

RACINE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

June 9, 2023

Racine County Courthouse

Room 151

730 Wisconsin Avenue

Racine, WI 53403

Members* Present: **Honorable Robert Repischak, Circuit Court Judge, Br 9 (Chair)**
Adrienne Moore, Regional Attorney Manager, State Public Defender
Terra Roberts, Criminal Justice Coordinator

Tonya King, JusticePoint/Racine County Alternatives Program

Laurie Bauer, Supervisor, Department of Correction

Amy Vanderhoef, Felony Case Manager, Clerk of Courts

Emily Bruno, Deputy Clerk of Courts

*Members noted in bold are voting members.

Guests Present: Frank James (Diversion Coordinator, District Attorney's Office), Jelena Jones (Operations Manager, Behavioral Health Services, HSD), Greg Petro (Racine Interfaith Coalition), Betty Brenneman (community member), Sonali Knotek (community member)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:05pm by the Honorable Robert Repischak

2. Public Comments

No public comments were made but Betty Brenneman requested everyone introduce themselves. Everyone present gave their name, title, and workplace (if applicable).

3. Approval of CJCC 03/31/23 Minutes

Terra Roberts moved to approve the Minutes from the 03/31/23 meeting. Seconded by Jelena Jones. No Discussion. Motion carries.

4. Racine County Human Services, Behavioral Health Services- Crisis Assessment Center (Jelena Jones- Operations Manager)

Jelena discusses the new crisis assessment center through BHS. She starts by explaining what crisis does (go into community, meet people where they are, brief MH assessment with goal of stabilization and referring to services needed). Walk-ins are done at south entrance 1717 Taylor Ave 10am-3pm. Those are in crisis (mental health, AODA, etc) can walk in and talk to someone who can not only help them work through what is going on at that moment, but also refer to whatever services the client may need at that point (hospitalization, support at home, outpatient services, SAIL, etc). Now that the soft opening is done, BHS is letting the public know about this service. Jelena indicates that hopefully they will expand their hours and also expand to the Burlington office in the

near future. Multiple questions were posed regarding how crisis works with law enforcement. Jelena indicates this is an ongoing process and it includes Crisis Intervention Training for officers, reverse ride-alongs (LEO with crisis worker rather than crisis worker with LEO), utilizing crisis workers to transport to hospital, SAIL, etc. Jelena also talks about CSP and CCS, what the differences are and how they work together. People who are struggling with drugs and alcohol can also report to the assessment center to get hooked up with AODA counseling/programming. The Crisis Hotline gets 11,000 calls per year; consumers, family, friends, law enforcement, schools, jail, etc.

5. District Attorney's Diversion Program (Frank James, Diversion Coordinator)

Frank James explains that he has done about 1000 diversions since the program's inception in 2020. These are mostly first-time offenders and mostly misdemeanors. He states it is a chance for people to keep their record clean and to help alleviate large case load numbers for ADA's in the office so that they can focus on "weightier" cases. He states that the program has a 96% success rate. He states that most of the diversions are pre-charge diversions but has done some post charge diversions. Frank explains that pre-charge is prior to the case being filed and working toward decline, post charge is after the case is filed and working toward dismissal. Mostly misdemeanors, but he states that some low-level felonies have also been done. Examples of charges included: Theft, Domestic Violence, THC, Criminal Damage to Property, etc. The programming that they are required to complete is related to the offense or issues related to the offense. Example: anger management or DV classes for cases involving domestic abuse or battery. Some discussion was had about arrest vs. conviction on NCIC and how the clerks office can contact Frank if someone completed a diversion for proof of completion. Referrals for diversion come from ADA's who are reviewing the police reports. Some victim issues were also discussed, Frank states he tries to contact victims before the diversion, but all victims will receive a packet with a letter explaining the diversion and asking if they require restitution. He tries to seek input about counseling, programming, etc. Most diversions are about 6 months but can be extended to a year depending on circumstances. Frank states the next step is trying to pull together some statistics regarding recidivism, race, etc..

6. New Member from RCLEEA

The member appointed by RCLEEA has retired. Terra reached out of Chief Botsch (CPD, President of RCLEEA) who states that their next meeting is 06/20 and they will appoint a new CJCC representative at that date.

7. Jail Alternatives and Diversion Programs Updates

Terra provided everyone with a handout with some updates and states for the various jail alternatives and diversion programs. She went over the information in the handout. Part of the handout included the next 2 CJCC meeting: September 15 and December 1.

7. New Business

None

8. Adjournment

Terra Roberts motioned to adjourn the meeting, Amy Vanderhoef and Frank James second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.