

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Legal and Justice Systems Committee

Meeting Summary for October 12, 2021

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1. Call to Order

Committee Co-Chair Raylene King called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m. The meeting was held via remote-only Zoom Webinar.

Members Present: Arlene Feld, Stephen Gockley, Raylene King, Darlene Peterson, Eric Richey, Flo Simon, Donnell Tanksley, Bruce Van Glubt, Maia Vanyo, Doug Chadwick (proxy for Bill Elfo), Perry Mowery (proxy for Jackie Mitchell)

Members Absent: Bill Elfo, David Freeman, Deborah Hawley, Jackie Mitchell, Moonwater

2. Next Steps for Domestic Violence Offender Treatment ([00:01:08](#))

Committee members discussed next steps, including:

- The lack of treatment providers
- Recruiting and training specialist officers with training on domestic violence and behavioral health
- Funding treatment by getting the small city councils involved to pay for services to indigent individuals
- Reaching out to treatment providers to let them know funding is available
- Funding for civil attorneys and legal aid for those involved in a domestic violence situation in child custody and divorce proceedings
- Improve access to effective treatment, including applying pressure to the State Health Care Authority and Medicaid insurers
- Finding evidence-based treatment and research on new standards for treatment
- Possibly using the Department of Justice federal grant funding for demonstration projects fund opportunities that will determine the effectiveness of treatment
- Engaging an agency in Eastern Washington that can provide remote services
- The need for domestic violence treatment services from drug and alcohol treatment providers
- Whether the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization can try to get funding from the State and other organizations
- The possibility of family functional therapy treatment when juveniles are involved in domestic violence cases

VanGlubt will reach out to drug and alcohol providers, with approval of the District Court judges.

Mowery will ask the BHASO about including funding for DV treatment in the HCA contract with MCOs

3. Recommendations for amendments to State legislation on police reforms ([00:30:40](#))

King and Chadwick reported on a recent meeting to come up with recommendations to the State legislature:

- The most concerning area that needs further review and changes has to do with use of force and behavioral health crisis response
- There are limitations to taking someone into protective custody so they can take them to the hospital or treatment
- Law enforcement must consider several tactics when considering duty of reasonable care to try and work with folks to deescalate a situation.

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- They must clarify the interpretation of “imminent” when gauging threats, including how they pertain to juvenile runaways
- The need for consistency between involuntary treatment laws and the new policing reform laws
- There is misunderstanding about defining reasonable suspicion
- More clarification on how they came up with removing reasonable suspicion

Committee members discussed the complication of officer interaction and de-escalation with known offenders; legislative intent vs plain meaning of the legislation; potential for racial profiling with the use of reasonable suspicion; whether the community understands the problem with removing reasonable suspicion; how to respond to individuals who need to be transported to the crisis stabilization center, but don’t rise to the level of imminent threat; impacts on the goal to include involuntary certification at the crisis stabilization center, and; how to address the reality of racial profiling.

Richey will meet with the small workgroup to develop specific language, and submit it to the Steering Committee for its November meeting.

4. Task Force Communications ([01:04:00](#))

Possible public communications topic messages for a communications consultant to develop may include:

- Law enforcement training
- New jail diversion programs
- The need for domestic violence offender treatment
- Changes from the Prosecutor’s Office and overall criminal justice system, such as the law enforcement assisted diversion (LEAD) program

5. Topics for Year-End report to County Council

This item was not discussed and will be held to the next meeting.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.