**Criminal Justice Capable (CJC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**02/18/15**

Attending: Mark Ames, Kim Bushey, Tony Folland, Karen Gennette, Jane Helmstetter, Debra Hopkins, Monica Hutt, Jennifer Jones, Erin O’Keefe, Kim Owens, Annie Ramniceanu, Ed Riddell, Bobby Sand, Trish Singer

Welcome:

In addition to her role as SBIRT Program Manager, Erin O’Keefe announced she is also now criminal justice services representative for ADAP. Tony will remain in his current role with additional supervisory responsibilities.

General Updates:

* CVSAS:

It was announced that Howard Hood will be leaving CVSAS. His successor is pending budget consideration.

* Governor’s Cabinet:

The governor has expanded his cabinet to include substance abuse and criminal justice. Membership includes Tom Huebner, President and CEO of Rutland Regional Medical Center, and Chittenden County States Attorney, TJ Donovan. Information will be provided to the CJC team as appropriate.

* Pre- trial:

The pre-trial monitor vendor contract has been signed with the Community Justice Centers and Diversion. Advertising for monitors have been placed jurisdictionally. Eleven monitors will be hired. Focus has been on developing the infrastructure for pre-trail and should begin to come together in approximately four weeks. Development of protocols has begun. Annie will be involved with the hiring of monitors and work with States Attorneys.

Legislative Updates

* To date there has not been much testimony on H.20 - An act relating to licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors as participating providers in Medicaid.

* Questions were raised for future consideration regarding anticipated legislative budget cut. What is the anticipated impact and how do we plan for it at a system level? The Sparrow project was discussed as an example. How might we utilize existing pre-trial services for the COD population up front to close any gap left by the anticipated closing of this program? What do we expect from AOP programs and can they help to support the gaps? What are the base line programs we need across the state? Should we begin to shift resources and/or layer innovations on top of the SIM?

* Crime Research Group (CRG) is working on a cost effective study of the Pew Charitable Trust Results First initiative that compliments Results Based Accountability. The desired outcome is to match cost effectiveness with evidence based programs to inform future legislative budgetary decisions.
* Social impact bonds (SIB’s) as a new funding source were discussed. Outside private entities or donors invest in social service needs to realize overall savings. Donors then receive reimbursement based on savings and investment. AHS has submitted an application addressing youth homelessness and recidivism to the Harvard Kennedy School’s Social Impact Bond Technical Assistance SIB Lab at Harvard to explore options for utilizing this model for Vermont. The lab provides technical assistance for contracts using SIB’s. Through the application process the SIB lab will help determine if Vermont has the scale to apply this model.
* Attention was brought to H: 221 - An act relating to criminal justice reform which would remove DOC’s discretion regarding release when minimum sentence is met.
* It was noted that the marijuana bill is less polarizing to consider from a perspective of what legalization would look like rather than should it be legalized.

Review the Work Plan:

* Act 195 PI: This Phase is on track to be completed in February.
* Act 195 P2: Developing a referral system is related to Annie’s work previously reported on under General Updates.
* Beyond Act 195: Doug Marlowe agreed to the push the gap analysis out to March 2016. The 1st and 2nd tasks have been amended from January to a spring completion date.

SIM Chart Review and Update:

* There was a historical discussion of the development and use of the SIM to help clarify next step and identify who the chart is intended to serve at this juncture.
* Developed in 2009 to aid local communities identify resources in their county to help divert people out of the criminal justice system
* Developed into statewide chart to identify what services were missing
* Lauded as a useful legislative tool in identifying the need for pre-trial and Mental Health services now being implemented
* Currently use to ensure geographic justice; what are the base services geographically and how do we build from here?
* Some general issues impacting service delivery were discussed. It was noted that an assessment is required prior to residential treatment. Defense attorneys and Judges are asked to request or order an assessment and not residential treatment to ensure those on the waiting list are given equal consideration as those in the criminal system. It is suspected part of this issue stems from the detainee population who need treatment although DOC cannot assess as they are only housing them. Addicted detainees are released through the court to go to residential.
* The issue was raised whether number of days to arraignment should be considered as it impacts how people are affected in the system. It was agreed to finish the SIM and expand on addition matters when the group begins to address any service gaps from a best practice approach.
* It was suggested the completed SIM will be housed on the Judiciary, AHS and Vermont Law School websites and that it will be a virtual document only. CRG offered to manage the live document.
* Inconsistencies were identified in that some charts include providers and others include services. Both appear heavily weighted in Mental Health carrying the potential implication that persons with mental illness are more likely to be involved in the criminal justice system. It was also noted that DOC transitional beds should be included on the charts. It was also noted that some charts reflected statewide services across intercept points where others did not. It was agreed that members would submit modifications to Karen Gennette by March 13.

Meeting Reminder:

* Marijuana reform @ Vermont Law School on March 6th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Owens

Programs Manager Grants

Vermont Judiciary