

**Attendance:**

Chair: Tom Reed (SPD)

Brandon DuPont (intern – office of Dist. Atty.)

Sue Eckhart (Justice Point – Municipal Court)

Stephanie Garbo (Milwaukee County Judicial Operations  
Manager) (stephanie.garbo@wicourts.gov)

Mike Hafemann (Supt. House of Correction)

Pete Koneazny (Legal Aid Society)

Lisa Krueger (Armor – Medical Administrator)

Kerri McKenzie (HOC)

Mandy Potapenko (CJC Director)

Nick Sayner (Justice Point)

Gina Strehlow (Armor – Jail Dir. of Nursing)

Holly Szablewski (Courts Administrator)

Niel Thoreson (DOC)

Dr. Maureen White (Armor – Psych Services Administrator)

Capt. Williams (MCSO)

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**1) Introduction of Mandy Potapenko as CJC Director.** Tom introduced Mandy Potapenko, who started officially today, June 15<sup>th</sup>, as the new director of the CJC, replacing Nate Holton. Mandy's most recent background was with Safe & Sound and she had prior experience with pretrial services.

**2) Agency Reports**

**a) DOC.** Niel reported that DOC's use of Jail/HOC beds has been surprisingly low. They have had days when they have used beds numbering in the "140s", significantly under the 175 maximum. Low numbers would not be expected once warm weather arrives and so far they have not seen a spike in PO holds.

There has been issue of length of stay for "hold" cases because of inadequate accommodations at the Jail for holding hearings. Capt. Williams noted that Sheriff's department is trying to get more space. Kerry McKenzie offered that HOC can accept transfers of some inmates, even if they involve felonies, if it would help processing. Generally, there are better facilities and processes for holding hearings at the HOC and at MSDF than at the Jail. Niel and Capt. Williams will communicate with each other about how to avoid hearings being delayed.

DOC is moving forward with "evidence based" approach to sanctioning violators, utilizing risk assessment and a sanction matrix. Training for this is set for June 24<sup>th</sup> for Milwaukee region. January is goal for having data to track success of reducing incarceration.

Warden Mitchell retired as MSDF warden; no replacement announced as yet. Population numbers have been up at MSDF.

**b) Jail.** Capt. Williams noted that population is running high. Warm season "bump" has been showing up in recent population count.

The new computer based visiting system is up and running and seems to be working okay. There were over 1000 remote visits and on-site electronic visits from June 1 to June 14. Capt. Williams believes there have been fewer complaints from the public about visiting since the new system started. Capt. Williams does not know how the number of 1000 visits for a two week period (in June) compares to number of visits prior to the transition to the electronic system.

**c) HOC.** Mike reported that HOC received a grant for job placement, through MAWIB (Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board), to occur at the HOC. He also reported that the worm farm up and running [crawling?]. Comment that we should be conducting risk/needs assessments for employment upon reentry to the community from prison

**d) Armor – Jail & HOC medical care.** Maureen White reported that the status of the program is "good." She noted that the psych services caseload is always high, but that HOC has been good about accepting high needs people from Jail to balance

the population. The new chief psychiatrist, Dr. Wooten (who attended part of the May meeting), has been on the job for a few weeks now and has engaged in making connections with community providers.

As a problem issue, Maureen noted the wait list for state institutions to accept inmates for competency screenings. Wait is anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks, which Holly confirmed based on recent records she's reviewed. Tom suggested Adam Oldenberg be involved to look at this; there were supposed to be extra beds added at the state institutions to speed up the process of accepting patients.

### 3) Discussion of MacArthur Foundation Grant (Tom)

- MacArthur Foundation has done extensive study and identified jail incarceration as a critical national issue.
- They have pledged \$75 million for sustained work on "overreliance on jail" (among the findings are that being in jail, in itself, can damage a person's economic prospects).
- Racial disparity: jails contribute to disparity based on correlation between poverty, jail and prison.
- Multi-level attack: academic research, public relations – a national discussion on overuse of jails.
- Milwaukee was selected to be one of 20 sites in which the MacArthur money will be spent. Tom and others attended presentation in D.C. at which the foundation stressed its commitment to long term success.
- They described their approach as "broad and deep." The site coordinator for Milwaukee is Vera Institute (based in NYC & w/ extensive history on issues). We will be competing for a minimum \$500,000 to maximum of \$2 million per year for 2-5 years.
- From meeting of "discipline" groups in DC, Tom thinks we're further along than many of the other jurisdictions.
- Stephanie noted that "data" is key issue for the project. That has been a problem locally because we have had history of lack of cooperation in sharing data.

#### Additional comments/thoughts:

- We should try to take low risk people out of jail – into responsive non-jail programs.
- We should emphasize re-entry work – try to reduce cycle of detention and failure.
- 7 key decision points to be looked at by consultants.
- System mapping will be addressed.
- This week and next Vera Institute will be here and also people from the GAINS center. (GAIN last here 10 years ago – recommended CIT policing, etc.). Value of GAIN visit at this time is that it can enhance what we do for the MacArthur grant.

#### Brainstorming ideas for how we approach the MacArthur grant:

- Focus on the EDBM recommendations; we could look to the remainder of the 20 recommendations from that process some years ago. We chose 4 of the 20 to work on.
- MPD directly accepting bail would put Milwaukee in line w/ other communities and would help avoid some jailing (although does not benefit the poorest).
- Prioritize people with connection to the mental health system.
- Address apparent deterioration of community support for mental health. (Dr. Pankiewicz has stated that he's seeing people who are sicker than they had been in the past when they arrived at the Jail).
- We have short amount of time for MacArthur grant planning, compared to the extensive work for EDBM.
- MacArthur scrutiny will be high and there will be strong emphasis on transparency.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

**Next meeting Monday July 20<sup>th</sup> – 8 a.m. Rm 609**