

Minutes – Criminal Justice Alternative to Incarceration Meeting

Date: May 22, 2024

Time: 12:00-1:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Bridgette Nugent, Dan Cornell, Sherron Brown, Taili Mugambee, Kate Shanks-Booth, Scott Miller, Jeremy Cranmer, Sadie Crusade, Lance Salisbury, Harmony Ayers-Friedlander, David Sanders, Deana Bodnar, Ray Bunce, Louise Miller, Rich John, Emily Ashby, Mike James

Welcome and Introductions and Group Updates: Bridgette welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves; Sadie Crusade joined the meeting with Taili from Ultimate Reentry Opportunity Initiative. She is the new Operations and Administrative Manager. She has experience in non-profit work in anti-human trafficking work and with housed and unhoused marginalized populations.

1. Changes to Agenda: No changes.

2. Minutes Approval: The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

3. Updates:

a. Chair's Update- Bridgette Nugent – On May 21st Bridgette received the notification of funding award for the NYS 13-A funding. It will be proposed at the next CJATI meeting that this funding will again be awarded to the College Initiative Upstate Program. As determined in 2023, CIU will receive the funding for the next 3 years. Following this timeframe, there will again be an open bidding/application process to determine who receives future funding. OAR & CIU will present further information at the June CJATI meeting.

b. Updates from Department of Probation & Community Justice: Dan Cornell- Dan said there are a lot of changes in the Probation Department due to COVID and Bail Reform. He said they are becoming familiar with the “new normal”.

i. Over the years the number of people under supervision has reduced from 600 to about 400. They are currently working on 48 investigations. From October – December that number can be over 100. He said that the youth numbers are very low. Unfortunately, when a youth case gets to the point where the youth need to be detained it is hard to find an agency that can house them.

ii. He said that there is a trend towards more cases of high risk and high needs cases. The Probation Department has received the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) grant. The funding is used to conduct more in-depth investigations and supervise people at the highest risk classification. Dan said that there is a relationship between people that are involved in narcotics and that are also carrying firearms. Out of 440 adults being supervision there are 60 people at the highest risk classification. Dan said that they do their best not to revoke probation for an individual. They use that for

people when they feel like all alternatives and support have not been successful.

- iii. Kate asked Dan to repeat the youth numbers. Dan said there are 13 youth that have been sentenced to supervision in Family Court; there are 19 Person in Need of Supervision (PINS) intake cases; 4 Juvenile Delinquency intake cases; 7 cases of predisposition supervision cases.
- iv. Dave asked how to navigate helping the individuals that are using methamphetamine which is made difficult to do as their mental health changes and they are unable to care for themselves and stay connected to services. Harmony shared that psychosis brought on by methamphetamine use can last for months after the use has stopped.
- v. The group discussed that the treatments available in the community are not sufficient to help people get sober and address their mental health needs.
- vi. Dave said that he joined a committee meeting in Cortland County and learned about a program that they have for community members with co-occurring issues. Dave will find out more about the grants available and how a program like that can be implemented here. Harmony said that MH has also been looking into funding to offer cooccurring services in TC.
- vii. Bridgette said there are a lot of local, statewide, and national issues. She is asking the group to think about the work that can be done to advance some of the initiatives that have been discussed.

- c. **Long Term Inmate report: Ray Bunce, Matt VanHouten, Lance Salisbury-** Ray presented the report. There is one person currently on trial. It took 8 months to get to the trial. One person has been sentenced. Ray asked if anyone had questions about the others listed on the report, there were no questions.

- 4. **Adjournment- Bridgette** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:15. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26th at 12:00.