

April 9, 2024

Attendees: Judge Lisa McDougal, Kristin Ihm-Probation and Parole Supervisor-DOC, Savanah DuCharme- Treatment Court Coordinator, Brandi Christian- Behavioral Health Services Manager, Tricia Clements- Director of HHS, Sheriff Clay Porter, Billy Jones-City of Richland Center-Chief of Police, Jason Pilla-Detective of City of Richland Center, Sue Larson- New Day Counseling-treatment provider, Pastor Larry Engel- Five Points, Jenifer Laue- Judicial Assistant

Judge McDougal called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.
Proof of notification was confirmed by Savanah DuCharme
Tricia Clements moved to approve agenda, Second by Kristin Ihm
Billy Jones motions to approve minutes with the correction of: combining law enforcement "facilities" *word facilities added*, second by Clements.

Welcoming and Introduction of new committee members

Judge notes that we are trying to pull in all aspects of the community as this is the oversight committee for treatment court which exists on a state-wide grant. We are also at a pivotal time with the campus and jail, noting the infrastructure challenges and are working on improving courthouse security.

Pastor Engel notes that some time ago there was talk of a regional facility that would serve Richland, Iowa and Grant counties but since that time Iowa and Grant built their own facilities. A vendor has been hired by Richland County to address the space needs study. Judge McDougal also noted Tammy Johnson's visit. She is from Capitol Security and will be sending us her report regarding the Richland County courthouse.

Domestic Violence: Brandi stated they are looking at adding assessments. If they come in with a domestic charge, then they would complete an assessment. The referral comes from the District Attorneys office. Vernon County's is grant-funded, we are looking to them as a information resource. This would come from Richland County Health and Human Services. The fee is \$350.00. Judge notes it may be difficult for people to pay the \$350.00. The assessments includes the collaterals, interview and the report.

Bail Monitoring Program: Bail is a controversial topic, particularly cash bail. The law allows for reasonable conditions to be put in place along with bail. Bail monitoring is a program that monitors defendants' compliance with any conditions. Bail monitoring staff make recommendations as to appropriate conditions based on assessments that can be done at the time of arrest

Sheriff Porter comments regarding electronically monitoring while on bond. Questions remain regarding payment, especially if the person found not guilty. From the judges' perspective, we would employ a private entity.

Bail monitoring programs are typically a county expense. There are several DOJ grants but it takes time to identify and administer them. It would require collaboration from other counties such as Grant, Iowa, Vernon who also do not have a Bail monitoring programs. (Not sure about Crawford.)

Quarterly Treatment court report: Currently we have 13 people in the program. (15 is capacity) We had a recent graduation. The next graduation is tentatively set for July. Have had 3 referrals –but they have to be a resident of Richland County. There will be a sobriety court graduation in July as well.

HHS is working on hiring for some vacant counseling and therapist positions. Judge comments on Intensive Outpatient Programs. This was available at Pine Counseling but that is no longer available. Participants have been utilizing IOP programs but they are further away, some are done on-line. At some point, HHS may be able to do this.

Fee Policy Update - Draft:

1. It is being proposed to have Individuals pay participation fee. After much discussion, there was consensus that a fee per phase may be the best option. Only Decision Dollars could be used. The down side would be additional administration time for the coordinator (Savanah). This would be implemented in 2025.
2. This would provide incentives or sanctions. Fees could also be paid by doing community service hours. This would reduce the amount of gas cards purchased.

Discussion also took place regarding donations. Businesses are hit hard by requests for donations. It was recommended to reach out graduates of treatment court. Everything we do should be evidence based. Judge would like to speak with the team regarding holding participants accountable and incentives for working off fees with the Clerk of Court fees. Ownership and teaching budget is an important component on reaching goals. Establish *Best Practice* standards.

Judge recommended that we invite everyone in CJCC to treatment court graduations.

Next agenda items:

Domestic Violence and anger management assessment program

Bail Monitoring Program

Fee policy update

Propose a Fraternalizing Policy.

Trisha Clement stated that HHS awarded a substance abuse funding grant for residential treatment. The grant was for 23 people for 30 days per person.

Move to adjourn by Trish Clements, Second by Clay Porter.

Respectfully submitted by Jenifer Laue

Next Meeting: July 9, 2024 at 8:30 am – County Board room