

CJC Mental Health Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2013

Attended: Ed Warzonek (BHD), Paige Styler (SPD), Tom Reed (SPD), Sue Eckhart (J2K), Sheldyn Himle (Municipal Court), Gena Sousa (BHD), Eric Collins (Housing), Kent Lovern (DA), Nate Holton (CJC), Carmella DeLucia (Notetaker)

- BHD update on the Care Coordination Project (CCP):
 - o Cancelled December 4th meeting for key stakeholders and case managers. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the goals of the CCP and the role that the social worker can play in the project.
 - o After having internal leadership and operations meetings on the issue, BHD decided that it will be folding the Care Coordination Project (CCP) into other internal BHD initiatives. Internal discussions have including examining how to flag clients and identify needs sooner. A few suggestions were made on what would be helpful for BHD which included being informed about what case managers are struggling with and what isn't working (e.g. why clients are re-entering the CJS), developing a crisis plan aka "Individual Recovery Plan" which would be helpful for CIT officers, and developing better communication between crisis staff at BHD and community services.
- Consent Form
 - o The group had a discussion about the consent form as well as making future edits to the form to provide clarity on the limited purpose of the project. There were also several points made about clients who might not sign the form—someone who is actively psychotic might not believe they have a mental illness and therefore will not sign the form. Also, medical access could have implications for the legal rights of the individual. The edits to the consent form will provide more clarity by reducing any ambiguity.
- Consent Form Edits
 - o Look to Drug Treatment Court language for possible edits
 - o Both SPD and BHD edited the first draft
 - o SPD will take BHD's version, add current and future edits, and send that version out to the rest of the committee by 12/16/13.
- What is the direct outcome for CCP clients? What is the simple message that will potential clients interested?
 - o The group had a discussion about how to simply inform clients of the benefits of the program in order to encourage participation (e.g. Drug Treatment Court is a 12-18 month program that results in an exit from the system upon graduation). There was also a discussion about changing the language to add something like "you will be given priority status by the involved agencies, which may lead to faster processing, first access to available resources, ect." Some of the discussion points included noting that the consent form would be more efficient, could link community services together and give them access to housing/continued SSI benefits, and this would be

an avoidance concept in the sense that this could prevent future encounters of re-entering the CJS.

- Housing has seen examples of clients who are denied housing because of open criminal court cases. This is a situation that the system can work to resolve now through effective communication and information sharing. CJS agencies are going to work on sharing information in the short-term in order to start working on issues like this now.
- Next Meeting: Monday, January 6, 2013. Safety Building 405Q.