

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Meeting: July 23, 2021 from 10:30 am-12 pm
Virtual Meeting-Microsoft Teams

1. Welcome

a. Roll Call of Members, Voting and Non-voting

Members/Alternatives present at the meeting:

District Court Judge Leslie Halligan; Missoula County Commission Alternate Anne Hughes; Justice of the Peace Judge Landee Holloway; Missoula Police Chief Jaeson White; Office of the Public Defender Koan Mercer and Myshell Lyday; Missoula City Council Representative Julie Merritt; Missoula County Detention Center Lieutenant Alex Hall; Missoula County Attorney Kirsten Pabst; Partnership Health Center Director Laurie Francis; Missoula County Clerk of District Court Shirley Faust and Court Alternate Amy McGhee; Youth Court Chief Probation Officer Christine Kowalski; Jenny Daniel CJD Justice Initiatives Program Manager; Keithi Worthington-City Attorney; Tanya Campbell CJD Victim Services manager; PHC Terri Kendrick; Montana James Community Development Division Deputy Director

Additional Participants: Kim White MCSO Reentry Coordinator; PHC Medical Legal Partnership Coordinator Melissa Vawter; CJD Amanda Schrantz and Morgan Haynie; Public Defender Stephen Thompson; Municipal Court Jon Cammack; Justice Court Jessie Buresh; Jail Diversion Coordinator Ray Reiser; Grants Administrator Erin Kautz; District Court Judge Shane Vannatta; Tanya Sharbono; First Step Mary Pat Hansen; Suzin Kratina; Terry Kendrick; Courtney Callaghan; Jim Morton; Julie Merritt; Kim Lahiff; Nancie Wittmier; Eli Parker; Theresa Williams

b. Acknowledgement of Country

Judge Leslie Halligan: "I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional homelands of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille and to acknowledge those Tribes' contributions to area both historically and currently."

c. Approval of March 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Christine Kowalski motion to approve, second by Shirley Faust. No corrections. Unanimous approval.

2. Business

a. Policy construction

- Review voting provisions; determine when voting is required
- Review executive committee structure and begin interim meetings
- Members can add items to CJCC agenda by emailing/contacting Chair or Coordinator

3. Information Sharing and Presentation

a. Thank you CJCC members who participated in the Stakeholder meeting retreat

- **We are continuing to assess our work**
- **Proposed guiding principles for CJCC work**

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- **Goal is to build capacity with all the CJCC programs and all the Community Justice Partners while striving to create a more equitable, effective and fiscally responsible justice system**
- **Working on linking partners and programs; identifying where each fits in the system and how to increase collaboration within the system**
- **Focus on improving relationships, establishing deeper engagement with regard to stakeholders and community members, establishing clear priorities and goals with a feasible action plan**

b. **Jenny Daniel-Justice Initiatives Program Manager**

- See *CJCC Program Manager Presentation PowerPoint under the CJCC Meeting Agendas and papers located here:*
<https://www.missoulacounty.us/government/cjcc>

c. **Kim White-Reentry Coordinator**

- 20+ years' experience in probation and parole
- The Community supported reentry program was developed to address pretrial detention
- Goal of assisting and reducing the pretrial population within jail, provide innovated strategies to address high needs, high demands population by accessing services in the community
- Target population for the program are individuals not participating in the pretrial release program and not under the supervision of Probation and Parole
- Eligibility extended to individuals not charged with a violent felony or misdemeanor offense; program will focus primarily on individuals who have established a pattern of frequent interaction with Justice providers and are in and out of the jail more frequently than others
- Team will be comprised of Kim White, and a Community Supported Reentry Program Specialist to work as a case manager
- Once individuals who meet the criteria are found, an individualized reentry plan will be developed while they are in custody and their needs assessed using a screening form. The reentry plan will collaborate with individuals in the community who can meet their needs
- Assess and work collaboratively with the individual to ensure they are making appointments and touch base with their service providers for updates. Reminding them of their future court dates. Acting like a case manager and working with participants to keep them housed in the community pending the outcome of the court case
- Once outcome of court case is rendered ensure a smooth handoff to community providers so they can continue to remain free from future criminal activity
- Referrals can be made from Justice Partners via the referral form and from the jail staff

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- Available to individuals from all courts

d. Christine Kowalski -Youth Court Chief Probation Officer

- Graduated from University of Montana with two degrees
- Probation officer for 15 years; focusing on mental health and other treatment placements; recently assumed youth on conditional release (parole)
- As Chief Probation Officer is focused on working with all agencies to meet the needs of our families and our youth.
- Goal of improving prevention through intervention to offer assistance before youth enter the justice system. Youth Court currently manages Youth who receive criminal citations, also Youth in Need of Intervention, which are Youth cited for status offenses, like runaway or ungovernable. MIPs are processed through Justice and City Court
- Have 2 hearings officers who deal with Youth who receive citations; sanctions may be warnings, diversion, formal or informal probation
- 4 supervision officers (plus Christine, who carries a case load)- goal is to provide community supervision, ensure community safety and compliance and provide families with services they need to address the issues within the family and the youth. The officer assesses what family needs and provides programming and referrals.
- Placement officer finds appropriate placements for youth based on their needs
- House arrest program-Diversion program to release Youth from detention and provide strict supervision while in the community. Program is staffed by 1 supervision officer and 3 probation officers.
- See Youth Court 07.21.20 Offense Report, 07.21.21 Offense Report and 12.31.20 Youth Court Yearly Report card under the CJCC Meeting Agendas and papers located here: <https://www.missoulacounty.us/government/cjcc>
- Numbers changed during COVID-Adjusting to the changes trying to meet the families where they are at as charges change. Working on plans specific to those issues.
- Currently dealing with lower numbers of cases, but more complex Youth; criminal activity is more severe. The chronic 8-10% are mostly carrying weapons. Referrals include youth with severe mental health issues, often who have parents with mental health issues and criminal involvement.
- Trying to provide services to plug the holes where funding has been cut to improve numbers and help families in the community be better
- Youth Court has seen a larger number of Native American youth, and is working to respect family traditions while offering culturally competent services.
- Fund the Crisis diversion program and look for referrals. Referrals from Schools, parents, Criminal Justice System-law enforcement and others

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- e. [Montana James- Deputy Director and representative for the Community Development Division at the City of Missoula](#)
- *Reaching home program (what is this??)*
 - Strategy to end homelessness in Missoula
 - Housing funding programs
 - Climate action work and brownfields redevelopment

[Public Comment:](#)

- a. [Partnership is continuing to accept clients legal and health related partnerships](#)
- August 06, 2021 clinic to deal with Civil Harming issues including driver's license reinstatement and case expungement.
 - Opened a Community Health Center at the site of the Food Bank; open to the community M-F; provides medical care and will be adding dental hygiene and behavior health
- b. [Kristen Pabst Recalibration program was recently recognized as one of the innovative programs for the National Association of County's](#)
- Numbers are bigger than expected
 - Applying for grant funding to expand and include more chemical dependency evaluations, if awarded will increase staff. Program is searching for a larger, more neutral location
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- c. [NAMI has started family support groups again for friend and family members involved with someone with a severe mental illness](#)
- First Tuesday evening in August and depending on how often individuals want to meet may move to twice a month or even more
 - Family to Family Training 8-week training starting in October
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- d. [Chair asked partners and community members involved in programs to contact Jenny with information so that programs can be included in the services continuum.](#)

Next Meeting: End of September, 2021 at 10:30