

# REINVESTMENT 2010 IMPLEMENTATION GRANT CJMHTA PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2012 MCSO Headquarters Conference Room

## ATTENDANCE

CJMHTA Planning Council Members/Alternates:

Tommy Taylor	Holly Elomina	Christine Cianci
Robert Audette	Joe Laino	Nadine Hood
Sylvia Murphy	Rosemary Enright	Manny Madruga
Lisa Solms	Vanessa Cohen	Lourdes Badin
Sherry Read		

Staff: MCSO CJMHTA Diversion Program Director Edie Hambright  
MCSO Grant Manager Tamara Snider  
Monroe County Grants Manager Lisa Tennyson

Other Attendees: Sandy Pearce

Minutes prepared by: Carol Peterson

## CALL TO ORDER

CJMHTA Planning Council meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Tommy Taylor.

## WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

Self-introductions were made around the room.

## MINUTES

The minutes of January 19, 2012 were approved as issued.

## PROGRAM REPORT from Director Edie Hambright

- Another CIT Training successfully completed – 21 attendees; next class scheduled week of Feb 27 in Key West – this will meet grant requirement of 3 classes for the first year
- Judicial Committee – Care4U Reentry Program Handout – based on issues discussed at our last meeting
- Discussion of handout – judicial eligibility criteria / reentry points / referral process / compliance / program requirement costs

**Read:** I don't see people who are receiving SSI or SSDI on this handout. That is supposed to stop when they are in jail. It needs to be reinstated if they are in the program and that is a tricky process where they may need some help.

**Hood:** We (Care Center) work on getting benefits reinstated.

**Elomina:** Suggestions about the form – eligibility should not be a checklist – they are either eligible or not.

**Madruga:** This form is done from the perspective of someone familiar with the program, not for the individual being informed and deciding whether to enter the program. I believe it

should be tailored in a simpler fashion without the abbreviations to explain to somebody if the attorney gave them the form and said I want you to consider this as a sentencing option. It would spell out the criteria in a way like: 1. a sentence; 2. a sentence; not a checklist or abbreviations they won't understand but something basic and simple they would be able to read for themselves. In the cost section of transitional housing, it should give them the cost of the housing. One of the practical components to all of these individuals is how much is it going to cost them regardless of any benefits from treatment.

**Elomina:** When you look at the Drug Court form, that is in the simplest form and the client understands it.

**Hambright:** I understood I was creating the judicial side for the judge and attorneys to understand and utilize for identifying referrals.

**Enright:** It's overwhelming.

**Elomina:** We were looking for a form for the attorney to speak to his client and show them what the program is about.

**Madruga:** If you are going to explain it to a judge, it doesn't have to be this concise. You can have one page that you sit down with the judges and have an hour meeting. You have one page of eligibility and one on judicial referral entry points. That's one aspect. We are looking for something comprehensive but concise enough for a client to read, consult with an attorney and make a decision whether to enter the program.

**Enright:** We just need something for the client to read, understand and sign. I thought this form was for your files. Also, you cannot order somebody to find a job within two weeks.

**Hambright:** The fourth page describing program requirements for potential referral is for you all, not the Care 4 U file.

**Taylor:** Edie will get with Judicial Committee and prepare what you are looking for.

**Read:** What if the person is from another county?

**Hambright:** If they are going back, out of this County, they would not be eligible for this.

**Enright:** I thought you were going to have people appear in front of Judge Fowler for the program in a Specialty Docket.

**Hambright:** That was the initial plan but there is not a Specialty Docket. It is not feasible right now due to lack of personnel and other things - but is still a goal of the program.

**Taylor:** Let's get the Judicial Committee together and finalize the documents.

**Hambright:** Meeting scheduled for Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00 at Key West Court House per Holly

**Madruga:** Have any meetings been held with the judges yet?

**Hambright:** I would like to schedule that after the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> once there is agreement to the judicial forms.

**Enright:** I would hope you would take the suggestions of today and come to the meeting with the handout or something ready.

**Hambright:** I will bring the suggested revisions from today but I would rather have all of your input to complete the documents.

**Enright:** I'm not doing this. We've been working with this for over 6 months and I feel we're getting nowhere. It's your program and I don't know what your requirements are. You have suggestions from today and you already have people in the program so you must be giving them something.

**Hambright:** That's a different piece than what this is. That is used in the screening by Care 4 U program staff and in the language for the client to know what they are agreeing to as to

the program description. I'll put together the suggestions I have from today for the 24<sup>th</sup> as a revised draft.

**Elomina:** I think you need to look at the Drug Court paperwork we gave you to see what that population is getting.

Strategic Plan – Goals & Objectives – updates reviewed

Submitted an action plan for CARE 4 U for the next three months - reviewed

**Madruga:** I really don't want to come back to another meeting and not have people sentenced to this any longer. I want to make sure if I'm back here in March my attorneys know, we have a form, the judges are on board because it's been a long time and I don't want to go another month and not be able to get this going.

**Hambright:** Two people have been sentenced to Court Options with requirement for Care 4 U program and transitional housing – one by Judge Fowler and one by Judge Miller – it is a slow process but it has begun.

Care 4 U handout of Summary of Referrals discussed – numbers need to be reviewed

**Audette:** Suggestion - processing a lot of people but they're not eligible – need to look at criteria to determine eligibility – excluding a lot of people who could benefit from the program.

**Taylor:** Referrals to transitional housing agencies - based on their criteria, won't accept some people.

**Audette:** So, the major component is housing and clinical requirements.

**Madruga:** If someone has housing and they have a battery, would we take them?

**Hambright:** Yes

**Audette:** Suggest we call the housing referral programs directly as we have been able to place a lot of people with battery charges in other programs.

**Hambright:** I have been doing that with the referrals.

**Nadine:** Housing is our (Care Center) biggest problem. It is very difficult if battery occurred within 5 to 10 years, especially if it is on an LEO.

**Read:** All people must be drug/alcohol free to go into Poinciana housing. The community demanded a drug free safe zone.

**Audette:** What are the reasons why people who qualify aren't in our program?

**Taylor:** They don't volunteer – would rather do their time and get out.

**Hood:** Offender Reentry Program is an intensive outpatient program – 45 people per year – 135 in 3 years. Six months remaining in the program. To date - 111 served and a quarter of those have dropped out along the way. A majority were court ordered and had to be there. Volunteers come in and get the services and then drop out.

**Laino:** I'm looking at sustainability – Miami has been successful but they have housing capabilities that we don't have here. We need to tackle that problem and see what we can do about it – maybe we need to get people to reconsider the area being alcohol/drug free.

**Murphy:** We don't have it and the grant will be over before we could get that changed.

**Madruga:** People are looking for a benefit and when they realize the regulations are greater than the benefit to them, they stop. That is why court ordered is the only way this is ever going to be successful.

**Murphy:** Have we talked to the judge about making this an option?

**Hambright:** Yes to Judge Miller and Judge Fowler

**Tennyson:** What about a monetary stipend to participate?

**Hood:** Grants usually do not allow that.

**Taylor:** There are a lot of variables here and we'll continue to move forward as best we can.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT** from Tamara Snider

Account detail of expenses presented through January 31, 2012.

**Enright:** What does the hospital's contribution represent?

**Hambright:** Uncompensated charges for services in the emergency room for individuals brought in by any Law Enforcement Officer.

**Tennyson:** What about Sheriff's cash match?

**Snider:** Nothing spent yet – we are waiting to hear clarification as to the adjusted requirement for the 10% match of the grant money spent.

**Hambright:** Received email this week from DCF of their recommendation of \$114,952 for the next year of the grant plus roll-over of first year unspent funds - waiting on Legislature for finalization. Total net should be similar to first year total of \$250,000.

**Tennyson:** There is a difference in numbers on your spreadsheet and the invoices being sent to the County.

**Peterson:** The invoices are for reimbursement of the expenses paid by MCSO Finance. The spreadsheet represents all expenses that have been incurred and some may have not been paid and others are paid in different months than when they occurred. We are aware of the differences between the invoices and the spreadsheet.

#### **ONGOING BUSINESS – Sustainability Committee**

**Laino:** I'm trying to build information that shows where the savings are occurring to keep applying for the grant and for other grants. The Sustainability Committee will be meeting but we don't have anything together at this time.

**Taylor:** Regarding housing and criteria in Miami – can you get some information on their criteria to see if that could help us here?

**Laino:** I will look into that but it sometimes takes time.

**NEW BUSINESS** Nothing

**ROUNDTABLE** Nothing

**Taylor:** The 24<sup>th</sup> is the make it or break it for the judicial council to come up with a document we can give to the Court to move the court component along. We have to make that happen.

Thank you for your participation which is greatly needed to move forward.

**NEXT MEETING** is scheduled for March 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Chief Taylor adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.