

Minutes for Criminal Justice/Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board (CJATI)

Date: 1/22/2020

Call to Order: 12:04

Attendees: (29)

Rich John, Henry Granison, Amie Hendrix, Susan Robinson, Benay Rubenstein, Ray Bunce, Shawn Hogan, Eleni Murdough, Jessica Janssen, Erica Cotraccia, Amy Heffron, Jamie Coleman, Judy Griffin, Sara Jenab, Marie Boyer, Bridgette Nugent, Deana Bodnar, Lance Salisbury, Karla Brackett, Paul Neugebauer, Dan Cornell, Louise Miller, Heather Campbell, Patricia Buechel, Suzi Cook, Donna Fleming, Richard Rivera, Anthony Sidle, David Sanders

Excused: Angela Sullivan, Deb Dietrich, Mark Dresser, Mary Orsaio, Matt Van Houten

Introductions: Introductions were made.

Additions/ Deletions: Several agenda items were added and deleted.

Added: 13-A ATI funding discussion & Recap of CJATI Advisory Board purpose.

Removed: Public Safety 2020 Priorities Added: Public Safety 2020 Priorities

Announcements

Judge Scott Miller was sworn in as Tompkins County's third Judge. Officer Mary Orsaio was named newly-established Ithaca Police Department LGBTQ Liaison. Pat Buechel will be retiring on January 30th. Dan Cornell has been appointed Probation Director, CARS has named their new Chief Executive Officer, Jessica Janssen. CARS also provided an update on their newest women's residential facility for addiction treatment.

Minutes: 2019 September, October, December minutes were accepted

Moved: Sue Robinson

Second: Louise Miller

Ayes – 14

Long Term Jail Statistics: ALL

Once again, we had no long term unsentenced inmates. Our jail census total was (43) inmates, (9) are Parole Violation, (1) Fugitive of Justice Out of State and (2) board-ins. A long discussion followed concerning what data should be tracked post Bail Reform. Parole issues rose to the top and covered most of the discussion. Some advocated asking a Parole Officer to join us. On the State level automatic prison for technical violations is becoming a hot topic for the next reform. OAR Parolee case-manager noted that in 2019 she had 9 Paroles return to prison. All on technical violations; 1 failure to report, 1 curfew, the remaining 7 substance use. All seven were staying at our shelter which according to the case manager, "is not conducive to abstinence."

A discussion started concerning housing. It was noted that we, Tompkins County, do not have the ability to dictate how Federal and State dollars are allocated. The argument being, that if we had all the funding allocated at the frontend we could, in theory, provide a very effect

program or program(s). But currently that is not how the funding works. Departments and agencies must follow strict rules and guidelines.

Proving success lead to questions on how we might demonstrate the cost effectiveness of ATI's within other areas beyond and half empty jail. We know we have very successful substance use programs in our community, we are certain they contribute to decreasing the jail population, but do they also decrease the use of emerge room visits, EMT calls? The greatest difficulty seems to be that we simply do not have the resources necessary to track all the outcomes.

Added: Public Safety 2020 Priorities

Rich said that he would love to hear from folks in the room and beyond about what else is needed in our community and how we might effectively address these remaining issues. He is aware that housing is a critical concern, understands the advocacy for Parole Violation reform, and would like to better address overrepresentation of people of color in all areas of the Criminal Justice system. Public Safety will be meeting on 2/20 at 3:30.

Motion to extend CIU funding via 13-A for a fourth year. From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Moved: Judge Miller

Second: Dan Cornell

Ayes – 14

Discussed open cycle:

For grant cycle July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 the CJATI Advisory Board discussed sending out a RFP, tentatively set for October 26, 2020 with a due date of November 30, 2020. Next meeting, we will confirm our intentions and dates. The rationale for waiting a year was to ensure we could better analyze local gaps created by Bail Reform and advocate potential RFP's to fill those gaps.

Recap of CJATI Advisory Board purpose

The purpose of the Advisory Board shall be:

1. To study the criminal justice system in Tompkins County with particular attention to programs that are alternatives to incarceration.
2. To identify unmet needs and opportunities for meeting those needs and improving the system, including potential funding sources;
3. To make recommendations to the Tompkins County Legislature and its committee that deals with public safety; and
4. To provide a forum for networking, coordination, and communication between agencies and departments making up the County's criminal justice system; and
5. Fulfill its duties as mandated under NYS Executive Law, Article 13A, 261.

Access to Orders of Protection (OOP) & Bail Reform – Heather

Judge Rowley had mentioned some concerns regarding access to and better understanding of OOP. Highlighted below are differences between Family Court and Criminal Court protections: A **Family Court** order of protection is issued as part of a civil proceeding. Its purpose is to stop violence within a family, or within an intimate relationship, and provide protection for those

individuals affected. All Family Court proceedings are confidential. It involves the victim filing a petition. Relationship to the other person must fall into one of the following categories:

To obtain an order of protection in the Family Court, your relationship to the other person must fall into one of the following categories:

- Current or former spouse
- Someone with whom you have a child in common
- A family member to whom you are related by blood or marriage
- Someone with whom you have or have had an “intimate relationship.” An intimate relationship does not have to be a sexual relationship. A relationship may be considered intimate depending on factors such as how often you see each other, or how long you have known each other. After a petition is filed, the court will decide if it is an intimate relationship.

A **Criminal Court** order of protection is issued as a condition of a defendant’s release and/or bail in a criminal case. A criminal court order of protection may only be issued against a person who has been charged with a crime. In a criminal case, the district attorney requests an order of protection for the victim or complaining witness. The judge decides whether to issue the order of protection and what terms and conditions will be included in the order. There must be charges and an arrest.

The Advocacy Center is hopeful in providing trainings to local law Enforcement agencies to ensure a better understanding of how to navigate “off hours” issues, forms to fill out, and options including vacate and children. OOP is just a tool, and there are many other tools available which might include: Emergency Safety Planning, victim’s options. According to the AC OCA will be providing trainings to Town/Village Judges. A violation of an OOP is considered criminal contempt, which is bail-eligible under the new Bail Reform law.

Tabled Priorities until next meeting, we will have an open discussion and potentially VOTE next month on our priorities for 2020.

- ✓ Break the Cycle of Reoffending (recidivism, rebooking, revocation)
- ✓ Study impact of Bail Reform identify gaps & advocate filling the gaps.
- ✓ Address the causes of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)
- ✓ Improve inter-agency communication and collaboration.
- ✓ Focus efforts on reducing crime/ ensuring a safe community
- ✓ Support interface jail tracking system w/ Probation, ATI programs, Courts & DA to improve and track outcomes

CARS update on Methadone. CARS provided a brief update on how Methadone will be distributed, numbers allowed, and regulations per certain types of certification. They are hopeful that by March they can support 100-150 clients.

Adjourn 1:22

Submitted: David M Sanders

Date: 1/22/2020