

## Community Corrections Advisory Board Minutes – April 7, 2022 (In Person & Zoom)

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**Members Present:** In person: none

Via Zoom: Michael Birzer, Kelli Grant, Sandra Clinard-Flanders, Peter Shay, Aaron Breitenbach, Cody Alexander, AlmaAnn Jones

**Members Absent:** Sean Gates, Brent Allred, Patricia Houston, Richard Vargas, Janet Federico, Kevin O' Connor

**Staff:** In person: Abigail Lessman, Chase Tipton

Via Zoom: Lori Gibbs, Tom Struble, Sasha Teel, Chris Collins-Thoman, Chris Morales

**Guests:** In person: none

Via Zoom: none

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**Introductions and Announcements:** There were none.

Due to initially not having a quorum, Lori Gibbs started to provide information on the Comprehensive Plan. Once a quorum was met, the updates were paused and CAB began to review the minutes from the last meeting. **Approval of Minutes from the meeting on March 10, 2022: A motion to approve the Minutes from the March 10, 2022 meeting was made by Aaron Breitenbach, seconded by Peter Shay and unanimously approved.**

**ACTION ITEM: Review and Approve the SFY2023 Comprehensive Plan grant application (inclusive of the JRI/Behavioral Health Grant) and funding plan for submission to Sedgwick County BoCC for additional required approval, submission to KDOC and authorize the Chair to sign with additional approval for any technical modifications.**

Lori Gibbs provided information to the board on how the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) application has changed from previous years. KDOC was informed that COVID greatly impacted the data as many clients were being supervised remotely and intakes were suspended at the Adult Residential/Work Release Facility and have only recently been resumed on a small scale.

Staff retention also played a significant role as many staff were lost to court services. Vacancy rates remain very high and ISOs have been tasked with assisting with coverage at Adult Residential/Work Release to mitigate overtime. Amongst the turnover, are the Justice Reinvestment Initiative funded positions, which were previously filled with mental health staff, and were unfilled for long periods of time which affected the ability to offer services in-house. To address staff turnover, the county provided critical and premium pay to select positions that were deemed hard to fill. There was also a plan implemented to utilize salaried staff in part time positions to provide coverage in the direct care facilities.

Lori shared that the onboarding process with the KDOC was difficult as staff were not able input assessments for several months after being trained. The KDOC also implemented a new offender database, Athena, which replaced TOADS. The implementation caused frustration amongst staff as they were not able to navigate the new system and access archived information. KDOC also implemented two new assessment tools, the LSCMI and the WRNA, which were introduced prior to when they could be used.

Lori shared that their Batterer's Intervention Program (BIP) is now certified and able to offer batterer's intervention services to clients. Until the BIP Liaison position is filled, the county will continue to contract with the Mental Health Association to provide assessment services.

Lori reported that the Adult Intensive Supervision Program (AISP) will work towards meeting the following outcome for SFY23: A 75% successful completion rate or 3% improvement from the previous year. Lori noted that the 75% successful completion rate has never previously been met, but there was an 'artificial' increase in the success rate last year due to COVID. It is anticipated that successful completions will decrease over the next year as clients will once again be reporting in person and providing UA's regularly. Due to the uncertainty about extracting data from Athena, Lori stated that they are only presenting one goal to the KDOC for the upcoming year and focusing on quality case management work with their staff.

Lori addressed a question from the board comparing Sedgwick County's revocation rates amongst others across the state. Lori stated that Sedgwick County typically has a higher revocation rate as compared to other counties but that Sedgwick County also has a higher client population with a presumptive prison sentence and with more prevalent gang, mental health, and substance abuse issues. Moving forward, Lori stated that the plan is to continue to target high risk offenders with cognitive services groups and graduated sanctions. Last year, the county received approximately \$683,000 in Behavioral Health funding which was

significantly lower than what was requested. Sedgwick County is asking for approximately \$300,000 to be restored for the upcoming fiscal year, which would, in part, be used to fund recovery specialist positions, medication vouchers, and BIP assessments.

**Peter Shay motioned to approve the SFY2023 Comprehensive Plan grant application, seconded by Sandra Clinard-Flanders and unanimously approved.**

The board was then asked to review the agenda item and add to the motion for the additional required approvals and technical modifications. **Peter Shay motioned to Review and Approve the SFY2023 Comprehensive Plan grant application (inclusive of the JRI/Behavioral Health Grant) and funding plan for submission to Sedgwick County BoCC for additional required approval, submission to KDOC and authorize the Chair to sign with additional approval for any technical modifications, seconded by Cody Alexander and unanimously approved.**

**Program Updates:**

Lori provided an update that community corrections staff were likely to get a salary increase that has been proposed in the governor's FY22 and FY23 budget.

Tom Struble provided input based on staff discussion that, due to the tenure of staff and due to COVID, many staff have never experienced intensive supervision or field work. This will be a priority focus in the upcoming year.

Sasha Teel reported a small number of intakes have been resumed at the Adult Residential/Work Release facility and population will likely be capped at around 30 clients until staffing numbers improve. The medical quarantine procedures will be reviewed and updated in hopes of engaging clients in services sooner. Sasha reported that a new Corrections Coordinator has been hired and will start later this month.

**Other Business:** None.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2022.