

Community Corrections Advisory Board
Minutes – October 14, 2021 (In Person & Zoom)

Members Present: Via Zoom- Richard Vargas, James Convey, Janet Federico, Kelli Grant, Gordon Ramsay, Patricia Houston, Sean Gates, Sandra Glinder-Flanders, Peter Shay, Ann Swegle, Brent Allred

Members Absent: Michael Birzer, Kevin O' Connor, AlmaAnn Jones

Staff: In person: Brenda Gutierrez, Glenda Martens, Sasha Teel

Via Zoom: Russell Leeds, Tom Stolz, Lori Gibbs, Tom Struble

Introductions and Announcements: Brent Allred was introduced as a new member and was given a few minutes to introduce himself.

Approval of Minutes from the meeting on August 12, 2021: *A motion to approve the Minutes from the August 12, 2021 meeting was made by Kelli Grant, seconded by Peter Shay and unanimously approved.*

Positive Interaction Group – Officer Watson and Officer Avendano from the Wichita Police Department provided a presentation on efforts being done in the community working with juvenile and adult offenders and were available for questions from the board.

Hope for Da Hood – Beni Santibanez and Shaun Micah O'Brien provided a presentation on their faith based organization working with gang members and were available for questions from the board.

Program Updates:

Glenda: CCAC members are getting ready to draft the legislative platform for the state. Legislators will be invited to visit Sedgwick County next week to talk specifically about the needs that Community Corrections currently has and the assistance they can provide in order to increase funding.

SCDOC will soon begin working on their 5 year strategic plan.

Lori: Sedgwick County continues to have an issue with staff retention. Within the past few months, 8 different ISO's have resigned and accepted positions with court services. Critical pay and hiring bonuses have been approved to target hard to fill positions with the hopes that this money will help assist in the retention of current staff. Staff are also learning to navigate the state's new case management system, Athena.

Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) will be launched in November. A contract for liaison services for the BIP has been approved between the Mental Health Association (MHA) and DOC. MHA is an approved BIP provider and will oversee the program until the department's Coordinator position is filled.

DOC now has staff working specifically with female clients. Sasha has been working on identifying guest speakers to address the ISO's to ensure they are familiar with local community resources.

An opportunity for supervisors to attend an implicit bias training will be offered soon, conducted by Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland.

Tom: DOC drug court staff, judge, and attorney were able to recently attend the national drug court conference and are hopeful to implement changes discussed during the training.

Drug Court and Pre-Trial Services population remains consistent. Drug Court staff are utilizing a new drug testing device which would reduce the number of costly UA collection.

Sasha – Several intakes are expected at work release later today, they continue to limit their population to approximately 100 residents due to Covid and low staffing levels. Several internal programs have been resumed that were previously suspended due to Covid.

DOC has partnered with MHA for the JRI grant mental health services. A mental health professional has been hired.

Glenda: There is a new Drug Diversion program starting. An MOU between the District Attorney's Office and DOC has been finalized and an ISO has been identified to fill this position.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2021