

## Jail and Huber Utilization Committee

July 20, 2015

### Minutes

#### Attendance:

Tom Reed (Chair)  
Brandan Dupont (Office of Dist. Atty)  
Sue Eckhart (JusticePoint)  
Supt. Michael Hafemann (HOC)  
Stephanie Garbo (Court liaison)  
Captain Gold (MSO)  
Pete Koneazny (Legal Aid Society)  
Hon. Jeffrey Kremers (Courts)  
Lisa Krueger (Armor Corr. Health Care)  
Kit McNally (CJC Community Rep.)  
Mandy Potapenko (CJC Exec. Dir.)  
Craig Stedman (probation/parole) 414-212-6877

#### I. Reports

##### Jail and HOC

Capt. Gold reported that the system-wide numbers #s recently have been around 2400, with the Jail population being around 930-950. In general, this is a continuation of several months' pattern of high population numbers for pretrial detentions (some detainees are transferred to the HOC, to comply with Jail consent decree cap of 960). Supt. Hafemann noted that overflow pretrial detainees at HOC are typically 375-400. He also noted that the HOC sentenced population has dropped from typical 900 ADP last year to around 700 this year.

Reasons for higher pretrial detention numbers are not clear. It is partially explained by expected increase in arrests in warm weather months. There has also been a noted increase in gun violence in the community this year.

Tom Reed noted that the pattern of violent deaths in the community have not followed any clear pattern have not been tied to any particular cause. Rather, the increase has been scattered among the usual range of causes and circumstances.

In response to inquiry as to whether higher pretrial detention ADP numbers reflected any pattern in pretrial "length of stay", Captain Gold indicated he did not have that information available but would be

prepared to talk about it at the August meeting. Judge Kremers noted the historical pattern of flawed data, making it hard to analyze reasons behind population patterns.

On a separate Jail matter, Judge Kremers noted a recent delay in the Jail releasing an inmate who had finished serving a three day sanction from the mental health specialty court. A problem apparently arose because the individual's clothes and meds had gone with him to the HOC when the Jail transferred him there. He was to be released from the Jail at 8 a.m., but was still being held at the Jail at 5 p.m. that day. Captain Gold helped facilitate the individual's release and reported that some of the delay was due to the individual not cooperating as to his home address, prompting the question why that would be a reason to hold an individual whom the court had ordered released. This episode led to discussion of how to improve the process:

- 4-5 hours is reported "typical" release turn-around time according to Capt. Gold. Tom Reed noted that 6-8 hours release time seemed to be frequent occurrence.
- It is possible that release delay problem can be improved by cooperation to expedite preparation of pre-release paperwork – including looking into clearing "holds" sooner, rather than beginning the hold-clearing process after release has been ordered.
- Captain Gold noted that sometimes there are voluminous inmate criminal histories to be reviewed at the point of release; which raised questions as to whether this was a necessary delay, other than for verifying identity or a final check for warrants, when someone is supposed to be released.
- The discussion touched on the issue of "medical holds" in which an inmate is held beyond release for medical or psych concerns. This was put over for more detailed discussion, including the question of legal authority to hold someone for medical reasons after the person was deemed otherwise free to leave.
- Tom noted that it would be useful for this committee to have a map of all the various decision/potential delay points and to monitor these times. No specific future steps were discussed.

## **II. Report on GAIN Center consulting contract /upcoming visit (Tom)**

The GAIN Center, a group that looks at Jail and Mental Health processes and recommends best practices, has recently met with Milwaukee stakeholders, including members of the Jail-Huber committee. GAIN Center had been in Milwaukee approximately 10 years ago. They use what they call their "sequential intercept model"

- One observation that surfaced from the GAIN work was that each decision point (i.e. "links in the chain" of decisions involved in detention/criminal justice process) has notably worse outcomes for those with mental illness.
- These worse outcomes included longer length-of-stay generally, more delays based on bail, slower release of release-hindering "holds".
- GAIN encourages communities to look at each transition point for what can be done better.

- GAIN has produced a draft report and their work will dovetail/be foundational for MacArthur grant work. Tom will circulate that report.
- One GAIN recommendation was for more data sharing between BHD and Jail.
- One suggested improvement from best-practices venues is for real-time tie-in between Jail and BHD system, so that if John Doe is admitted to Jail the BHD system will immediately be alerted.
- GAIN believes there is a lot of work that can be done to tighten the connections and improve efficiencies in Criminal Justice coordination with BHD.
- GAIN stressed importance of release planning and advocated the use of “peer support” involvement.
- GAIN noted improvement here was that Jail now has 1:1 and group counseling; this had been only allowed at HOC until recently.
- **Peer support can be useful in groups at HOC and Jail.**
- Recommended that more than 3 days meds be given at time of release. Supt. Hafemann indicated that inmates now get prescription for 7 days worth of meds at time of release.
- There is a need for a transition center of some kind; a center that functions between jail and the community and can help avoid rapid re-entry to the jail. Many individuals with mental illness return to the jail within 30 days of release.
- A related concept was mentioned as to a “re-entry “council” – like MH court pilot project, wherein a team or cluster of relevant agencies (probation, courts, BHD, etc.) will be available to assist w/ high-needs individuals.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half-day w/ GAINS was about “trauma” – trauma screens and ID trauma-related needs.

### **III. Report on MacArthur Grant – Vera Institute visit (Tom)**

Representatives of the Vera Institute, the consultants facilitating Milwaukee’s participation in the MacArthur grant endeavor, will be in Milwaukee this week. This work is to help Milwaukee prepare for applying for larger available grants in January.

- Tom encouraged committee members to help generate ideas for Vera’s designing improvements of Milwaukee County criminal justice facilities and processes.
- We have \$150,000 committed and need to generate ideas of how money should be used.
- Vera consultants will be at the upcoming CJC at-large meeting.

### **IV. Adjournment/Next meeting.**

Tom Reed, on behalf of the committee, thanked Judge Kremers for his hard work and dedication, as Chief Judge, to the success of the Community Justice Council.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20. The next meeting of the Jail-Huber Committee will be **Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. in Courthouse Room 609.**

