

Public Safety Coordinating Council

October 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Council Members (or designee) in Attendance:

Bill Proctor	County Commission
Judge Augustus Aikens	Judiciary
Jack Campbell	State Attorney's Office
Jessica Yeary	Public Defender's Office
Chief Norman Mack	Leon County Sheriff's Office
Teresa Broxton	Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives
Brylan Jacobs	Florida Department of Corrections
Anne Meisenzahl	Big Bend AFTER Reentry Coalition

Council Members Not in Attendance:

Rebecca Kelly-Manders	ReFire Culinary
Nancy O'Farrell	NAMI Tallahassee

Also, in attendance:

Wanda Hunter	Leon County Administration
Elizabeth Garber	Court Administration
Kimberly Holland	Intervention and Detention Alternatives
Johnathan Godwin	We Are All We Need, Inc.
DenAisha Williams	We Are All We Need, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Issues Discussed

I. Approval of the October 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Jessica Yeary moved to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Chief Norman Mack. The Council voted unanimously in favor.

II. Judicial Circuit Assessment – Jack Campbell, State Attorney, 2nd Judicial Circuit

Jessica Yeary shared that the Speaker of the House made a recommendation to have the Supreme Court form a committee to look at potentially redistricting or realigning the judicial circuit. Ms. Yeary shared that the responses to the committee have been vast and mostly in opposition to any sort of judicial circuit consolidation.

Ms. Yeary shared that recently Chief Judge Allman, herself, and State Attorney Campbell presented on this issue to the Tallahassee Bar Association outlining areas of concern. She shared that the State Attorney's Association and the Florida Public Defender's Association are both opposed to any changes to the current judicial circuits.

Jack Campbell also shared his concerns and opposition to any consolidation of judicial circuits. Mr. Campbell moved, seconded by Jessica Yeary to submit a letter to the Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee in opposition of any consolidation to the existing judicial circuits.

Commissioner Proctor shared fiscal and logistical concerns if judicial circuits were consolidated. He summarized the issues of fiscal impact, scheduling hardships for Public Defenders and State Attorneys and the Eastern versus Central time zone divide, marginalization of services, increased caseloads, and systematic disruptions related to new judicial assignments that should be discussed in the letter.

Motion passed unanimously in favor.

III. FIRST Program Quarterly Report- Jasmine Queen, Associate Director of Residential and Forensic Services for Apalachee Center, Inc.

Ms. Queen presented the quarterly report for the FIRST Program. She shared that as of the conclusion of the grant in June 2023, there were a total of 359 participants enrolled in the Program for outpatient and community-based services. Of those participants, 167 were successfully discharged and 19 (30%) were re-arrested within 12 months of their release. Ms. Queen shared that Apalachee Center has a Detention Facility Liaison who was able to complete screenings for each client that was arrested. There was a total of 7,768 clients screened at the Leon County Detention Facility and approximately 1,500 of the clients screened, indicated a possible mental health concern which resulted in a referral to the Detention Facility Liaison (Attachment #1).

Ms. Queen shared the grant began in July 2020 and concluded in June 2023. Ms. Queen explained that Apalachee is currently supporting the Program through fees for services provided; however, they are actively looking for additional funding opportunities through grants.

The Council discussed the local agencies and services available to serve individuals with mental health needs involved in the criminal justice system.

IV. We Are All We Need, Inc. - Quarterly Report- Kevin Warren, CEO & Founder

Mr. Warren shared that We Are All We Need's (WAAWN) Village of Care Program is currently in the second year of the grant and would they would be presenting the first quarterly report and highlighting the most notable achievements from the first year of the grant.

Mr. Warren shared that the overall goal through the grant is to provide prevention, intervention, and diversion services to youth, at risk of entering or further matriculation into the criminal or dependency care systems. WAAWN focused on arrests and Baker Acts during the first year. Mr. Warren shared the Program completed 100% of deliverables in the first year and was recognized as a promising program state-wide based on recidivism numbers.

Johnathan Godwin shared the following Program highlights from the 1st quarter of the reporting period:

- The Program coordinated with City Parks and Recreation to provide services in the community centers and expand programming with the goal of reducing gun violence, arrests, and recidivism in the Promise Zone zip codes and throughout Leon County.
- The Program transitioned to tele and mental health services as many of the participants experienced communication and transportation barriers.
- The Program added two additional providers for mental and behavioral health support to Tier 2 and Tier 3 with the goal of increasing screenings and access to mental health services. This has allowed WAAWN Inc. to expand access to youth and reduce the time for them to gain access to mental and behavioral health services.
- The Program screened and enrolled 50 youth: 31 under Tier 1; 11 under Tier 2; and 8 under Tier 3.
- There were no Baker Acts, arrests, or re-arrests during the reporting period.

Teresa Broxton inquired if Mr. Warren could provide more details on services provided under Tier 2 and Tier 3, recognizing that Tier 1 is prevention and community-based programs.

Mr. Warren advised that Tier 2 and Tier 3 services are intervention and diversion services. All Tier 2 and Tier 3 youth are assigned a life coach. Tier 2 youth have access to mental health services and additional mental health screenings and assessments. Tier 3 services include a life coach and they receive mental health services at no cost to the participant. He shared the most significant differentiator is the length of the program with Tier 1 being up to 3 months of service, Tier 2 up to 6 months of service, and Tier 3 up to 10 months of service.

Ms. Yeary inquired how youth are referred to the program for services. Mr. Warren shared that through the Village of Care network partners they have contracts with Leon County Schools, Leon County Sheriff's Office, Council on the Status of Boys and Men, as well as community-based entities.

Commissioner Proctor inquired of the total number of participants enrolled since the Program's implementation. Mr. Warren shared that during the lifetime of the grant, 283 participants have been

enrolled and of those 12 participants have been arrested/re-arrested (5 were arrested/re-arrested while receiving services and 8 were arrested prior to enrollment) (Attachment #2). Mr. Warren explained that while the grant is not specifically tailored to gun violence and violence reduction, it provides the ability to reduce matriculation in to the dependency care system and their goal is to expand eligibility for services based on the youth's screening level prior to arrests or Baker Acts. The Program wants to target screenings in Promise Zone zip codes areas to expand eligibility for those most in need of services.

Commissioner Proctor requested that Ms. Wanda Hunter, Assistant County Administrator connect Mr. Warren with the Florida State University (FSU) for the possibility of further research in to the Program's recidivism rate. Ms. Hunter advised that she and Ms. Broxton would contact Dr. Schrader with FSU's School of Public Policy and Administration to make the introduction and discuss feasibility of a future Cap Stone project for the students. Mr. Warren shared that WAAWN works with FAMU focusing on the demographics, but one area of research he would like to expand and to measure is how the Program's numbers are impacting the arrests among juveniles as a whole in the community.

V. Leon County Detention Facility Population Updates and Discussion- Chief Norman Mack, Leon County Sheriff's Office

Chief Mack provided the Leon County Detention Facility (LCDF) Status Report for 10/15/2023 (Attachment #3). The population is currently at 1,008: 130 sentenced, 831 non-sentenced and 22 with a combination of sentenced and non-sentenced cases. Chief Mack shared that the facility population today was 993.

VI. Court Administration Reports- Ina Hawkins, Detention Review Coordinator
Postponed for next meeting date.

VII. Electronic Monitoring Reports- Teresa Broxton, IDA Director

Ms. Broxton provided the Electronic Monitoring Program Report for the month of September 2023 (Attachment #4).

VIII. Other Business:

Next Meeting: December 5, 2023

4:00 PM

Commission Chambers, 5th Floor, Leon County Courthouse