Diversion
DCR	Designated crisis responders
DUI	Driving under the influence
DV	Domestic Violence
DVSAS	Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services
EHM	Electronic home monitoring
FACT	Forensic Program for Assertive Community Treatment
GPS	Global positioning system
GRACE	Ground-level Reponse and Coordinated Engagement (Program)
HOT	Homeless Outreach Team
LEAD	Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion
LRO	Lesser restrictive orders
MAT	Medication Assisted Treatment
MCOT	Mobile Crisis Outreach Team
NWYS	Northwest Youth Street Outreach Team
PATH	Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
PCAP	Parent Child Assistance Program
SCRAM	Secure continuous remote alcohol monitor
SUD	Substance use disorder
TX	(medical and/or clinical) treatment
WCOS	Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
WDRC	Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for February 11, 2020

1. Call to Order

Committee Co-Chair Arlene Feld / Raylene King called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. in the Whatcom County Courthouse Conference Room 514, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham.

Members Present: Bill Elfo, Arlene Feld, Stephen Gockley, Raylene King, Jackie Mitchell, Darlene Peterson, Kristin Hannah (proxy for Deborah Hawley), Bruce Van Glubt, Maia Vanyo

Members Absent: Deborra Garrett, Deborah Hawley, Moonwater

2. Presentation on District Court District Court Behavioral Health Program

Van Glubt introduced his staff and reported on two new units in District Court:

- Domestic Violence unit
- Behavioral Health unit, including cases for the mental health courts for the County and City of Bellingham

John Hooper, District Court, gave a presentation on the behavioral health unit and answered questions.

- Individuals are referred at intake to a specialized probation officer with mental health training and a smaller caseload.
- Individuals are seen more often and for longer durations
- If an individual begins to decompensate, the probation officers can intervene before re-arrested or hospitalized
- There has been a 28 percent increase in mentally ill offenders who complete probation.
- They don't take everyone with a mental health diagnosis
- The current caseload is 215 individuals for two probation officers
- Ideally, another 100 individuals could be included in the program, and a third probation officer is needed
- Approximately 75 percent of those in the program also have substance abuse issues

The committee and presenters discussed the ability of District Court to track the outcomes of individuals with minor behavioral health issues who are not referred to the specialized program.

Denise Richter, District Court, presented information on working with the mental health courts in the District Court and the City of Bellingham:

- The clients have serious and persistent mental health issues (SMIs) and their mental health directly correlates to their crimes and must want to participate in the mental health court program.

The committee and presenters discussed the success of the program and its participants.

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for February 11, 2020

Jake Wiebusch, District Court, gave a presentation on the domestic violence unit and answered questions:

- The unit has 115 to 125 high risk individuals with more frequent contacts
- The program includes check-in groups that include approximately 10 clients per group and a District Court facilitator
- Clients work through a moral reconnection therapy workbook
- Two specialized probation officers are trained currently, and two more are in training
- Each graduate has an average of five convictions
- The program is not a replacement for domestic violence treatment
- The program is free
- Recidivism has gone down

The committee members discussed an upcoming new program for domestic violence perpetrator treatment that could serve 41 defendants in the City of Bellingham and 36 in the County, and more providers may be able to provide the service if stable funding is available.

3. Drug Court update on its progress toward meeting the NADCP recommendations

Chris Furman, Superior Court; Shoshana Paige, Public Defender's Office, and; Dave Graham, Prosecutor's Office, reported on the courts progress with six priority recommendations and five additional suggestions from the NADCP, and answered questions:

1. Restructure eligibility requirements: Prosecutor's Office has released legal written criteria, relaxed certain factors, don't discourage people from applying, and changed standards. There are more applicants.

2. Remove certain disqualifying criteria: Only one person with a delivery charge has been admitted. No one with a firearm charge or a dealing charge has been allowed. The amount of restitution payments is better, but it still bars people from participating. Anyone with a history of eluding is presumptively non-eligible. There is still a ban on people who have had prior failure in any other drug court, except juvenile court. People charged in another County, but living in Whatcom county, are now allowed to go through the local drug court.

3. Implement use of a validated, standardized tool to determine participant eligibility: Nothing has been done with this recommendation, partly due to a lack of staff time and resources. At this point in time, a risk assessment wouldn't change how they are providing resources. She would consider it if there were more staff resources.

The committee discussed the possibility of a needs assessment. There is a specific need for an additional staff person who could be a field officer to do home visits.

4. Select one primary treatment agency: They are in the process of training the new drug court judge. They engaged in a Request for Information (RFI) and received responses from two of the three

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for February 11, 2020

local substance use treatment providers, and have preliminarily selected one. They will complete this item shortly. Using only one provider is a national best practice. Tribal participants are allowed to maintain treatment with tribal providers, for cultural reasons.

5. Discontinue use of standardized incentive and sanction grid: They have transitioned to an approved incentive and sanction index that is more individualized. They have seen positive results due to the change.

6. Participate in training on the effective use of incentives and sanctions: Ms. Paige has attended national conference training on incentives and sanctions. There is still not agreement among the local team members on how often they use jail as a sanction, for the safety of the participant. Other options are desirable, but don't exist, such as an immediate entry into a secure detox facility on order of a designated crisis responder (DCR). The only secure detox facilities are in Chehalis and Spokane. Currently, the purpose of jail sanction is as a secure hold until inpatient treatment is available. Drug court staff regularly attend the national conference.

There are five observation recommendations:

1. Set up recurring policy meetings to discuss the recommendations. They need to do that with the new judge. They have revised the policy manual.

(2. Pursue grant funding, not discussed)

3. Do not terminate participants with new possession charges. There is still a policy of terminating with a new felony charge, but the Prosecutor's Office will look at it on a case-by-case basis and may decide to hold off on the charge.

4. Identify alternatives to Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) groups and decrease frequency of meetings during drug court. That's done. They changed the requirement for 12 step groups and require sober support activities, which include many different things. The amount required early on is less.

5. Do not regularly rotate team members. The team members try to stay consistent as much as possible.

Overall, they are serving more participants and graduation rates are rising.

4. Presentation on the Teach One to Lead One Program

Jacob Mack, Chapter Director, submitted handouts, presented information on his program, and answered questions. They engage in group mentoring of juveniles with an established curriculum that focus on soft skills and interpersonal skills, such as respect, integrity, and honor. The program lasts 12 to 16 weeks. Participants are assessed at the beginning and end of the curriculum. Last year there were over 400 participants locally. Mentors come from a variety of public organizations. Financing is primarily from fundraising, but could be collected through fees when working with juvenile courts, where additional training is required. A service project is one requirement of the program. They work in several local school districts, and are in the process of developing a program that works in the local foster care system.

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for February 11, 2020

5. Appointment to County Council's Strategic Advisory Committee for Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment

Hanna nominated Debbie Hawley.

King nominated Darlene Peterson.

The committee appointed Darlene Peterson, 4-3, with Mitchell and Vanyo absent.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.