

LARIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

September 21st, 2021



Members Present: Matthew Landers, Kristine Miller, Linda Hoffman, Allyce Lobdell, Heather O'Hayre, Emily Humphrey, Staci Shaffer, Jeffrey Swoboda, Sam Houghteling, Greg Otte, David Koons, Sid Simonson, Ed Seegrist, Melissa Divido

Staff Present: Tim Hand, Alexis Ongley, Michael Ruttenberg, Dana Hersch, Miguel LaLond

Notes: Aubrey Clevenger

This meeting took place over zoom and was called to order at 12:07 pm by Vice Chair, Matt Landers.

LCCC Garden Article

- Tim Hand opens the meeting with highlighting a significant achievement that our Community Corrections garden article made the American Correctional Association news.
- Joe Weilnau has been spearheading this feat and took the lead on all the garden's accomplishments.
- Commissioner Stephens came down and took a picture with some staff and clients who have been working hard nurturing and caring for the garden.



Conrad Ball

- Aubrey Clevenger provides brief update on the approaching Conrad Ball Award Ceremony on October 1st. There will be a WebEx virtual option for guests to tune into the ceremony and will be posted the morning of the event.
- Currently, there are around 60 guests who have RSVP'd to attend in person and the RSVP deadline is September 22nd. All other event details have been finalized. We are looking forward to celebrating both Gary Darling and Kathryn Hay for their momentous accomplishments.

COVID Update

- Alexis Ongley advises staff of our current COVID status.
- ASD has been placed on outbreak status. The state has deployed a Rapid Response testing team and both buildings are conducting surveillance testing.
- While the Health Department has found no epidemiological links between our 3 positives, they felt it was wise to place us on outbreak status to closely monitor the situation.
- Community Corrections was placed on outbreak status as of 9/21/21 and the facility will continue the 28-day cycle of receiving no positives.
- Matt Landers asks about the condition of those who tested positive to which Alexis responds 2 were asymptomatic and the other individual who experienced mild symptoms was tracked down to be informed of test result.

DCJ Scope of Work Audit (RDDT/IRT)

- Tim Hand invites Cynthia Lockwood, Division of Criminal Justice "Core Security, Program Auditing & Quality Assurance" audit team member to come and speak to the board members on the current audit process.
- Cynthia enlightens members of the audit team's intention of the process which dials in on RDDT

and IRT programs.

- The audit began the week of September 13th and originally began virtually and transitioned to on site auditing. The last day of the audit was September 22nd and the hope is to get the report accomplished within the next few weeks for programs to receive timely feedback.
- Cynthia has been working closely with Ingrid Schroeder, Nikki Henneman, and Julie Rohloff and extends recognition and appreciation for their diligent support.
- The audit team has been able to observe client groups, client and staff interviews and audit case files, active files, discharge files, and personnel and training.
- Cynthia acknowledges how impressed her and her team were with how knowledgeable, well-trained, and passionate staff are.
- The audit team has taken a multifaceted approach to the audit and notes that the primary goal isn't just about documentation accuracy but in person observations and interactions.
- Cynthia suggests having a presentation that's presented to the board delineating the results if desired.
- Cynthia ends with emphasizing how smoothly the process has gone and how professional and skilled staff are in the Criminal Justice Services department.
- Tim Hand expresses a special thanks to Mike Ruttenberg for his arduous effort with the audit preparation since it was focused mainly on the treatment section. Mike has done an incredible job coordinating the process and training his staff.
- Additionally, Tim thanks Dana Hersch as well for her exhaustive work to support the department during the audit.

PBC Workshop

- Alexis Ongley reports out on the Performance Based Contracting workshops that are currently underway.
- The workshop engages with community corrections stakeholders from across the state on how PBC should be managed in specific areas (CORE Security, risk-informed outcomes, PACE Audit, etc.)
- From those recommendations, Community Corrections will move forward with the stakeholders on how to carry out PBC with Community Corrections program. There will be one workshop every two weeks, with 6 workshops in total.
- Alexis states that more information will be shared in the coming weeks.

JAG Grants

- Alexis Ongley dives into discussing the current JAG grants in process.
- Alexis and team are preparing for the beginning of the JAG grant on building gender responsive programming in Larimer County Community Corrections. The research design portion is wrapping up and will be submitted to IRB, the Institutional Review Boards.
- This grant was submitted with the help of Dr. Alex Walker and Dr. Tara Opsal. Start date of this project is set to begin in January of 2022.
- Alexis submitted an application for Community Corrections to participate in a supplemental training program through NIC on the GRPPA assessment. This training program aligns well with the JAG and will provide technical assistance from the GRPPA experts.

Alumni Program

- Tim Hand calls attention to the newly developed Alumni program that Community Corrections is looking to instill as a part of our facility.
- This would be the first Alumni program in the entire state of Colorado meaning that Community Corrections wants to work hard in creating a uniting program to bring together alumni clients with those who are already here.
- Tim notes that the transition process for many clients who leave our program find it difficult to find

stability. This signifies the importance of creating a safe, prosocial healthy environment for them to return to.

- The focus will primarily be centered around clients in the treatment program.
- Tim indicates that we are still in the beginning stages of incorporating this program, however, more details will be decided shortly, and Tim will update the board on the program's progress.
- Matt Landers extends complete support to this inspiring opportunity and implementation into the Community Corrections facility.

Client & Staff Spotlights

- Tim Hand raises attention on inviting clients and staff to conduct presentations to the board members. The reason for this is for those selected individuals to inform the board a little bit about their experience with Community Corrections, what they do, and whatever else they want to share.
- Presentations will be presented within a 5-to-10-minute time frame including a Q&A at the end.
- These spotlight presentations are a powerful way to infuse some different phases and perspectives of our job force that some may not be familiar of.
- Matt Landers accentuates the value of this idea as there is always more to learn from clients and appreciate on what occurs in the Community Corrections facility.

Governor's Advisory Council

- Tim Hand further remarks that every Community Corrections program in the state will have an opportunity to do a 30-minute presentation in front of council members to talk about their program, where they are located, and other facility information.
- This development will not begin until in person meetings resume.
- Tim will gather a team together to send down to the meeting to present what Community Corrections is and how it varies. Tim expresses excitement about this and is confident our department will do extremely well.
- Moreover, Tim observes the importance of educating the council members for them to be accustomed with the program's standards and operating procedures.
- Kristine Miller informs members of the CACCB virtual meeting on October 22nd from 0830-1300. Kristine also shares that Lori will be sharing meeting information within the next week. There will be a couple of presentations such as "Redemption Road" with the fitness foundation, as well as another presentation from Crystal Owens.
- Lastly, Tim Hand shares that Brian Hulse and Crystal Owens will be presenting an initiative that began with the GAC administration which eliminates the code of penal discipline from all disciplinary processes in Community Corrections.
- What Tim and the GAC team were able to accomplish was to influence the DOC that we can regress people from DOC using the DCJ instrument and process (administrative review process). This process would be more transparent, familiar, and consistent. A presentation on this initiative is planned to be presented and what it means to Community Corrections.
- Tim expresses appreciation to those involved on this initiative and is grateful for all that's been accomplished for Community Corrections.

Advisory Board Binders

- Aubrey Clevenger introduces to Advisory Board members of the newly created "Advisory Board Binders."
- Each member will receive their own binder containing a plethora of information including member contact information, meeting dates and locations, Colorado Revised Statutes, Larimer County Community Corrections Standards, PREA Standards, and multiple other documents.
- Binders will be available for pick-up starting October 1st. If need be, binders can be delivered if members need assistance. Otherwise, all remaining binders will be brought to the next in person Advisory Board meeting in the coming months.

- Upon review of binders, please offer any suggestions to Aubrey as she will oversee monitoring binder paperwork and providing up to date information and documents.

Work Force Center Outreach

- Emily Humphrey provides a thorough update on the Work Force Center Outreach and the work she has done through leading this as our division director.
- Emily shares that CJS has been working closely with the Work Force Center to rebrand job descriptions by widening our net instead of narrowing it.
- Larimer County put together a virtual job fair highlighting different departments, one being CJS, that's being held on the 27th of September.
- CJS will have its own platform for folks to review what's being offered to invoke excitement and desire to work for the department.
- Security staff will have the opportunity to be spotlighted on October 6th at 2:00 pm to share why they like working for the CJS department. On October 8th, the treatment section will be highlighted to obtain their perspective.
- Emily encourages members to pass this information on to people they know to have more individuals apart of our unparalleled division.

Statistical Report Review – Residential Outcomes

- Alexis Ongley delivers informative discussion on residential outcomes.
- Upon review of the slide, Alexis shares the monthly success rate for August and year to date (January through August).
- The blue reflects a positive termination type separated by referral type (diversion, transitions, SOISP, federal, parole) while red reveals negative termination which is separated by termination reasons (unauthorized absence, negative technical violation, substance use, etc.).
- Unauthorized absences/escapes have been the majority of our negative terminations.
- Alexis shares these statistics to board members to educate them on our program outcomes and what the monthly success rate is. This material is also reported to the state for our billing system.
- Matt Landers inquiries about providing historical context about the monthly success rate of 66% and the year-to-date success rate of 65%; do percentages reflect similarly of previous years?
- Alexis responds that current percentages are sitting slightly below the average success rate. Community Corrections has experienced a significant increase on the unauthorized absence success rate since in the past completion rates typically sat at 70%.
- This is partly due to the law change which decriminalized most escapes and are now referred to as unauthorized absences.
- However, Alexis declares that our facility has one of the highest successful completion rates in the state.
- Matt asks what the average completion rate is across the state.
- Alexis discovers the average percentage on the DCJ website which currently sits at 59% as of 2019.
- Linda Hoffman asks if another legislative look at this revision may be worthwhile?
- Tim Hand responds yes it would be. The GAC subcommittee team is looking to see whether it's feasible to place misdemeanants in a Community Corrections setting. High risk high need individuals would be brought into the facility.
- The desire would be to recognize that Community Corrections is here and offers different services to serve a wide range of people who need treatment and stability.
- There is another meeting to further discuss this topic's specifications on October 8th which is where members will decide if it needs legislative change or not.
- Tim Hand notes the importance of revising the way we do things to account for everyone out there in need of services.
- Linda Hoffman observes that when individuals walk away, they don't receive those services.

- Dana Hersch joins in and highlights that this conversation is deliberated in the coalition meeting as well. Looking at probation absconder percentages, numbers have gone through the roof.

Updated Criteria

- Alexis Ongley provides brief results on the updated Advisory Board criteria revisions from the recent survey.
- Looking at the results, Alexis remarks that only one criteria revision had a 50/50 split vote which was the unauthorized absences proposition.
- Alexis will bring final vote to the full board after the Executive Board members have a discussion on the details. Tim agrees to have additional conversation with the full Advisory Board since there were dividing votes.

Next Meeting is October 19th, 2021

Meeting Adjourned at 12:53 pm Matt Landers