

MINUTES

Task Force for the Continuing Examination of the Treatment of Persons with Mental Illness who are Involved in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

Thursday, March 20, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 pm

Hearing Room B

Legislative Services Building

I. Call to Order

•*Michele Manchester, Colorado Mental Health Institute-Pueblo*

II. Introductions and Welcome

•*Michele Manchester, Colorado Mental Health Institute-Pueblo*

Kerry Pruett and Dave Young – two new appointees to the task force – introduced themselves. Ms. Pruett represents the Colorado Department of Corrections and Mr. Young represents the Colorado District Attorneys Council. All task force members then introduced themselves.

III. Approval of Minutes

•*February 20, 2014*

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. Legislative Update

The legislative update was provided by absent member Terri Hurst in the form of a handout. Ms. Manchester read through the bills that may be of interest to the MICJS Task Force. They are:

- Social Workers for Juveniles
- Recommendations Civil Commitment Review Task Force
- Mental Health Duty to Warn Target Entities
- Use of Isolated Confinement Mental Illness
- Suicide Prevention Commission

V. ACA Update

Ms. Hurst also provided the following update via a message to Ms. Manchester: Since Oct 1 Medicaid has enrolled 135,560 individuals. Connect for Colorado has enrolled 84,881. Individuals who are non-residential on either diversion or transition status are now eligible. Individuals in community corrections as a condition of probation are eligible, but those in as a condition of parole are not eligible. Eligibility has to do with what kind of a sentence a person is on. If they are sentenced to be incarcerated, they are not eligible, but if they are sentenced to probation, they are eligible. Anyone sentenced to a facility is ineligible. The Division of Youth Corrections is working with HCPF to help get medication to juveniles who are hospitalized greater than 23 hours. This is also true for hospitalized adults. There will be a training sponsored by the ACA Criminal

Justice Group for those working in the criminal justice system to better understand the ACA.

VI. Behavioral Health Transformation Council – Working on medication formulation

• *Michele Manchester, Colorado Mental Health Institute-Pueblo*

Ms. Manchester spoke to Patrick Fox, Deputy Director for Clinical Services, OBH and Reggie Fuerta from the Behavioral Health Transformation Council. They told Michele the BHTC is in the process of forming a committee to address medication and they want to make sure that the BHTC and MICJS Task Force do not duplicate efforts. Ms. Manchester and the MICJS support partnering with BHTC as they address medication consistency. Dr. Richard Martinez volunteered to be the MICJS representative.

MICJS Task Force will provide contact support through sending the Council's draft survey (to be completed by the end of March) to the sheriffs' departments. Ms. Spiess and Mr. Northam will send the draft through County Sheriffs of Colorado. MICJS members are also asked to provide feedback on the survey. Task members can send recommendations to Ms. Fuerta. Ms. Fuerta would also like to meet contacts either before or after the April BHTC meeting (Cliff, Rebecca, Dr. Martinez may not be at the April meeting).

This means that activities of the medication subgroup of the MICJS Task Force will be put on hold. If anything the BHTC cannot address comes to the attention of task force members, the task force will address that individually.

Next step: Ms. Manchester will notify Ms. Fuerta that Dr. Martinez is interested in serving as the task force's liaison to the BHTC.

VII. Update on Topic Area -- Safety of staff who work with individuals with a mental illness

• *Rebecca Spiess, Under Sheriff, Mesa County Sheriff's Office*

Ms. Spiess met with two officers from different agencies who have been key in the CIT program in rural communities. She will continue to work with them to identify rural departments to reach out to in order to see what gaps exist in CIT or Mental Health First Aid training. This is not a formal survey, rather just contacting the departments to see if they have done any training (CIT or MHFA). This informal census will determine the scope of the problem and then work to see how to best address the needs of rural departments in enhancing the safety of staff.

Clif Northam also did some informal research in how 3104 monies are being used. He spoke to David Stevens, former task force member, who has created company that will set up a comprehensive mental health management program for jails. The company will also provide online or onsite training for departments.

Next step: Ms. Manchester will reach out to Dr. Stevens to see if he's interested in presenting to the MICJS task force at a future meeting.

VIII. Topics of Study Discussion

• *Michele Manchester, Colorado Mental Health Institute-Pueblo*

The group discussed the issues surrounding the areas of study recommended in the proposed legislation (SB 14-021). The bill states that the task force shall consider *but need not be limited to* these issues so that the task force can address topical issues as they arise (such as, housing after release from criminal or juvenile justice).

The Oversight Committee may provide more direction at their March 21 meeting, but Ms. Manchester requested feedback from task force members about how the task force can approach these topics. The group will look forward to partnering with both the BHTC regarding medication and the newly formed suicide prevention and administrative segregation commissions if the legislation is approved. In addition, task force members will await the direction of the Oversight Committee to determine if the topics should be addressed in a broad manner, in the form of support of legislation, or in analyzing data.

There was some discussion about whether the medication consistency for juveniles will be addressed by BHTC. This may be an area where the MICJS task force can provide a deeper analysis of the issue.

Next steps:

-Chris Habgood will send a list of staff safety training programs to the members of the task force.

-Ms. Manchester will try to gain clarification of the expectations of the Oversight Committee about the topics of study and if there are any topics they expect, or would like, to address with legislation. In addition, she will carry the following messages to the Committee:

- BHTC is going to look at the formulary medication piece, and MICJS will partner with their efforts to take a look at what the juvenile focus would be in detention centers.

- The MICJS task force will look at the efforts of the two new commissions (if they are approved) addressing suicide and administrative segregation to see if there are any areas in which MICJS can partner.

-Ms. Manchester will follow up about the appropriation on page 9.

IX. What's Happening at your agency

Members updated the group about activities at their agencies. The following are highlights:

- Task force members are invited to attend the May 13-15 State Collaborative Justice Conference. Brenidy Rice can be contacted if task force members would like to attend.
- The 17th Judicial District is in the process of developing a mental health court
- Behavioral Health has updated all rules and are working on providing guidance to other agencies. The department is undertaking an Olmstead Plan, which is in refinement state.
- Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is May 14. Juvenile mental health first aide classes will be offered.
- The 1st Judicial District is developing a veterans court and moving toward a mental health court in the fall
- The University of Colorado may physically move the forensic psychiatry program from Denver Health to closer to Office of Behavioral Health in Fort Logan.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:36 a.m.