*Summary Follows Agenda*

**A G E N D A**

# Task Force for the Continuing Examination of the Treatment of Persons with Mental Illness who are Involved in the Criminal Justice System

Legislative Services Building Room B
200 E 14th Avenue
Wednesday, November 13, 2002
11:00 a.m.

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***Call to Order/Review of Minutes – Dr. Tom Barrett, Chair***

**I. Report from Juvenile Subgroup**

**II. Discharging Persons from Corrections and State Hospitals to Shelters**

- Dr. Tom Barrett, Director, Division of Mental Health, Department of Human Services

**III. Update on Proposed Legislation**

- Beth Braby, Staff Attorney, Office of Legislative Legal Services

**IV. Interim Report on Evaluation of Community Based Management Pilot Programs**

- Kim English, Research Director, Office of Research, Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Corrections

**V. Discussion of 2003 Task Force Meeting Dates**

***Adjourn***

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**M I N U T E S**

**Task Force on the Continuing Examination of the Treatment of Persons with Mental Illness who are Involved in the Criminal Justice System (MICJS)**
**Legislative Services Building Room B**
**200 E 14th Avenue**
**Wednesday, November 13, 2002 11:00 a.m - 1:30 p.m.**

**The MICJS task force will meet on the following dates in the coming months:**

**(3rd Thursday of each month)**

**December 19, 2002 (10:00 am to 1:30 pm)**
**January 16, 2003**
**February 20, 2003**
**March 20, 2003**
**April 17, 2003**
**May 15, 2003**

Unless otherwise notified, all meetings will be held in Legislative Services Building Room B, 200 E 14th Avenue.
- Future MICJS meetings will begin at 10:00 am and should be completed by 1:30 pm.
- The minutes from the September 12th meeting were approved as written.

Tom Barrett and Ray Slaughter brought to the attention of the MICJS taskforce that Senator Windels and Representative Snook from the Legislative Oversight Committee were attending the taskforce meeting.

Agenda reviewed to include:

- Report from Juvenile Subgroup
- Discharging Persons from Corrections and State Hospitals to Shelters
- Update on Proposed Legislation
- Fact Sheet Discussion
- Interim Report on Evaluation of Community Based Management Pilot
- 2003 Task Force Meeting Dates

Tom Barrett welcomed Bernie Morrison from the Rocky Mountain News. Bernie is following the efforts of the task force for representation in the Rocky Mountain News

**Report on Juvenile Subcommittee - Review of Pilot Programs**

Meg Williams reported that the subcommittee convened to review the subject of juveniles with mental illness in the criminal justice System. This subcommittee is focused on:

(1) The diagnosis, treatment, and housing of juveniles with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system;
(2) The adoption of a common framework for effectively addressing the mental health issues, including competency and co-occurring disorders, of juveniles who are involved in the criminal justice system.

The original 7 to 8 member group has expanded to 35. This growth is a direct result of the correspondence sent by Meg Williams to the counties in the Denver Metro area. Throughout the State there is consensus that this is a very important issue.

Meg expressed logistical problems in that many of the participants travel quite a distance to attend. Consequently, the timeframe has been changed. Along with regularly schedule 2-hour meetings, a 1 to 2 day block of time will be scheduled for future gatherings. Committee members have obtained a large array of research and other informational material which are currently under review. Among some of the research topics being pursued are:

- Funding Streams
- Currently operations
- Patterns
- Number of mentally ill persons involved in juvenile system.

Those who are interested in assisting with the research and education of the subcommittee, should contact Meg

Williams at 303-866-4706 or e-mail her at meg.williams@state.co.us for further involvement. Information is available at the following WEB sites: Guide to School Mental Health Services, www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/download/pdf/SMHguide.pdf; Systems of Care Brief, www.gucdc.georgetown.edu; The Population in Need Study, www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/mhs/PIN%20report/home.html; CCAR Report, www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/mhs/Orchid%20report/index%20-%20main.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council has a continued commitment to provide support which was confirmed at the recent retreat held in October, 2002. In addition, many members of this council participate on this subcommittee. This subcommittee is working in unison with the Juvenile Justice Council to develop a common framework.

It is anticipated that the subcommittee will have a reporting timeframe to the task force by June, 2003. They will meet twice per month and could potentially report to this Task Force (MICJIS) during these task force monthly meetings.

No potential legislation has been identified at this time. An Interagency Advisory Committee involvement and e-mail list will be sent to Meg by Janet Wood.

Discharging Persons from Corrections and State Hospitals to Shelters
Tom Barrett reported that many mentally ill inmates are being paroled directly to shelters. Jim Michaud did not have numbers to report, but reiterated that it does happen. Most leave the prisons with little money. As a result, they find their way to the shelters. Tom asked Jim to do some research around the area of developing policy to discourage this practice especially for those with a mental illness. Steve White will be invited to present institutional perspective and Jim will have some additional information to report at the next meeting. There should be a release plan but with few residential options available, there is no guarantee for those coming out of corrections.

Special transition community correction beds need to be provided. In view of budgetary constraints, it is difficult to know when/how this will proceed.

**Proposed Legislation**

Beth Braby reported that all 3 bills were approved to move forward. Oversight committee members were re-elected with the exception of Representative Snook. Reassignment needs to be made.

The issue of the use of the term, "Criminal Justice" as over against "Juvenile Justice" in the continuation bill, continues to pose a problem for the juvenile subcommittee. Ms. Braby stated that the statutory definition of the term "Criminal Justice" encompasses "Juvenile Justice". The concern expressed by the subcommittee is that those interpreting the statute should not interpret it to include direct file and transfer cases only. The task force found consensus in the realization that the ultimate decision would be made by the legislature after bill introduction. Mr. Barrett requested that the issue be discussed once again (with the statutory reference explanation) with the Juvenile subcommittee.

The task force reiterated its intent that no Fiscal Notes be placed on 2003 bills. After discussion concerning the providing of lunches, a number of volunteers emerged for the balance of fiscal 2003.*

**Fact Sheet**

Mr. Barrett requested that a lobbyist from the insurance industry be invited to discuss the court-mandated/pre-existing coverage issue at the next meeting of the task force. Ray Slaughter agreed to speak with Ms Wagner concerning this request.

**Interim Report Concerning Youth Pilot Programs**

Ms. Pasini-Hill introduced Anita Cohen, contract researcher with DCJ, and Bill Bane, Colorado Division of Youth

Corrections. The presenters then outlined their research to date concerning evaluation of the Denver and Sterling Youth Pilot Programs mandated by legislation two years ago. Their presentation referenced an interim report which was distributed to task force members. The final evaluation is due to be presented to the legislature in November, 2003. Interim recommendations include the need for greater family involvement, increased in-home service provision and the need for greater follow-up services. Copies of the full interim report are available from the Division of Criminal justice. Ms. Cohen can be reached at focuseval@aol.com. She stated that she welcomes assistance in refining the information.

CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) Programs
Ms Pasini-Hill reported that 180 officers have been trained in CIT to date. Numerous success stories have been related. The program goal remains that 25% of each police agency involved should receive this training. The program continues to expand with trainings scheduled in the Spring of 2003 for Arapahoe Country. The Fountain Police Dept., Weld County Sheriffs Dept., Grant Junction Police Dept., and Colorado Springs Police Dept. have all expressed interest.

Mr. Slaughter stated his concern that the Division of Criminal Justice has insufficient state money to use for match purposes in the Byrne Grant being prepared for CIT continuation. He appealed to task force members for the 25% cash-match needed for this grant. The match amount should approximate $60,000.

Mr. Slaughter distributed the current draft of the one page fact sheet to task force members. The goal of this fact sheet is to present an overview of the task force's pertinent issues on one sheet of paper. With clarification still needed concerning DOC recidivism figures, the task force agreed to review the fact sheet briefly at its next meeting.

Mr. Jarrett shared the "Issue Brief" document concerning mentally ill persons in the Criminal Justice System. This document will be sent to all members of the General Assembly in the near future. Mr. Slaughter and Mr. Barrett thanked Mr. Jarrett for his fine work.

Pursuant to motion, the meeting was adjourned.

*At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chair and Vice Chair realized that the current fiscal note will accommodate providing lunches through June, 2003.