



**Champaign County Community Justice Task Force
Monday, July 2, 2012 – 6:00pm
Shields Meeting Room – Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

Chair: Michael Richards
Members: Scott Bennett, Lynn Branham, Mark Driscoll, Sheila Ferguson, James Kilgore, Julian Rappaport, Benita Rollins-Gay, William Sullivan

Agenda Item

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Public Participation**
- V. Approval of Minutes – June 4, 2012**
- VI. Presentation: McLean County Pretrial Services Program**
- VII. Review of Task Force Purpose:**
 - a. To gather information on current programs and costs to prevent incarceration, reduce recidivism, and promote rehabilitation of prisoners.
 - b. To look for additional programs (and potential costs) that the County does not utilize that may bolster current programs.
 - c. Provide Report including suggestions and information to County Board in October 2012.
- VIII. Discussion – Next Steps**
- IX. Other Business**
- X. Next Meeting Date – Monday, August 6, 2012 – 6:00pm**
- XI. Adjourn**

1 **COMMUNITY JUSTICE TASK FORCE MINUTES**

2 **Monday, June 4, 2012 – 6pm**

3 **Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Admin. Center**

4 **1776 E. Washington, Urbana, IL**

5
6 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ferguson, Driscoll, Bennett, Rappaport, Sullivan, Rollins-Gay, Richards,
7 Kilgore, Branham

8
9 **MEMBERS ABSENT:**None

10
11 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Pattsie Petrie, Ralph Langenheim, Pius Weibel (County Board members), Deb Busey
12 (County Administrator), Sheriff Walsh, Allen Jones, Nancy Griffin, Sue Swain & Harmony Goorley
13 (Sheriff's office), other members of the public

14
15 **Call to Order**

16
17 Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 6:11pm.

18
19 **Roll Call**

20
21 A roll call was taken and all members were present.

22
23 **Approval of Agenda**

24
25 **Motion** by Ferguson to approve the agenda for the meeting; seconded by Driscoll. Kilgore said he
26 had submitted a paper about cities that have jail improvement projects that were reversed and would like it
27 discussed. Richards said it can be discussed item 8. Sullivan said he created an evaluation sheet for each of
28 the program reports. **Motion carried.**

29
30 **Public Participation**

31
32 Pattsie Petrie mentioned she attended a town hall meeting on May 11 at the City of Urbana building.
33 She wanted to bring this committee's attention to what was brought up at that meeting. She mentioned there
34 were speakers there from Monroe County, IN and they had been successful in accomplishing some
35 community programs. She also said Chris Evans put together a helpful history of the quarter cent sales tax.
36 She said it would be good to know the background of the quarter cent.

37
38 Reverend Evelyn Underwood said she would have to leave later this evening, but felt it important to
39 be here to encourage the committee in its work.

40
41 Pius Weibel said the County's Drug Court graduation ceremony is Monday, June 18 at the Urbana
42 Civic Center and all are invited to attend.

43
44 **Approval of Minutes**

45
46 **Motion** by Bennett to approve the minutes of May 1, 2012, as presented; seconded by Sullivan.
47 **Motion carried.**

48
49 **Presentation: Current Programs Provided in Champaign County Correctional Centers**

50 VA Program

51 Alcoholics Anonymous

52 Church/Bible Study

- 53 Friday Prayer
- 54 GED
- 55 Healthcare Facilitation Program
- 56 Inmate Library

57
58 Nancy Griffin, Program Coordinator at the jails, spoke to the committee about a number of various
59 programs already in place in the jails. She said these are volunteer based programs provided at the jail at no
60 cost. She has been in this position since 1989. She said there are programs that come and go. They are
61 always in the process of program development. Sullivan asked if any of the programs actually reduce
62 incarceration. She felt they do, but she does not have actual statistics. She thought the GED program is a
63 success. She said that Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) are good programs
64 that do have statistics. Branham asked if there was a GED program in place for women. Griffin said it is
65 available currently only to the men, because there aren't enough women to hold a formal class. She said
66 they do provide some training with tutors for those women who are working towards their GED. It was
67 noted the GED test cannot be taken in the jail, and the men can take the test at a public site.
68

69 Rappaport asked for a percentage of participants in the programs. Griffin stated it varies depending
70 on the program. She said it could be as low as 5% and as high as 60%. She noted a 60-80% constant
71 turnout for the library. She noted that the church program services are heavily attended. AA participation
72 is a smaller percentage and NA even smaller. Participation in all programs is non-mandated and they rely
73 on volunteers from the community to run the programs. There is a formal process in becoming a volunteer.
74 In order to implement any new programs, it is recommended to approach the Sheriff, who then turns over
75 that work to Ms. Griffin.
76

77 The VA program is provided by the VA Program in Danville. Only veterans only are eligible for
78 participation. There are weekly AA meetings for men and women and the local AA chapter provides the
79 volunteers and the literature. If needed, individual appointments are scheduled. She said that NA does
80 have a meeting for men and women once a week and they also provide NA literature.
81

82 GED is available to the men. The providers are Parkland College and Adult Ed and provide 12 hours
83 of education each week for 16 weeks. Project Read does provide supplements and works with math in
84 particular. Project Read is also a tutoring program for the women once a week.
85

86 Healthcare facilitation is provided by a medical doctor and several ministers from the Vineyard
87 Church. They don't supplement or take place of the medical staff, but provide medical information in terms
88 of diet, regular health care, exercise, etc. This is provided for both the men and the women. Library is held
89 once a week at each facility. Volunteers come in each day.
90

91 Friday evening prayer is provided for the population from the central Illinois mosques. Muslim
92 literature, prayer rugs, etc. are provided. The jail's chaplain is Jesus is the Way Ministry and is provided at
93 both facilities. They provide bible study and bibles to both men and women, as well as individual services
94 as requested.
95

96 Richards asked the Sheriff if any of the programs are affected by the physical condition of the
97 facility. Sheriff Walsh said, in terms of the facilities, they have one room plus the library downtown in
98 which to hold all the programs. He said there is also only one room for all programs at the satellite. He
99 said the main issue is having space to hold these programs. He said in terms of enough medical or hospital
100 rooms they are very limited on space. Their only way of having a private area for consults is an empty cell.
101

102 Harmony Goorley, Mental Health Administrator at the jail, talked about her staff and their daily
103 duties. She and two part-timers do a review each day on new intakes. They review the assessments of the
104 intake officers and determine the appropriate housing. She said the first couple of days are the highest for

105 suicide risks. There is a psychiatrist on-call twenty-four hours. They assess correctional staff referrals and
106 provide brief counseling. They also assist with services so the inmates have care beyond incarceration.
107 Rappaport asked if they would rather have more staff or more space. She responded they certainly need a
108 better use of space, because of the need for segregation of the mental case inmates. If an inmate is found
109 unfit, it can be up to a three month wait for hospital space and they have to stay in the jail facility until then.
110 It was noted that jails in Illinois cannot force medication of any kind. Allen Jones stressed the mental health
111 staff at the jails are not there to treat or provide therapy, but act more as triage and determining the needs of
112 the inmates. Discussion continued.

113
114 Sue Swain, Administrative Nurse at the jail described a variety of illnesses. The illnesses differ in
115 severity. She noted the acuity has skyrocketed in the last several years. She said they have had many HIV
116 and AIDS patients, as well many heart attack patients. They have patients with gunshot wounds, pregnant
117 patients, patients with diabetes, COPD, strokes, amputees, cancer, dialysis and a large variety of other
118 problems that vary in severity. She said they recently spent four hours training with the officers in some of
119 the issues when nursing staff is not available. She said that HIV patients are challenging because their
120 medication is extremely expensive. She stated they are in need of hospital rooms for those patients that
121 require special care, such as wounds, dialysis, etc. She said that nursing staff is responsible for passing the
122 medication and are in the jail for twelve hours each day. They assess patients that put in requests for any
123 health problem that may arise. They go through the booking sheets and do assessments on those that are
124 needed. The doctor comes in once a week and he will refer any need for special services. She said several
125 patients have been referred for surgery. The Sheriff added that officers need to be made available to go to
126 the hospital for ER or hospital admissions when that happens. Branham asked about pretrial services and
127 wanted the committee to think about these issues or alternatives that might decrease population and in turn
128 increase mental health or medical services. Sullivan said, as a citizen of the County, appreciates the hard
129 work of the medical staff.

130
131 Jones added with regard to some of the medical conditions, they do not have cells or electricity in the
132 cells, so if someone has a CPAP machine, they have to allow the inmate come into the booking area and
133 inmate populations are crossing. He said this creates a physical facility problem. They have too much
134 limited space. Nurse Swain said they do have patients that use their conditions or who will refuse
135 medication or medical attention, etc in order to "punish" the officers and other staff for their incarceration.

136
137 The Sheriff said they can house over 300 inmates only if the inmates are of the right mix and can be
138 housed together. Captain Jones estimated this day they had 205 inmates and 21 in booking. They have 7
139 on electronic home detention. Their average low of female inmates is 10 and a high of 25. They have 65
140 correctional officers for the two facilities and they do their best to keep cases moving. There are
141 approximately 40 inmates serving a sentence and the rest are pre-trial inmates. The committee asked for a
142 crime background on the inmates, but Jones said they do not do that on a daily basis. He will get that
143 information for a future meeting. The Sheriff stressed that a listing will not give a history of each of those
144 inmates. Discussion continued about the home electronic detention system and how that is administered.

145
146 **Reports on Current Community Programs**
147 **Regional Planning Commission**

148
149 No questions were asked about this program.

150
151 **Champaign County Drug Court Fund**

152
153 No questions were asked about this program.

154
155 **Prairie Center Health Systems Drug Court**

156

157 Sullivan asked what the overlap was between the County Drug Court Fund and the Prairie Center
158 Health Systems Drug Court. Driscoll said the drug court fund is available to assist clients with specific
159 needs, such as access to medical or dental services, education, employment or training and rent assistance.
160 The Prairie Center Drug Court Program provides the counseling and another range of services as noted in
161 their attachment. Driscoll stated the two work together. Branham said she had spoken to the Sheriff and
162 his staff there are two areas in particular would she would like more specific feedback relating to how those
163 with mental health issues and those with drug problems are dealt with. She wondered if there was more we
164 could do.

165
166 Prairie Center Health Systems Mental Health Court

167
168 No questions were asked about this program.

169
170 Community Elements Adult Recovery
171 Community Elements Crisis, Access, Benefits & Engagement
172 Community Elements TIMES Center
173 Community Elements Available Services Chart
174 Community Elements Report of Additional Resources

175
176 Kilgore asked, in general, what capacity they have to expand their programs. Ferguson
177 mentioned that last week the case management team had four people on the wait list. A number of the
178 people they serve are on Medicaid. The maximum they can have approved is four without approval. She
179 elaborated a little further on some of their programs. Kilgore said a part of the problem is to look at the
180 system as a whole and put alternatives together that constitute doing something different to solve the
181 problem. He said ideally they should be able to put alternatives together something in scale to what the jail
182 is in need of, rather than tweaking some of the problems.

183
184 State's Attorney Adult Diversion Program

185
186 Bennett said the eligibility requirements for participating is being a first-time felony offender, have
187 no prior convictions and be 18 years of age or older. Rollins-Gay wanted to discuss how this program
188 affects kids. She said she is just learning of this program. She asked if this program would benefit
189 someone who may have been arrested as a juvenile. Bennett said this applies to adult felonies. He said the
190 more diversion programs we have, it may expand to juveniles in the future. Brief discussion continued.

191
192 Rappaport said he feels a need for summary and think about these problems as a system. He felt in
193 order to alleviate some of the problems in the jail, the programs outside need to be examined, and build
194 stronger programs. Branham thinks there is much that can be done at the local level, but there may be a
195 need to reach out at a state level.

196
197 Discussion – Next Steps

198
199 Bennett asked the committee if they would like the group that runs the pre-trial services in McLean
200 County thinks to give a presentation at the next meeting. There, the pre-trial staff meet with the person in
201 as a way get information and quantify in some way the risks that person may not show up for court. Then
202 they put together that information with a score that helps to possibly lower the bond. The committee agreed
203 to put this item on next month's agenda.

204
205 Kilgore said he circulated a piece about three counties that opted to fund programs rather than build a
206 new jail. He said if we look at what the key measures at the people in charge of the programs went to, pre-
207 trial services was a big component.

208

209 Ferguson felt it best to have McLean County and also someone from the Champaign County State's
210 Attorney's office, as well as someone from the probation office, talk about the different pre-trial and
211 diversion programs in place. They also talked about inviting Judge Ford and Judge Klaus.
212

213 Ferguson stated the deadline on the RFP had passed. Ms. Busey described the process. She said
214 the deadline was May 25 and that there were eight responses. There will be nine evaluators reviewing the
215 responses and the consolidated response will be presented at the County Board's Committee of the Whole on
216 June 12th and they will determine the top ranked firms to make a presentation on June 26th. Sullivan stated
217 the problem seems larger than the physical state of the jail facilities. He wondered if information could be
218 provided on the maintenance of both the jail facilities. He wanted dollars spent on the maintenance of the
219 downtown facility and to have it broken down in two ways, being the dollars spent per square foot and per
220 bed. Rappaport asked if this committee could look at the RFPs. Branham said her understanding was that
221 the hired consultant would meet with this committee. Busey noted that the hiring decision would be made
222 by the County Board and not the Jail Improvement Team or the Community Justice Task Force. She briefly
223 explained the RFP process. Brief discussion continued.
224

225 Bennett said he appreciated the tour of the downtown facility and would like a tour of the satellite
226 facility in the future. Kilgore said he was curious how to cull together all of the information received this
227 evening. Richards stated his hopes of getting the Probation and State's Attorney's offices for their
228 information and determine what programs are working and what may not be working. He said it would be
229 more useful to find out what the County can do.
230

231 **Open Meetings Act Requirements**

232
233 Richards reminded the committee members they should take the on-line course on the Open
234 Meetings Act. Busey explained the committee should not engage in discussion by email, as they are subject
235 to the Open Meetings Act.
236

237 **Other Business**

238
239 The next meeting is Monday, July 2nd with the possibility of a Satellite Jail tour and a discussion
240 about pre-trial services. Discussion continued. Consensus of committee to hold the tour on a day other
241 than the meeting date due to time constraints.
242

243 **Adjournment**

244
245 Richards declared the meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.
246
247

248 Respectfully submitted,

249
250 Ranae Wolken
251 Recording Secretary
252