

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Strategic Plan: 2019/2020

Statement of Purpose

Missoula County has been studying the status and possible improvements to the justice systems, including funding a Jail Diversion Master Plan and becoming the recipient of the MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge grant. These, and other efforts have been contributed to by multiple agencies of the State, County and local and Tribal governments who share responsibilities for the effective administration of the criminal justice systems within Missoula County.

Other non-governmental entities also play a critical role in the County's justice system, including, but not limited to victim advocacy, service groups, community treatment providers, and health providers.

In order to best meet the goal of improving criminal justice systems, while protecting the safety of the citizens of the County and improving the social justice, it is necessary that these various allied entities coordinate their efforts and work together to evaluate and identify evidence-based programs and services that will improve our justice system.

On October 25, 2018 Missoula County formed a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to provide a vehicle for all stakeholders to provide an ongoing forum for leaders from the criminal justice agencies, general governments and communities in Missoula County to discuss and prioritize justice and public safety issues, and to coordinate resources to address issues in the most data-guided, cost-effective, and equitable ways possible.

The CJCC will draw upon expertise from local, State, federal, and Tribal agencies, community-based service agencies, victim services, and individuals to develop recommendations and strategies for accomplishing this mission.

The goal of the CJCC is to facilitate systemic changes in the County's entire justice system through a shared commitment and collaboration amongst agencies; while evaluating and promoting continuous improvements within the justice system; all the while, strengthening communication amongst justice agencies to eliminate redundant services and maximize available resources.

On November 5, 2018 Missoula City Council approved a Resolution supporting the mission of the CJCC and believes that the CJCC should work collaboratively to enhance services, improve social justice, strengthen public safety, maximize available resources, and recommend strategies that will reduce crime and increase the public's confidence in the entire criminal justice system in Missoula County.

The Board of County Commissioners intends that the CJCC operate as an independent council and that its members elect their chair and establish such by-laws as they deem necessary.

Strategies:

Strategy One- Safely reduce jail populations:

Goal One: Create Jail Review Team

KPI 1: Establish membership, scope, and schedule of the Jail Review Team.

Goal Two: Implement the Calibrate Program at Missoula County Attorney's Office.

KPI 2: Hire a Calibrate Program Coordinator and establish reporting guidelines, including frequency and content.

Goal Three: Ensure the accurate and consistent use, by all stakeholders, of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) Tool.

KPI 3: Develop a Missoula-specific Decision-Making Framework (DMF) that is responsive to Missoula's issues and populations.

KPI 4: Expand the use of a PSA tool to Municipal and District courts.

KPI 5: Work with Flathead Reentry Program to incorporate its culturally specific assessment tool.

Goal Four: Reduce time from preliminary hearing to arraignment for District Court.

KPI 6: Develop forms and tools to support revised process from 30 days to 14 days.

Goal Five: Develop case processing efficiencies.

KPI 7: Implement a Differentiated Case Management Plan.

KPI 8: Reduce time from preliminary hearing to arraignment.

Goal Six: Implement front-end jail diversion with prosecution.

KPI 9: Hire a Calibrate Program Coordinator.

KPI 10: Begin accepting clients into the program by September 2019.

Goal Seven: Implement the outcomes from the Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) exercise.

KPI 11: Hire a mental health professional to assist with issues identified in the SIM.

Strategy Two - Address racial and ethnic disparities within Missoula County's criminal justice system:

Goal Eight: Provide relevant trainings to professionals working within the criminal justice system.

KPI 12: Provide an Implicit Bias Training.

KPI 13: Provide two trainings regarding historical trauma.

Goal Nine: Support the Native American Liaison position.

KPI 14: Coordinate access to inmates.

KPI 15: Purchase Wellbriety workbooks and other relevant materials.

KPI 16: Identify and begin facilitating cultural programs in the Missoula County Correctional Facility.

KPI 17: Facilitate and enhance collaborations between the Native American Liaison, Missoula Urban Indian Health Center and other service providers.

Strategy Three - Build Data-gathering capacities and interagency collaborations related to criminal justice:

Goal Ten: Stock-take of databases used by relevant criminal justice and social service agencies.

KPI 18: Build alliance, establish MOUs and legally share data, when possible and in agreement with data owners.

KPI 19: Create a Data Analysis Expert Working Group to support the CJCC.

Goal Eleven: Collect specific data relevant to identified strategies.

KPI 20: Validate the PSA DMF with Missoula-specific data quarterly and readjust the DMF accordingly.

KPI 21: Work with relevant stakeholders to establish racial and ethnic data gathering mechanisms within systems that are already being used.

KPI 22: Collect data relevant to the time it takes to assign counsel through the Public Defender's Office.

KPI23: Develop data tracking system for the Calibrate program and monitor effectiveness.

KPI 24: Track race/ethnicity of community members who enter the criminal justice system at all intercepts.

Strategy Four – Enhance Community engagement regarding criminal justice reforms and resources:

Goal Twelve: Create community engagement subcommittee that will advise the CJCC.

KPI 25: Work with an existing group and/or identified community leaders from all niches to create an effective engagement strategy regarding the CJCC.

Goal Thirteen: Ensure the CJCC Department follows communications best practices.

KPI 26: Ensure timely release of CJCC meeting agendas and minutes to relevant City and County entities.

Strategy Five - Enhance communication and collaboration between criminal justice system stakeholders:

Goal Fourteen: Ensure the CJCC and Expert Working Groups have relevant stakeholder representation.

KPI 27: Annual review of CJCC voting members, CJCC non-voting members, Expert Working Groups, and Expert Working Group membership to ensure a dynamic and relevant criminal justice reform response.

KPI 28: Ensure all stakeholders have had formal training in the PSA and the DMF within the current Strategic Plan time period.