

Montgomery County Local Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 12:00p.m.
at Montgomery County Sheriff Department
600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

1. Sign-in: 11-14-23 Meeting
2. Call to Order: by Andria Geigle
3. Approval of meeting minutes: August 8, 2023 meeting
 - a. Mark Bickel motions to approve
 - b. Seconded by Sheriff dept, Matt McCarty
4. Old Business:
 - a. Rural Justice and Public Health Professionals Summit, October 13th
 - i. Steve Lloyd, Olivia Wood from QRT, and Lindsey Villalpando all attended
 1. Steve said it was very educational; nice to see what other counties are doing; Steve have a lot of interest in this part of county business; a lot of power at these meetings (JRAC); new guy looking in from the outside; wants to see folks working together; what he is about; asked how we think JRAC is going; Andria thinks we are getting the ball rolling; Mark says he agrees, trying to make sure we make the right next steps; thinks data would help us to figure out what is and isn't working; thinks we have a good community involvement;
 - b. Common set of system improvement goals/change targets
 - i. Mental Health agencies will ensure all monthly progress reports on shared clients are sent to the Probation Department and/or WCRCC by the 20th of the following month. Update: Progress Reports are typically received in a timely manner.
 - ii. The jail staff will have at least 50% of incarcerated individuals complete a needs questionnaire prior to being released from incarceration. The data collected from the survey will help identify re-entry needs/concerns. Update: Top three identified barriers/challenges were: Housing, Proof of Identity, Safe, Sober Living Environment. (breakdown shared via email)
 - iii. Subcommittee will review the recent time frames of the criminal justice process, including court administrative procedures, incarceration lengths pending sentencing, etc, and ultimately identify how they may be streamlined and eliminate excessive delays. Update: No significant procedural changes.
 - c. Bond Schedule Amendment- Changes effective November 14th
 - i. Effective today; judges have changed the bond schedule

- ii. Level 6 felony & below is a book and release; unless there was a hold (alcohol or battery offense)
- iii. Problem: not doing anything to better themselves and end up with multiple offenses
- iv. Can't bond out until they see a judge
- v. Travis King believes this will affect our numbers; 50+ probation violations sitting in jail; will affect jails budget immensely, but he is on board with it; hopefully it will slow things down; people will still bond out and commit other crimes; hoping the judges will be more strict with releasing
- vi. Judge Petrie says the probation violation side should have been in place long ago; daily updates now being sent of active probationers; officer safety issue as well; keep tabs on jail numbers
- vii. Jail does not want the DOC inmates; but state mandates it and offers no help; Sheriff Needham believes they need to go as soon as they are sentenced; jail is forced to house when DOC says they are not coming; \$ is reimbursed, but goes to county general instead of sheriff's budget
- viii. Any questions: none

5. New Business:

- a. 2023 Third Quarter SEA 9 Report
 - i. No questions
 - ii. Submission approval: Racheal motions, Travis seconds
- b. Juvenile Community Alternatives Grant Program
 - i. Racheal speaks about it: Juvenile probation decided to quickly apply for the two grants
 - ii. Keep kids out of secure detention
 - iii. Create a matrix that includes when a kid comes on probation; if they are not doing what they should, take bigger steps to keep them where they should
 - iv. Have many families that cannot afford House Arrest
 - v. Brian Donaldson expresses concerns about probation having total control with the steps
- c. Juvenile Diversion Grant Program –
 - i. how do we keep youth out of the justice system?
 - ii. attempt to get another juvenile probation officer that would focus on the diversion kids
- d. Juvenile Behavioral Health Competitive Grant Pilot Program
 - i. No one is applying for this particular grant; Youth Service Bureau does not feel they have enough time to submit the grant
 - ii. Vote to allow Racheal to apply to the grant; Joe Buser motions, Mark Bickel seconds; no one opposed
- e. Public Defender Reimbursement Program
 - i. Judge Petrie:
 - 1. Two ways to get reimbursed; were in the program until 2013 and then opted out for whatever reason
 - 2. Adequately staffed PD office will mean more cases resolved; quickly moving cases
 - 3. Fountain, Vermillion, & Parke put together an office together with one admin
 - ii. Bryan Donaldson:

1. Got out because it was going to cost more
 2. Will have to hire another one or two deputy attys, another admin, raises for department
 3. Thinks it would help with quality with PD in the county
 4. 25% loss of people applying to law school – tough to find people
 5. Andria asked; set a plan of action to make a presentation with the council before the May meeting? Initial numbers only; tell us what it would look like for our county
- iii. Other
1. Loosened what qualifies for the program
 2. 1 lawyer per 1,000
 3. Everyone here has challenges; how do we help each other
- f. Juvenile Detention Parental Reimbursement
- i. Racheal:
 1. when a youth is sent to secure attention; county pays a per diem; we then file against the parents to get the money back; she has been tracking since 2004
 2. parents are not making the payments they say they will pay
 3. probation went to the county atty to see about taking them back to court
 4. from 2004: county is out \$370,000 – not including everything (some didn't get ordered like they should; 2022 & 2023 not on there yet)
 5. only one parent is paying \$20 per month; that is all that is coming in
 6. cost of detention is also skyrocketing
 - ii. Buser: prosecutor puts a judgement against the parents; not generally people who have the assets to pay
 - iii. Petrie: see if the collection atty the Clerk's Office used can work with us to help take care of it
 - iv. Andria: pass the baton to council and commissioners; see what they think about the next steps
 - v. Donaldson: why are we ordering parents to pay this back?
6. Other Business:
7. Adjournment:
- a. Next meeting- Proposed 2024 Schedule: Feb 13, May 14, Aug 13, Nov 12 (second Tuesday of the second month of the quarter; same day as County Council meeting) at noon at the Sheriff's Dept.
 - b. Motion to adjourn & agree with next year's schedule by Donaldson, Petrie seconds