

## Minutes for Criminal Justice/Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board (CJATI)

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**Date:** 10/23/2019

**Call to Order:** 12:05

**Attendees:(31)** Henry Granison, Amanda Bashi, Kristi Taylor, Matt Van Houten, Pat Buechel, Dan Cornell, Karla Brackett, Suzi Cook, Mary Orsaio, Richard Rivera, Paul Neugebauer, Amy Heffron, Hon. Scott Miller, Bridgette Nugent, Lance Salisbury, Deborah Dietrich, Benay Rubenstein, Deana Bodnar, Sharon MacDougall, Sue Robison, Brian Briggs, Dr. Judy Griffin, Michelle Preshur, Anthony Slidie, Casandra Ponton, Rich John, Donna Fleming, Sara Jenab, Erica Cotraccia, Eleni Murdough,, David Sanders

**Introductions:** Introductions were made.

**Announcements:** Deb announced that a community collaboration with OAR and the Council (ADC) through the Department of Labor resulted in a \$526,000 grant over 3-years. ADC is the lead applicant and subcontractors include: OAR and CIU; Challenge Workforce; Workforce; Chamber of Commerce; TC3. The purpose is to provide more than one path to employment for those in recovery and the formerly incarcerated (often in recovery). Distance training will be held at Open Access; OAR is seeking a Job Coach/Employer Liaison to work with clients and modest stipends for training and employment; Chamber is seeking employer stipends to subsidize employment for a couple of months per participant; Challenge will offer the Job Club and linkages to employers. CIU will continue to be the conduit to higher education and there are modest stipends included here. Congratulations, well done!

### **Long Term Jail Statistics – Matt**

Five month unsentenced report was presented. (There was no one in our jail unsentenced for more than 5 months.) Numbers continue to stay low (48) with only two inmates to discuss - both to be released to DOCs. Chair, who has been on the CJATI Advisory Board since 2013, doesn't recall this ever happening before. Matt noted that violent crime unfortunately comes in waves, so although we are proud of the recent accomplishment, there are circumstances we can't foresee and/or control. Regardless, kudos to all that have made this possible.

### **Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services (CARS) – Eleni and Erica**

Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services (CARS) is adding an expanded opioid treatment program to its outpatient center that includes methadone. Methadone has long been identified as a huge gap in local services. Many must travel to Syracuse to receive these MAT's. CARS has navigated the difficult requirements and will have the capability of dispensing to 50 people – that number should increase over time. CARS is adding several staff members for the Opioid Treatment Program, including nurses and counselors.

Many questions were asked, credit given for their hard work, numbers and procedures discussed. The possibility of providing Methadone in the jail for one. Eleni mentioned that CARS is becoming more individualized, following current trends in the field, she added, that anyone

(former clients) who wants to talk about CARS changing approach please come talk with us (CARS staff).

### **Ithaca Wellness and Recovery Court - Michelle**

Michelle reported on the current numbers and outcomes from IWRC which include: (25) referrals (14) deemed accepted and eligible with 10/14 with dual diagnosis. Number of participants rearrested while enrolled was 2/14.

Michelle outlined (7) goals areas which range from improved access to recovery-focused mental health services to increasing family involvement. To learn more visit the link below.

<http://tompkinsweekly.com/stories/ithaca-creates-court-focused-on-mental-health,2618>

### **Opportunities, Alternatives, and Resources OAR transition plans- Deb**

Deb plans on retiring by December 2020. Lance, the President of OAR's Board of Directors has been working with staff on this important transition. A job description of the new Executive Director's duties and responsibilities is being developed. Feedback from staff on what kind of leader they are looking for and the importance of social justice advocacy as also a part of the discussion. Benay's retirement from CIU was been widely exaggerated, though she has considered the possibility, the program and its success are very important to Benay and she will not leave the program unless she is confident it is future – which includes stable funding streams. She proudly cited TC3's BIZ Catalog which now offers (3) three non-credit course from CIU.

### **Domestic Violence Trend data – (see attached) All**

An unexpected and suspicious increase to DV reports raised several questions as we prepared for 2020 Bail Reform. DV and Sexual Crimes will still require Bail even with misdemeanors, so an inventory was conducted to try to better understand what next year's Jail numbers might look like. At first many thought the #MeToo movement may have had a positive effect on increased reporting. And if so, provided a potential cause and effect. Although experts from the Advocacy Center believe the numbers have increased, which is concerning, the drastic increase was due to incomplete reporting the year before.

### **Bail Reform: Proactive/ Reactive: What data should we be keeping our eye on?**

We tabled Bail reform discussion due to lack of time.

**Adjourn 1:29**

### **Remaining CJATI Advisory Board scheduled for 2019**

- **December 4<sup>th</sup>** Advisory Board priorities for 2020

**Submitted:** David M Sanders