

Community Corrections Advisory Board Minutes – September 14, 2023 (In Person & Zoom)

Members Present: In person: Michael Birzer, AlmaAnn Jones, Aaron Breitenbach
Via Zoom: Dena Lee, Benita Chaplin, Samuel Steincamp, Tyler Roush, Peter Shay, Becky Springer, Sandra Clinard-Flanders, Santiago Hungria

Members Absent: Cody Alexander

Staff: In person: Lesa Lank, Julee Meslin, Andrea Drinnen
Via Zoom: Tom Struble, Chris Morales, Sasha Teel, Lori Gibbs,

Guests: In person: none
Via Zoom: Russell Leads

Introductions and Announcements: None presented.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from the prior meeting on August 10, 2023: *A motion to approve the Minutes from the July 13, 2023 meeting was made by Peter Shay, seconded by Dena Lee and unanimously approved.*

KDOC Audit and Quality Improvement Plan: Lori Gibbs presented the findings of the KDOC audit. The audit consisted of an onsite visit which included observations of the use of EPIC tools and observing ISOs using the LS-CMI/WRNA assessments. Before the visit the audit included uploading policies and files to show compliance with KDOC standards. Overall agency compliance is 85% showing substantial compliance to standards and substantial adherence to evidence based correctional practices and principles. With these findings, a Quality Improvement Plan was devised to address mandatory findings. The plan includes the following: to provide feedback to the staff on their audio recording observations to include effective use of the incentives/sanctions and EPICS tools; to provide training to staff on use of Response Table; to provide training to supervisory team on coaching staff to effectively address high risk situations as identified in assessment tools; for staff to attend Case Planning training; to provide training to staff on effectively incorporating cog tools/homework into office contacts; to have cognitive skills team to review current referral criteria; to bring all policies/practices into compliance with KDOC standards; to ensure staff are trained on all related policy revisions; and to develop and implement standards tracking tool to ensure on-going compliance with standards during annual policy reviews. The deadline for implementing the plan is February 3rd, 2024. The floor was opened up to questions from the board and guests.

Program Updates: Tom Struble and Sasha Teel shared program updates. To date, staff is down two ISOs. Johnson County visited during the first week of September to observe the Drug Court program and inquire about the formation of the program. It is their goal to implement the same program in their jurisdiction. Policies are being finished up and trainings are being held to inform staff on all changes. At ARES/WR, a dorm expansion will be able to house 116 beds.

Other Business: Lori Gibbs shared an invitation to the upcoming Veteran's Treatment Court Open House on September 22, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned and next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2023.