

Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of February 18, 2014

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman St., Lebanon

Present

David J. Arnold, District Attorney and CJAB Chairman; Brian L. Deiderick, Chief Public Defender and CJAB Vice-Chairman; Honorable John C. Tylwalk, President Judge, Court of Common Pleas; David Wingert, Court Administrator; Sally A. Barry, Director of Probation Services; Jamie Wolgemuth, County Administrator; Julie Bergstresser, Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator; Bruce E. Klingler, Sheriff; Daniel Wright, Police Chief, City of Lebanon; and, John P. Shott, CJAB Planner/Grant Coordinator.

Absent

Robert J. Phillips, County Commissioner; Kevin Schrum, Administrator, MH/ID/EI; James R. Donmoyer, Director, Commission on Drug & Alcohol Abuse; James Holtry, Director of Children and Youth; Robert Karnes, Warden; Kimberly Mackey, Criminal Justice Advisory Board Specialist, South East Region, PCCD.

Guests

Richard Steele, Director of Program and Policy Development, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission; Honorable Charles Jones, Court of Common Pleas; Jo Ellen Litz; County Commissioner; William Ames, County Commissioner; Robert Count, Commission on Drug & Alcohol Abuse; and, Richard Worley and Susan Christner, Office of Probation Services.

Prior to the regular CJAB meeting, members and guests heard a special presentation by Mr. Richard Steele, Director of Policy and Program Development for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, on the topic of Evidence-Based Practices, a key component of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. Mr. Steele's presentation began at 11:15 a.m. and concluded at 1:05 p.m. During this time, lunch was provided, courtesy of Commissioner Phillips.

Following the presentation by Mr. Steele, CJAB Vice Chairman Brian Deiderick called the regular CJAB meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes of 12/17/2013 CJAB Meeting—Approved as written.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- **D.U.I. Court**—Revisions to the D.U.I. Court Team and Participant manuals have been finalized and are being prepared for printing. President Judge Tylwalk discussed the impact that the State Superior Court's 2013 ruling in the *Musau* case has had on the D.U.I. Court program. In *Musau*, the Court held that a defendant cannot be sentenced to more than six months imprisonment for a first or second DUI conviction even if he or she refuses a blood or breath test. Because of this decision, seven persons have been released from the D.U.I. Court program. Still no word on the Accreditation application, which was submitted to AOPC last May. AOPC has initiated site visitations in other counties as part of the accreditation process; however, when AOPC reps will visit Lebanon County is still uncertain. Neighboring Dauphin County has already been observed. Mr. Shott informed the members that the County has an opportunity to apply for federal funding under the U.S. Department of Justice *Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program FY 2014* to continue and enhance the D.U.I. Treatment Court Program. County is eligible to apply for a

maximum of \$200,000 to be budgeted over two years, 2015 and 2016, with a 25 percent local match, bringing the total budget to \$266,667. Destiny Barker, D.U.I. Court Coordinator, is preparing the application, which will be brought before the County Commissioners on March 6th. Securing this funding is crucial for the future of the program in light of the fact that federal funding through PCCD will not be available in 2015. The Board voted unanimously to endorse and support the application. Mr. Shott will prepare a letter of support on behalf of the Board, to be signed by Messrs. Arnold and Deiderick, and attached to the application, which is due no later than March 18th.

- **Veterans' Court**—President Judge Tylwalk is preparing a draft of a proposal for a Veterans' Court in Lebanon County based on the suggestions and recommendations presented by members of the committee. The first version of the draft should be ready by mid-March.
- **Prison Overcrowding**—No report.
- **Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities**—No report. Members were provided with a copy of a recent Lebanon Daily News article regarding the record number of suicides (25) in the County in 2013. Article also noted the suicide prevention and awareness campaign planned for later this year by the Lebanon County Suicide Prevention Task Force. MH/ID/EI is also sponsoring a Mental Health First Aid program on March 24 and 26, 2014 in the Second Floor Conference Room. Training to be provided by certified instructors from Community Services Group. No cost for the training, which is available to anyone who lives or works in Lebanon County. Registration is limited.

CJAB DEPARTMENTS: REPORTS AND ISSUES OF INTEREST

Unified Case Management (UCM) Update—UCM is proving to be an extremely useful tool for the court system. Some technical problems still arise from time to time, causing delays and preventing access to data, but overall UCM has been functioning quite well. Ms. Barry reported that Lebanon County's "go live" date for AOPC's Delinquency Project is set for sometime in April. Also noteworthy is that court orders will now be uniform in the Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS).

Other Updates from CJAB Departments—Mr. Robert Count, representing Mr. Donmoyer, Lebanon County Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, reported that two providers, PA Counseling Services and T.W. Ponessa, have responded to the RFP posted by the Capital Area Behavioral Health Collaborative (CABHC) to make OP drug and alcohol services available to adolescents in Lebanon County. Provider to be selected on 2/26/14. T.W. Ponessa, however, has not been approved by PerformCARE, the managed care company for Medical Assistance. Approval should happen soon, enabling CABHC to make a bona fide choice between these two providers. A strong possibility exists that Miracle Group, a Harrisburg-based organization, will be starting a Recovery Center in Lebanon, at a location either on Walnut Street or Cumberland Street. The Commission is sponsoring a drug and alcohol training session on April 17th. Trainer is Sarah Davis, a certified trainer approved by the PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. Regarding drug/alcohol treatment at the Correctional Facility, Mr. Count reported that restrictions are being changed and that more inmates, including those with pending charges, will now be treated for dependency.

Ms. Barry reported that the County received a slight increase in Grant-in-Aid for Juvenile Probation for the current fiscal year; however, funding for Adult Probation was not increased, which is, in effect, a decrease in light of contracted increases in staff salaries and other rising costs. Governor Corbett's proposed Commonwealth Budget for 2014-2015 does not contain increases for Probation Services. The PA House of Representatives has approved House Resolution 619, which directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the costs and services of the county adult probation system, specifically the grant-in-aid formula as well as county costs and supervision fees. The objective is to determine the impact on the quality and level of probation services offered by counties across the Commonwealth. The Commission is required to report its findings no later than November 30, 2014.

Mr. Wolgemuth noted that fiber optics is being installed throughout the Municipal Building to prevent disruptions to internet access. He also extended a warm welcome to Sheriff Bruce Klingler, the newest member of CJAB. Regarding the issue of funding for Central Booking, Mr. Wolgemuth reported that a cost-sharing arrangement with other municipalities in the County is still under serious discussion, with a resolution anticipated by July.

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training Grant—Grant application endorsed by the Board at the October meeting was submitted to PCCD in November. One or two items regarding overtime payments for attendees needed to be clarified before PCCD began the next phase of the review process. No further response or feedback from PCCD at this time.

Modifications to IP (Electronic Monitoring and Crossroads) Grant—Modification requests for additional funding were submitted to PCCD in November; both requests remain under review.

Juvenile (Community Service) Grant—Application for funding to continue the Community Service program was submitted in December. No response or feedback from PCCD at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

CCAP Priorities for 2014—Members were given handouts regarding two of the priorities identified by County Commissioners' Association of PA (CCAP) for 2014: ***Prevention of Substance Abuse/Drug Overdose, and Inmates with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Issues.*** With respect to preventing substance abuse and drug overdose, CCAP proposes a strategy that includes: 1) Increasing data sharing among county personnel when a particular substance becomes readily available in a certain area; 2) Educating the public to understand risks of abusing prescription drugs; 3) Expanding access to prevention and treatment programs; 4) Ensuring responsible prescribing practices; 5) Establishing prescription drug take-back programs for safe disposal of unused medication; 6) Implementing real-time monitoring programs and database to identify potential abusers; and, 7) Providing immunity for those seeking help and access to rescue medication.

On the second priority, CCAP proposes: 1) Suspending, rather than terminating, medical assistance benefits for those incarcerated persons; 2) Changing laws to permit inmates to have access to health care coverage through low-cost benefit programs; and, 3) Creating diversion programs for those with mental health and substance-abuse problems as a means of reducing local jail populations.

With no further business to address, Vice Chairman Deiderick declared the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

NEXT CJAB MEETING: Tuesday, April 15, 2014, 11:00 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman Street.