

WEBVTT

00:07:57.712 --> 00:08:08.712

All right, we will now call to order this evening's study session of the Champaign County Mental Health Board, Wednesday, October 16th, 2024, 545 p.m.

00:08:09.345 --> 00:08:15.345

At the Shields Carter Room of the Brookens Administration Building, Urbana, Illinois. Can I get a roll call, please?

00:08:16.916 --> 00:08:18.916

Dr. Lisa Liggins Chambers.

00:08:19.363 --> 00:08:21.363

Chris Miner. Here.

00:08:21.974 --> 00:08:25.974

Tony Nichols. Here. Joe Omo Osagie. Here.

00:08:25.848 --> 00:08:27.848

Elaine Palencia. Here.

00:08:29.289 --> 00:08:30.289

Jen Straub.

00:08:31.366 --> 00:08:32.366

Here.

00:08:34.681 --> 00:08:36.681

Hi, Jen. Jane's

00:08:38.740 --> 00:08:42.740

Jane's not here. Dr. Jon Paul Youakim? Here.

00:08:42.821 --> 00:08:44.821

and Molly McClay. Here.

00:08:44.443 --> 00:08:54.443

Okay. We would now, I now am I understanding that our board member, Jen Straub, is online

00:08:54.379 --> 00:09:02.379

I would like to entertain a motion to permit her to join the study session virtually. Can I get a motion for that?

00:09:02.387 --> 00:09:06.387

I so move. Thank you very much. Can I get a second? Seconded.

00:09:07.125 --> 00:09:13.125

All right, motion is on the table to allow our board member, Jen Straub, to participate remotely. All those in favor say aye.

00:09:13.564 --> 00:09:15.564

All those opposed, same sign.

00:09:16.194 --> 00:09:20.194

Ayes have it, motion carries, and Ms. Straub can participate online.

00:09:20.982 --> 00:09:25.982

Next, we have the approval of the agenda on page one of our packet.

00:09:26.192 --> 00:09:31.192

I'd like to make a motion to approve the agenda as written. Can I get a second?

00:09:30.921 --> 00:09:35.921

Second. Any discussion on the agenda? Anything we need to change?

00:09:38.782 --> 00:09:42.782

Seeing none, all those in favor of approving the agenda say aye.

00:09:43.732 --> 00:09:45.732

All those in oppose, same sign.

00:09:46.332 --> 00:09:49.332

Ayes have it. The agenda is approved.

00:09:49.778 --> 00:09:54.778

Next, we will move to agency or citizen input and public participation.

00:09:54.969 --> 00:10:04.969

As always, all are welcome to attend the board study sessions to observe and offer thoughts during this time. And so anybody who would like to speak.

00:10:04.675 --> 00:10:09.675

You may be limited to five minutes per person or 20 minutes total.

00:10:09.964 --> 00:10:14.964

Is anybody in the room or online who would like to speak now

00:10:33.126 --> 00:10:39.126

that would like to participate and add input into the topic that you are discussing this evening?

00:10:39.618 --> 00:10:42.618

This is Alex and he um

00:10:42.504 --> 00:10:48.504

is on drug court and resides in our men's house. And this is Liz, and she is actually a drug court graduate.

00:10:49.205 --> 00:10:55.205

So congratulations to her for that. And she resides in one of our advanced shelters, and they're going to give their impact statements to you.

00:10:58.110 --> 00:11:00.110
impacts.

00:11:01.558 --> 00:11:06.558
I was not prepared to give an impact statement.

00:11:09.498 --> 00:11:11.498
So...

00:11:12.618 --> 00:11:14.618
the justice program

00:11:15.212 --> 00:11:17.212
for me has been

00:11:18.860 --> 00:11:20.860
And in and out, I was in and out.

00:11:21.389 --> 00:11:23.389
um and

00:11:23.626 --> 00:11:26.626
I see Shannon here today, Shannon Siders.

00:11:26.627 --> 00:11:28.627
She was my probation officer.

00:11:31.760 --> 00:11:33.760
I went to jail so many times that

00:11:33.828 --> 00:11:35.828
They kept giving me probation.

00:11:35.633 --> 00:11:38.633
They kept giving me probation and Shannon -

00:11:38.686 --> 00:11:40.686
She was there for me.

00:11:40.684 --> 00:11:44.684
And she would call my mom. She would worry about me. I'd go to treatment.

00:11:44.752 --> 00:11:46.752
I would come out.

00:11:46.830 --> 00:11:48.830
And...

00:11:48.772 --> 00:11:52.772
I didn't take it seriously, and I ended up going to prison,

00:11:53.378 --> 00:11:56.378
And when I got out.

00:11:57.529 --> 00:11:59.529
I...

00:12:00.024 --> 00:12:04.024
transferred to Peoria, and I called back to Champaign County,

00:12:04.782 --> 00:12:07.782
And Shannon's still there. And I caught up with her.

00:12:07.235 --> 00:12:11.235
And about six months ago.

00:12:14.099 --> 00:12:17.099
I believe I had another charge and they had another

00:12:17.169 --> 00:12:19.169
offerred me drug court.

00:12:18.733 --> 00:12:22.733
They were done offering me probation.

00:12:23.408 --> 00:12:26.408
When I accepted drug court.

00:12:26.601 --> 00:12:28.601
I started to take it more seriously.

00:12:28.555 --> 00:12:30.555
And when I reported.

00:12:30.992 --> 00:12:36.992
to meet my drug court officer, I saw Shannon and she is the head of
probation now and

00:12:37.489 --> 00:12:39.489
you know.

00:12:41.888 --> 00:12:44.888
It's motivating to see

00:12:44.560 --> 00:12:47.560
growth and progress and

00:12:47.263 --> 00:12:51.263
a structure that works

00:12:52.016 --> 00:12:54.016
for people because a lot of times

00:12:54.338 --> 00:13:00.338
I think the justice system may catch a bad rep or something.

00:13:01.092 --> 00:13:03.092

Like that they're just wanting to send people away.

00:13:02.584 --> 00:13:07.584

And I am six months clean now.

00:13:07.424 --> 00:13:11.424

I'm about to start work. I'm about to go back to school

00:13:11.814 --> 00:13:13.814

And just six months ago, I couldn't stop,

00:13:13.548 --> 00:13:17.548

you know, using drugs for a day to save my life and um

00:13:17.562 --> 00:13:20.562

You know, I want to thank the um

00:13:20.564 --> 00:13:23.564

court system, the judge and

00:13:23.806 --> 00:13:25.806

And the drug court team

00:13:25.383 --> 00:13:29.383

And so at home especially.

00:13:30.121 --> 00:13:32.121

I went to treatment six months ago.

00:13:31.511 --> 00:13:34.511

And I...

00:13:35.318 --> 00:13:38.318

got on the phone with Max White, my

00:13:39.145 --> 00:13:41.145

my drug court officer, and

00:13:40.360 --> 00:13:43.360

Before this, I was homeless.

00:13:43.971 --> 00:13:47.971

a daily drug user and in treatment, I called Max.

00:13:47.533 --> 00:13:51.533

And he said, hey, I think I got a place for you to go and um

00:13:52.296 --> 00:13:54.296

I spoke with Cedar King.

00:13:54.292 --> 00:13:56.292

At CU at Home.

00:13:56.350 --> 00:13:58.350

And it changed my life.

00:13:58.476 --> 00:14:04.476

I had never completed treatment until somebody believed in me and offered me

00:14:04.662 --> 00:14:06.662

a program

00:14:06.780 --> 00:14:09.780

that is going to help me get back on my feet.

00:14:10.180 --> 00:14:12.180

And...

00:14:12.024 --> 00:14:15.024

it's impacted my life a great deal this far.

00:14:14.189 --> 00:14:17.189

And I still think I have a lot of growth

00:14:17.528 --> 00:14:19.528

in me and in me.

00:14:20.021 --> 00:14:22.021

I'm thankful for everyone here.

00:14:24.218 --> 00:14:27.218

That's all I got. Thank you so much.

00:14:29.163 --> 00:14:31.163

Hi, I'm Elizabeth.

00:14:31.449 --> 00:14:36.449

So I thought I was unfixable.

00:14:36.588 --> 00:14:38.588

And...

00:14:39.017 --> 00:14:43.017

I didn't realize that anyone would help me. I didn't know how to ask for help.

00:14:42.521 --> 00:14:50.521

And Liz and Judge Rosenbaum said, you know, we're going to extend you an olive branch and give you a chance.

00:14:50.601 --> 00:14:55.601

And they did for me, you know, what I couldn't do for myself at the time.

00:14:56.084 --> 00:15:00.084

I couldn't quit the lifestyle using and um

00:15:01.089 --> 00:15:07.089

They, you know, did it the perfect way for me. They put me in jail and then in rehab and

00:15:06.455 --> 00:15:11.455
Through drug court, I learned, you know, structure.

00:15:11.712 --> 00:15:14.712
Yes, at first I found it very annoying.

00:15:15.056 --> 00:15:22.056
you know all the meetings, all the classes, but eventually I started learning from something from, you know, the classes

00:15:22.829 --> 00:15:26.829
you know the responsible choices you know they taught me

00:15:26.395 --> 00:15:32.395
I learned, you know, I thought I had a different moral compass than everyone else

00:15:32.512 --> 00:15:37.512
Because of all the things that had happened to me in my childhood, I thought that made it okay.

00:15:37.330 --> 00:15:40.330
The way I was behaving and

00:15:40.398 --> 00:15:45.398
So those classes helped me learn to take, you know, accountability

00:15:45.961 --> 00:15:48.961
But also realize there are some people out there that could help.

00:15:48.837 --> 00:15:53.837
You know, I never thought that my probation officer would become like my buddy

00:15:53.784 --> 00:15:58.784
you know like my person, like I would want to call them even when good things are happening

00:15:59.609 --> 00:16:03.609
Like, Max, guess what happened? Or, you know, Max, I'm struggling with this and

00:16:04.050 --> 00:16:08.050
You know, genuinely like be excited for me and, you know, um.

00:16:08.602 --> 00:16:12.602
Like when he told me I was going to be graduating drug court early, I started bawling.

00:16:12.812 --> 00:16:16.812
He was like, you know, why are you so upset? I'm like, I'm scared and

00:16:16.833 --> 00:16:19.833
like you guys have become my people.

00:16:23.762 --> 00:16:26.762
And then so I graduated drug court.

00:16:27.590 --> 00:16:29.590
And...

00:16:29.638 --> 00:16:31.638
I joined CU at home.

00:16:31.719 --> 00:16:36.719
And they helped me learn how to become an adult.

00:16:36.459 --> 00:16:43.459
You know, the stuff that most people don't have to think about like day to day just you guys you know

00:16:43.777 --> 00:16:51.777
No, I guess I call them normal people just know like this is what you do in your day. You go to work, you pay your bills, you take care of this.

00:16:51.200 --> 00:16:57.200
like all those kind of skills I've had to relearn how to do those.

00:16:57.903 --> 00:17:00.903
And so, you know, they have all these different people, you know.

00:17:00.966 --> 00:17:04.966
I call them my financial planner, but they have someone there

00:17:04.353 --> 00:17:10.353
that has helped me learn how to budget. I live just

00:17:10.282 --> 00:17:12.282
how to get through the day.

00:17:12.536 --> 00:17:18.536
They're trying to help me live for the future. What are the steps that you're going to need?

00:17:18.352 --> 00:17:23.352
So I try to get them to let me live with them forever, but they said no.

00:17:23.367 --> 00:17:33.367
But, you know, it's like, you know, they take, you know, Cedar's my case manager, and I've never met somebody that, uh,

00:17:34.176 --> 00:17:37.176
has been able to understand and help me understand trauma so well.

00:17:38.260 --> 00:17:41.260

And, you know, they got me set up with

00:17:41.697 --> 00:17:48.697

therapy and psychiatrist and I take a woman's class with them for

00:17:48.763 --> 00:17:50.763

codependency.

00:17:50.943 --> 00:17:54.943

Which has been very helpful because I took that class with drug court

00:17:54.962 --> 00:17:58.962

But I'm learning even more from it the second time around.

00:17:59.272 --> 00:18:03.272

And just, you know, the group of girls and

00:18:04.274 --> 00:18:09.274

You know, something I'll never be able to forget is, you know, see you at home, give me my first home.

00:18:16.575 --> 00:18:19.575

that no one can take away from me.

00:18:19.787 --> 00:18:24.787

It's the first place that I've been safe, that nothing's bad has ever happened to me there.

00:18:24.392 --> 00:18:30.392

you know um and i had a roommate for a while. I don't have one right now.

00:18:30.459 --> 00:18:34.459

And it's been a great learning lesson.

00:18:34.922 --> 00:18:36.922

to learn how to be

00:18:38.116 --> 00:18:40.116

okay with myself.

00:18:40.367 --> 00:18:49.367

So as you can tell, I'm crying, but I'm just learning, you know, this year because this is my, I have almost two years clean.

00:18:50.244 --> 00:18:56.244

just learning how to deal with becoming, figure out who I am and dealing with my emotions.

00:18:56.739 --> 00:18:58.739

in feelings and stuff.

00:18:59.871 --> 00:19:05.871

So all the different things that they're having me do is helping me get to that point the meetings

00:19:05.803 --> 00:19:07.803
Just the community.

00:19:07.484 --> 00:19:12.484
you know, on drug court, I say I had a team of people. They say it takes a village

00:19:12.484 --> 00:19:17.484
I had that village in drug court and now I have that village with CU at home

00:19:18.047 --> 00:19:22.047
And it's just it's just amazing feeling to have

00:19:22.237 --> 00:19:27.237
all these people around you trying to help you become a better version of yourself.

00:19:27.929 --> 00:19:29.929
And so I'm just very grateful for them.

00:19:31.852 --> 00:19:33.852
That's it.

00:19:35.860 --> 00:19:40.860
Thank you both so much for sharing. We really, really appreciate it.

00:19:41.928 --> 00:19:47.928
Are there any others in the room or online who would like to share during this portion?

00:19:53.247 --> 00:19:58.247
And we will have opportunity for public input later on as well.

00:19:58.678 --> 00:20:01.678
So next, we will move to chairperson's comments.

00:20:01.989 --> 00:20:06.989
And I want to first say my name is Molly McClay. I'm the president of the Champaign County Mental Health Board.

00:20:07.119 --> 00:20:20.119
And welcome you all to this event. But I am now turning over chairmanship of this meeting to our fellow board member, Chris Miner, and I will defer comments to him.

00:20:21.743 --> 00:20:23.743
Okay. Hello, everybody. Thanks for coming.

00:20:23.355 --> 00:20:33.355
I had some I prepared comments. I don't want to talk too much about myself, but I kind of got to switch things up. So the reason I'm chairing this meeting is because this is kind of my area of expertise.

00:20:33.347 --> 00:20:38.347

I have a bunch of degrees, but currently I'm halfway through my PhD in criminology at UIC.

00:20:39.295 --> 00:20:46.295

That's my academic background, my professional background. I've worked with a lot of anti-incarceration reentry type organizations.

00:20:46.356 --> 00:20:51.356

First followers, women in need recovery, dream, and a bunch of them in Chicago as well.

00:20:52.220 --> 00:20:54.220

And lastly, my personal experience.

00:20:55.214 --> 00:20:56.214

Been out of prison 15 years.

00:20:56.659 --> 00:21:01.659

I've been in the Champaign downtown jail, the Urbana Downtown Jail, and the satellite jail.

00:21:03.073 --> 00:21:11.073

And there was no resources when I got out. I found all the groups I was talking about well after. And I know how hard it is to do it on your own. There were times

00:21:11.110 --> 00:21:28.110

Five years out, I couldn't get an apartment. I thought about going back and I don't want anyone else to be in that situation. So hopefully here we can talk about some partnerships, see what is and is not working in the community. And I'm part of your tribe too. Look me up, Chris Miner. I've got cards. I'll find you. And I will assure you -

00:21:27.542 --> 00:21:39.542

You're not asking for advice, but I heard you mention school. I don't know if you're interested in school. Academia is very forgiving. 15 years ago, I was in prison. Now I teach criminology 101 at a major university. It can be done.

00:21:40.278 --> 00:21:52.278

So to stay positive and don't worry about crying in public. I do it all the time. And I'm about to do it again. So it's all good because testimonials and stories are what's going to change everything. You have to let people know that

00:21:52.899 --> 00:21:59.899

we're not the bad people. We just screwed up. We have to get another chance. Some of us don't even get the first chance, but we got to do something.

00:21:59.466 --> 00:22:06.466

So on that, where we're going to work the logistics of this, I have a list of everyone that's here.

00:22:06.648 --> 00:22:11.648

And I'm going to take one person first because they have to leave a little bit early.

00:22:11.412 --> 00:22:18.412

And after that, we'll have you volunteer. I'll see who wants to go, what order you want to go. Lynn's going to speak a couple of minutes.

00:22:19.153 --> 00:22:26.153

Now, before we roll into that, but then we'll just go down the line, see who wants to talk. If we have questions.

00:22:26.036 --> 00:22:28.036

questions will come.

00:22:30.039 --> 00:22:34.039

Thank you, Chris. We did spend a lot of time trying to decide how to organize this.

00:22:35.096 --> 00:22:37.096

I love it. So hi.

00:22:36.906 --> 00:22:45.906

I'm the director of the Mental Health Board and the Developmental Disabilities Board. I did write down my comments so that we can do that in two minutes or less.

00:22:46.667 --> 00:22:48.667

The Mental Health Board has

00:22:48.561 --> 00:22:54.561

for a couple of decades, partnered with other governmental units

00:22:54.819 --> 00:22:56.819

On behalf of

00:22:56.580 --> 00:23:08.580

trying to find good supports for people who have mental health issues or substance use issues and end up at some level of involvement with the justice system, whether it's

00:23:08.797 --> 00:23:10.797

crisis, which, you know

00:23:10.634 --> 00:23:13.634

I mean, we have many stories about people

00:23:14.626 --> 00:23:17.626

being maybe they're not stably housed

00:23:17.750 --> 00:23:19.750

And they end up in a

00:23:20.011 --> 00:23:23.011

In an obvious crisis that

00:23:23.074 --> 00:23:26.074

gets them a ride to the jail, but it's not

00:23:27.209 --> 00:23:33.209

It's not really chargeable and they can't really stay so they go back out and then they come back so

00:23:33.546 --> 00:23:38.546

A lot of that or the hospital for emergency services, which may not also be appropriate so

00:23:38.542 --> 00:23:46.542

We've funded some programs in the crisis space for a long time. We've also funded some programs that are

00:23:46.609 --> 00:23:51.609

offered in the jail and then in reentry from jail or prison

00:23:51.779 --> 00:23:54.779

We've also funded drug court

00:23:54.760 --> 00:24:01.760

two or three different, now four different agencies to provide services directly to drug court

00:24:01.691 --> 00:24:17.691

participants and these are, so there's the direct funding relationship, but there's also collaboration. So our staff have been involved with planning and trying to understand the needs and best practices for all of these years as well.

00:24:17.825 --> 00:24:21.825

And, you know, we find that maybe a lot has changed

00:24:21.748 --> 00:24:24.748

As far as funding opportunities or what

00:24:24.511 --> 00:24:29.511

the best services are, what the agencies might be capable of doing.

00:24:30.188 --> 00:24:49.188

So we wanted to hear now from our justice partners their perspective on what's currently happening and what could be better. And then we do, we kind of were talking about this maybe the first of a few similar discussions as we try to define what would be best for the community for mental health board to spend its money on.

00:24:49.613 --> 00:25:02.613

And then I just, you know, kind of jumping in yesterday we had a drug court steering committee meeting and it seemed there was consensus. I think maybe Max started this conversation that what we really need are providers of services. And so

00:25:03.395 --> 00:25:06.395
We do agree on that. I think

00:25:06.877 --> 00:25:08.877
Many of us have a lot to say about it.

00:25:08.376 --> 00:25:11.376
that that is the key.

00:25:11.505 --> 00:25:19.505
And we maybe have funded some things for so long that we don't know if they're the right thing to fund. But one thing I also learned from Max is that

00:25:20.262 --> 00:25:22.262
what is true right now that you

00:25:22.910 --> 00:25:26.910
If you're sober, it's not easy to get into inpatient treatment. That was true

00:25:27.143 --> 00:25:31.143
36 and a half years ago when I was trying to get into inpatient treatment and

00:25:31.523 --> 00:25:34.523
Somehow I've stayed sober this whole time anyway

00:25:34.921 --> 00:25:38.921
without it. But I think that's really too bad that you have to

00:25:38.384 --> 00:25:44.384
you know, I mean, I don't know. I'm glad that we prioritize crisis or people who really are

00:25:45.026 --> 00:25:50.026
In a life or death situation, but I think that our system could be so much better.

00:25:49.896 --> 00:25:59.896
So anyway, I think that's all I have to say. The packet is organized really just to offer materials to partners and to us.

00:25:59.847 --> 00:26:03.847
It's got a story from a resident at CU at home

00:26:03.433 --> 00:26:12.433
It's got a list of all of the funded programs that the mental health board and the DD Board are offering right now. Some of them are not

00:26:12.424 --> 00:26:14.424
specifically directed

00:26:14.559 --> 00:26:19.559
to populations involved with justice, but they could be accessed by

00:26:19.386 --> 00:26:25.386
by most anybody. There's also some information from the states um

00:26:25.853 --> 00:26:27.853
the state courts

00:26:28.746 --> 00:26:35.746
Behavioral health administrator on the sequential intercept mapping. So
what he's showing is services that can be found

00:26:35.555 --> 00:26:39.555
in Illinois now at various points of

00:26:39.699 --> 00:26:43.699
reach into the justice system like that are so

00:26:43.701 --> 00:26:49.701
meant to get people appropriate supports if they have a mental health or
substance use issue.

00:26:49.376 --> 00:26:54.376
There are some recommendations, especially for collaborating through

00:26:54.508 --> 00:26:58.508
wherever there's a mental health court or a drug court.

00:26:58.378 --> 00:27:01.378
that type of collaboration is like

00:27:01.756 --> 00:27:03.756
really being

00:27:03.849 --> 00:27:09.849
really being studied and talked about a lot nationally. So we have those
recommendations in here. And then an update on

00:27:09.363 --> 00:27:18.363
CESSA, which has impacted our crisis services. CESSA is a law that was, I
think it went into effect late

00:27:18.356 --> 00:27:21.356
21, early 22.

00:27:22.101 --> 00:27:32.101
And it has not yet been implemented. And some of us are involved with the
planning of implementation on that and know exactly how it's being stuck,
but there's a brief overview

00:27:31.798 --> 00:27:41.798

of what's going on with that, as well as a brief overview of where we're at with pretrial Fairness Act. And that's also having a profound impact on some of the services and on the

00:27:41.306 --> 00:27:44.306

facilities too. So that's all I need to say okay

00:27:45.674 --> 00:27:49.674

Okay, before we get going, is everyone kind of clear on what kind of stuff you want to discuss?

00:27:50.635 --> 00:27:58.635

I don't know if we had an actually pointed questions. It's pretty open. Just what's working, what's not working? Where should we concentrate more of our funding? Just stuff like that.

00:27:58.878 --> 00:28:00.878

So Karee, you gonna go first?

00:28:03.158 --> 00:28:06.158

I think I voluntold I had to leave early, so that's what happened but

00:28:05.983 --> 00:28:14.983

So I'm Karee Voges and I am the I'm a captain at the sheriff's office and I supervise the jail. So thank you for your guys's stories.

00:28:15.113 --> 00:28:20.113

It's good to see positive outcomes. And that's what we're all here for so

00:28:20.169 --> 00:28:25.169

I've been doing it for 21 years, 10 years in my role as captain. So I've been around

00:28:26.118 --> 00:28:29.118

When this wasn't even a discussion really.

00:28:28.620 --> 00:28:36.620

Honestly, Chris, that's probably why you had no services when you left because it wasn't a discussion at one point.

00:28:37.113 --> 00:28:41.113

21 years ago, people came in, we asked the basic mental health medical questions.

00:28:41.145 --> 00:28:45.145

It wasn't anything to really get down deep into any for any reason.

00:28:45.066 --> 00:28:49.066

We didn't ask reentry questions. We didn't ask them

00:28:48.557 --> 00:28:51.557

what we could do to help them before release.

00:28:51.919 --> 00:28:57.919

That has changed. So that's some things that we have done differently with the help of the mental health board, with the help of

00:28:57.559 --> 00:29:00.559

The county board as well as for funding

00:29:00.248 --> 00:29:05.248

So we've done several things over the last 20 years, especially the last 10 years.

00:29:06.001 --> 00:29:10.001

to get information and data to see what kind of individuals are coming in.

00:29:09.261 --> 00:29:15.261

We know society has changed. And this is what I've been saying about the new facility that we're getting ready to open

00:29:16.261 --> 00:29:21.261

We have to realize that with society changes, the people that are coming into jail are changing as well.

00:29:21.881 --> 00:29:25.881

We should have known years and years ago when mental health facilities started closing.

00:29:25.822 --> 00:29:28.822

that we might see them coming into the jail at some point.

00:29:29.250 --> 00:29:33.250

Same thing we've seen with the hospitals. We sat around a board

00:29:33.603 --> 00:29:39.603

years ago to study this with Julie and a few of us were on it to see what we could do better in our community.

00:29:39.727 --> 00:29:46.727

And we did do some things. We've tried to do some crisis intervention and a few other things, but it really never got off the ground any further than that.

00:29:46.359 --> 00:29:55.359

And I think that there's so much more we can do. I mean, as far as the jail goes, I like to remind people that when we talk about mental health in the jail.

00:29:55.530 --> 00:29:59.530

We do have services in there that are contracted through a provider

00:29:59.476 --> 00:30:03.476

But their main focus is crisis intervention at the moment.

00:30:04.245 --> 00:30:06.245
Okay, it's suicide prevention.

00:30:07.007 --> 00:30:16.007
Because we don't have tons of money to be able to provide 24-hour services repeatedly. We have to remember that they're there for that moment when they first come in.

00:30:15.557 --> 00:30:20.557
trying to get them either on medication or maybe to see a psychiatrist when they're in there.

00:30:20.682 --> 00:30:25.682
So that's a good thing because a lot of times we can get them started on medication if they're willing.

00:30:25.855 --> 00:30:28.855
But again, it's always about willing, right?

00:30:28.994 --> 00:30:32.994
And those individuals, when it comes to the mental health.

00:30:34.181 --> 00:30:37.181
Most of the people that are staying with us at this point are people that

00:30:37.053 --> 00:30:40.053
have probably had multiple times out of custody.

00:30:40.057 --> 00:30:52.057
We've probably attempted them at the hospital numerous times. And at some point the state has to say, we can't let them out again. And they're going to seek detention and then

00:30:51.874 --> 00:30:56.874
PD will look and see if they need to have a fitness. And those are the ones that stay the longest.

00:30:56.578 --> 00:31:01.578
And they're the hardest ones to manage because they usually don't want to take medication.

00:31:02.130 --> 00:31:04.130
They're usually the ones that are a little more combative

00:31:03.872 --> 00:31:12.872
They don't care for themselves well. So they're the extreme case. And we know that in the jail, we are always going to have that population. They're not going to go away.

00:31:13.275 --> 00:31:18.275
But they're going to be with us for long periods of time. So we still need to figure out ways

00:31:18.538 --> 00:31:25.538

work with them, it's better if we can actually get them to fitness while they're in custody with us and they don't have to go off to a hospital.

00:31:25.854 --> 00:31:28.854

But I'll tell you one thing that I know we struggle a lot with is

00:31:28.416 --> 00:31:33.416

When we do send people to the hospital, and Julia can speak on this.

00:31:33.965 --> 00:31:37.965

Those individuals that were trying to get them mental health help now

00:31:37.625 --> 00:31:41.625

I get that they're not that immediate crisis at the moment.

00:31:41.490 --> 00:31:50.490

But they can't fend for themselves. They can't take care of themselves. And to us, if we say they need to be involuntary, we need to do something in the community.

00:31:50.695 --> 00:31:57.695

And so we tend to take them to the hospital. And I think that they're looking for somebody who is currently suicidal or homicidal

00:31:57.936 --> 00:31:59.936

And if not, they're kicking them back out.

00:32:01.167 --> 00:32:06.167

I can tell you we had one week where I sent somebody three times

00:32:07.167 --> 00:32:10.167

three times to the hospital and they were released every single time

00:32:11.220 --> 00:32:13.220

And it's sad to say that he is no longer living.

00:32:13.924 --> 00:32:19.924

Okay, so it's a very, very sad situation and we take these things very seriously, especially my mental health

00:32:20.166 --> 00:32:23.166

clinicians that speak to these people

00:32:23.259 --> 00:32:29.259

talk with them and realize that my personal opinion is they can't handle, they can't take care of themselves. They need help now.

00:32:29.693 --> 00:32:31.693

But I also understand the hospitals

00:32:31.506 --> 00:32:35.506

positions as well, but there's got to be somewhere that we can do better.

00:32:35.827 --> 00:32:44.827

They're somewhere. As far as programming goes, we've always been limited on programming in the jail, mainly due to building restraints.

00:32:45.130 --> 00:32:51.130

Now that we are going to be opening up this edition, there's going to be additional space there as well as additional classroom.

00:32:51.624 --> 00:32:55.624

And I think we need to start thinking outside the box a little bit. We've always done volunteer work.

00:32:55.506 --> 00:32:57.506

It's always been volunteers that have come in.

00:32:57.567 --> 00:33:02.567

And we maybe need to start looking at more classes geared towards mental health.

00:33:02.944 --> 00:33:08.944

I love the codependency - and classes like that because that's a lot of what

00:33:08.825 --> 00:33:16.825

our clients are dealing with. Every time I talk to them, they're like, you don't understand this is all I know. Or one, I can't go back to where I was before.

00:33:17.135 --> 00:33:22.135

Trying to get them to understand. And that's what grow does. Grow helps with that. We have so many programs

00:33:21.755 --> 00:33:24.755

where they talk about it, but I think more programming

00:33:25.128 --> 00:33:29.128

Specializing around maybe understanding their mental health

00:33:29.573 --> 00:33:33.573

Or how to get those services. We have reentry right now.

00:33:33.702 --> 00:33:35.702

But that's changed Lynn as well because

00:33:35.447 --> 00:33:42.447

people aren't staying in jail as long, so they're only in there for that maybe 24 hours to go to court and they're out.

00:33:42.834 --> 00:33:49.834

you guys wanted to have someone touching them as many people as possible. And now we're not really able to do that because they're out the door so quickly.

00:33:49.574 --> 00:33:59.574

So revamping kind of how we see people, meet people. I think what they're doing a really, really good job as far as Rosecrans trying to hit as many that request it.

00:33:59.695 --> 00:34:01.695
But again, it's at a request.

00:34:01.391 --> 00:34:05.391
So we're at the mercy of someone actually wanting to reach out.

00:34:05.505 --> 00:34:10.505
we're not going straight up to them and saying, hey, from Rosecrans or from someone that has that

00:34:13.822 --> 00:34:23.822
degree or that person, that's their specialty going up and talking to them. We're asking at the door. We're asking them with that intent to try to get them as much resources as possible before they go.

00:34:24.506 --> 00:34:26.506
But it's only upon request.

00:34:27.257 --> 00:34:31.257
I could sit and talk forever, but I think I'm going to

00:34:31.325 --> 00:34:35.325
let somebody else talk. But I think from the jail side, we are open

00:34:35.601 --> 00:34:39.601
to whatever we can do better, especially trying to get people help before they leave.

00:34:39.557 --> 00:34:44.557
But we just have to remember that what's in there now, what's covered

00:34:44.794 --> 00:34:51.794
is basically crisis intervention. They're not going and having therapy groups. They're not doing groups with the girls or the men.

00:34:52.008 --> 00:34:58.008
We have all the programs, whether it be parenting or grow or anger management.

00:34:57.568 --> 00:35:10.568
MRT, all the ones they love, but I think we could probably do better when it comes down to the mental health side as far as what else to bring in. And it may not be somebody that's willing to volunteer. It may be something that we have to actually cover and cost.

00:35:12.086 --> 00:35:15.086
Okay, thank you for that. Thank you for that. So what I'm hearing is...

00:35:15.144 --> 00:35:17.144
More programs.

00:35:19.219 --> 00:35:26.219

Well, more specifically mental health programs, you have programs and the fact that you have crisis intervention, but what are lesser issues or get a little harder to get addressed?

00:35:26.696 --> 00:35:37.696

Okay. With programming, we'll ask this. I believe those closest to the problem or closest solution. Are you willing to have people with substance abuse disorders and people who have been incarcerated before actually

00:35:37.296 --> 00:35:41.296

I don't know there's going to be certain restrictions, but is that a consideration?

00:35:41.483 --> 00:35:43.483

Yes, so we've had um

00:35:43.983 --> 00:35:48.983

We have one program now where there are actually some peers in the program.

00:35:49.054 --> 00:35:52.054

But it depends on the length of time they've been out of custody.

00:35:51.886 --> 00:36:00.886

It depends on the criminal history itself. But we do have people in there right now. We actually have quite a few peers and one's being ran by a peer.

00:36:01.152 --> 00:36:09.152

It just depends on the situation, but I love to have that. I think it means more to them when they see somebody right in front of them that has been through it and is

00:36:09.142 --> 00:36:11.142

in a better situation.

00:36:11.222 --> 00:36:14.222

Anybody else have any questions from the board?

00:36:16.549 --> 00:36:20.549

It's just pretty much a common. It seems as if it's always going to be money.

00:36:20.736 --> 00:36:22.736

When it comes down to it, it's going to be money.

00:36:22.796 --> 00:36:25.796

And we'll find out where the money comes from later.

00:36:27.682 --> 00:36:32.682

I just had a couple questions about discharging people from

00:36:32.703 --> 00:36:41.703

prison if they do see a psychiatrist and they start a medication, do you schedule a follow-up appointment with a psychiatrist in the outpatient

00:36:41.973 --> 00:36:46.973

setting for them and if they need transportation, like have a social worker like if they have medicaid

00:36:47.237 --> 00:36:51.237

get that transportation set up because that's obviously covered by Medicaid so

00:36:51.726 --> 00:36:53.726

Thank you.

00:36:54.408 --> 00:37:01.408

So right now we give them the prescriptions. So if they meet with one of our psychiatrists, it's actually

00:37:01.542 --> 00:37:05.542

A psychiatrist is set up through advanced

00:37:05.988 --> 00:37:18.988

If they're on medications, we give them a prescription for a certain length of time. But as far as the reentry into the community of them seeing someone else, if it's Dr. Yang or if it's certain doctors that they've been seen before, we try to get them the appointment from where they were before.

00:37:18.376 --> 00:37:24.376

If it's a brand new patient, I'm not 100% sure what mental health is doing on that as far as for psychiatry.

00:37:25.115 --> 00:37:28.115

I do believe that they're being set up through Rosecrans.

00:37:27.234 --> 00:37:38.234

everyone who's leaving because that's my reentry piece. And they see those people prior to leaving and have them set up on whatever appointments they have. They also are doing the transportation as well.

00:37:39.358 --> 00:37:41.358

Thanks.

00:37:43.009 --> 00:37:47.009

Just last thing. So you spoke positively on Grow and Rosecrance. Thumbs up.

00:37:47.514 --> 00:37:53.514

Yeah, we've had some, I mean, we've had, you know, you have your ups and downs with staffing. That's just not what grow. Sorry.

00:37:53.507 --> 00:38:06.507

Staffing with Rosecrance because it's a social service where people come and go. And that's probably been our biggest concern and issue. I've been on the reentry council for quite some time.

00:38:06.597 --> 00:38:15.597

And that's been part of the issue too. People come and go and you kind of start over again. I think right now we're on a good track. We're moving forward with reentry and making some changes.

00:38:15.791 --> 00:38:22.791

But yeah, I think they come, they're regular in the jail. I don't have any issues with them. I think they're providing you guys

00:38:22.404 --> 00:38:31.404

stats and data, I hope, which they see people all the time. Chris is there from CCHCC, seeing people as well.

00:38:31.976 --> 00:38:33.976

So yeah, they're doing a good job.

00:38:43.118 --> 00:38:45.118

Anybody else from the board?

00:38:45.925 --> 00:38:47.925

All right. Thank you so much. You are awesome.

00:38:48.485 --> 00:38:51.485

Anyone that wanted to volunteer to go next?

00:38:52.615 --> 00:38:55.615

I feel like I'm teaching one of my classes. Who wants to go?

00:38:56.932 --> 00:38:58.932

All right, I'll go ahead. Perfect, perfect. Go ahead.

00:39:02.567 --> 00:39:05.567

We'll go in the order of the criminal justice system, right?

00:39:05.947 --> 00:39:07.947

So first,

00:39:07.466 --> 00:39:10.466

Karee because people come to the jail.

00:39:10.233 --> 00:39:13.233

So I'm Julia Reitz. I'm the state's attorney.

00:39:13.675 --> 00:39:17.675

And our role is to review

00:39:17.380 --> 00:39:21.380

police reports and investigations make decisions about

00:39:21.744 --> 00:39:25.744

criminal charging, follow through with prosecution of cases.

00:39:25.296 --> 00:39:31.296

And I've been in this role for 20 years now.

00:39:31.935 --> 00:39:37.935

And I've seen a lot of things. I've seen a lot of successes. I've seen a lot of not successes.

00:39:38.955 --> 00:39:45.955

I think what is important to start off with is that it is not illegal

00:39:45.214 --> 00:39:48.214

to have a mental health issue.

00:39:49.032 --> 00:39:53.032

It is not illegal to have a substance abuse

00:39:52.593 --> 00:39:56.593

issue. It is illegal to commit

00:39:57.765 --> 00:39:59.765

a violation of Illinois statute.

00:40:00.652 --> 00:40:03.652

Okay, so people are not in the jail.

00:40:03.898 --> 00:40:11.898

or charged with an offense because they are mentally ill or because they are abusing substances they are

00:40:13.146 --> 00:40:17.146

in the criminal justice system because they've committed a criminal offense.

00:40:16.530 --> 00:40:20.530

And that might be in part due to

00:40:20.901 --> 00:40:24.901

their mental health issues or their substance abuse issues.

00:40:25.846 --> 00:40:34.846

I say that because ideally we would be addressing people's mental health issues and substance abuse issues

00:40:34.938 --> 00:40:36.938

Before...

00:40:36.749 --> 00:40:41.749

Thank you for nodding along with me, Joe. Before...

00:40:41.462 --> 00:40:45.462

they commit an offense that puts them

00:40:45.348 --> 00:40:51.348
in the jail or puts me or one of my attorneys reviewing a report

00:40:52.001 --> 00:40:56.001
about them and making decisions okay so that I think is

00:40:56.208 --> 00:41:00.208
the first and most important point that I want to make is that

00:41:00.765 --> 00:41:02.765
We should be focusing

00:41:02.855 --> 00:41:04.855
ideally on

00:41:05.355 --> 00:41:08.355
intercept zero.

00:41:09.280 --> 00:41:11.280
Right, Lynn?

00:41:11.923 --> 00:41:14.923
Which is the point before

00:41:14.421 --> 00:41:18.421
any of us are involved with people.

00:41:19.379 --> 00:41:21.379
Ideally.

00:41:21.443 --> 00:41:23.443
Intercept 0.

00:41:23.755 --> 00:41:26.755
See, I've been doing this so long that Lynn

00:41:27.064 --> 00:41:30.064
says, I know the right words.

00:41:30.685 --> 00:41:35.685
Okay. So, and I think that that is the hardest, that sometimes is the
hardest part

00:41:36.087 --> 00:41:40.087
Because that requires identifying people

00:41:39.336 --> 00:41:42.336
and engaging them

00:41:43.838 --> 00:41:53.838
before they are locked up in a jail or standing in front of a judge or
looking down the barrel of a prison sentence.

00:41:55.042 --> 00:42:00.042

And that is probably the hardest piece, right? Because at that point they don't feel

00:42:01.043 --> 00:42:03.043
the urgency necessarily

00:42:03.032 --> 00:42:05.032
or the order.

00:42:05.592 --> 00:42:10.592
of committing to and involving themselves with treatment.

00:42:11.220 --> 00:42:13.220
So, um.

00:42:13.418 --> 00:42:15.418
So that's my first piece.

00:42:15.722 --> 00:42:19.722
My second observation over 20 years is that

00:42:21.104 --> 00:42:23.104
programs that work

00:42:24.095 --> 00:42:27.095
generally start from one person

00:42:27.794 --> 00:42:29.794
who has...

00:42:29.926 --> 00:42:33.926
an idea and a passion and an inspiration.

00:42:35.157 --> 00:42:37.157
And those programs are what

00:42:38.101 --> 00:42:42.101
succeed. And so we have met so many examples of those

00:42:42.217 --> 00:42:47.217
first followers started with Marlon Mitchell getting out of

00:42:47.471 --> 00:42:52.471
prison himself and coming forward to us and saying, I want to do something.

00:42:52.406 --> 00:42:56.406
and creating this amazing organization.

00:42:56.722 --> 00:43:01.722
So, so many different organizations and so many different organizations

00:43:01.779 --> 00:43:04.779
programs that we can think of really start from that.

00:43:04.907 --> 00:43:07.907
person with a passion and an idea.

00:43:07.916 --> 00:43:09.916
Right, Leon?

00:43:10.300 --> 00:43:13.300
Right. That's how I know Leon because he's a person

00:43:13.488 --> 00:43:16.488
who is passionate about an idea and passionate about an idea

00:43:17.119 --> 00:43:20.119
made a program, worked with a program that worked.

00:43:20.739 --> 00:43:26.739
So that's where we have to find those people. So we have to find people
before they are

00:43:26.305 --> 00:43:32.305
in crisis and before I'm making decisions about them and we have to find
the people

00:43:32.691 --> 00:43:37.691
who have the great ideas and the passion to do the thing to help those
people.

00:43:38.369 --> 00:43:40.369
I'm trying to

00:43:41.235 --> 00:43:44.235
work towards me not having to do anything.

00:43:44.857 --> 00:43:46.857
You know, because if we can

00:43:46.295 --> 00:43:50.295
engage people before they're in crisis

00:43:51.059 --> 00:43:54.059
with people who are passionate about helping them

00:43:53.425 --> 00:43:58.425
then they won't come to us ideally.

00:43:58.181 --> 00:44:01.181
So I would say that's the goal now

00:44:01.685 --> 00:44:03.685
realistically.

00:44:03.500 --> 00:44:07.500
that doesn't happen. And so how do we deal with

00:44:08.200 --> 00:44:16.200

the people who do come to the jail or who do commit a violation of Illinois law and end up in front of the jail.

00:44:17.079 --> 00:44:25.079

or in front of my in my office being prosecuted in front of a judge facing you know a prison sentence, that sort of thing.

00:44:26.334 --> 00:44:31.334

I think one of the problems we have in the criminal justice system is

00:44:31.825 --> 00:44:33.825

that we

00:44:34.642 --> 00:44:36.642

Focus on, again.

00:44:36.466 --> 00:44:39.466

the crisis point, as Carrie said.

00:44:40.180 --> 00:44:43.180

So in the jail, we're dealing with crisis.

00:44:42.805 --> 00:44:45.805

In the criminal justice system.

00:44:47.295 --> 00:44:51.295

a lot of our programming focuses on

00:44:51.686 --> 00:44:54.686

people who are at the end of the rope.

00:44:54.918 --> 00:44:59.918

So drug court in Champaign County is a last chance

00:45:01.447 --> 00:45:06.447

drug court. You know, you get drug court if you are but for

00:45:06.871 --> 00:45:08.871

going to go to prison.

00:45:08.642 --> 00:45:11.642

Not at the beginning of the process.

00:45:12.132 --> 00:45:14.132

Right.

00:45:16.034 --> 00:45:20.034

We have reentry programs for people after

00:45:19.519 --> 00:45:22.519

they've been in jail and are coming back.

00:45:23.203 --> 00:45:27.203
the diversion part of things

00:45:27.352 --> 00:45:33.352
So we're past 0.0. Now we're in one step one or two, the beginning part

00:45:33.740 --> 00:45:39.740
First offenders, people who are not being held in custody because under the pretrial Fairness Act.

00:45:39.871 --> 00:45:43.871
You know, it's fascinating to me that you said

00:45:43.738 --> 00:45:50.738
that people did - Judge Rosenbaum and Liz did the right thing for you by having you

00:45:51.052 --> 00:45:53.052
be in jail, right?

00:45:53.482 --> 00:45:56.482
Which Liz would say, I didn't do that. She's the public defender.

00:45:56.512 --> 00:45:58.512
She...

00:45:58.507 --> 00:46:00.507
She tried to help you get out of jail.

00:46:01.032 --> 00:46:08.032
I probably put you in there. Not me, but you know, anyway, my point is, my point is there are a lot of people who say

00:46:08.087 --> 00:46:11.087
You know, I needed to be in custody in order to

00:46:11.665 --> 00:46:20.665
have the time to sit and focus and realize I've hit bottom and make all of those decisions, right? But the pretrial fairness act

00:46:20.322 --> 00:46:26.322
has really prevented us from, I don't want to say being able to

00:46:26.899 --> 00:46:29.899
But being able to hold people in custody for

00:46:30.953 --> 00:46:36.953
possession of drugs or lower level offenses because it says, no, no, those are not detainable offenses.

00:46:37.902 --> 00:46:39.902
And so that

00:46:39.533 --> 00:46:44.533

You know, that, I don't know, hammer that

00:46:44.421 --> 00:46:55.421

incentive, that time, the programs that Karee might have at the jail are not available to a lot of people at the front end of the criminal justice process.

00:46:55.750 --> 00:47:01.750

And so there is a lack of diversion programs. There's a lack of

00:47:01.750 --> 00:47:03.750

first offender

00:47:03.631 --> 00:47:06.631

programs. And, you know, I think maybe

00:47:06.573 --> 00:47:15.573

Shannon can talk more about that also because a lot of that probably falls on probation officers, you know, as far as first offender type

00:47:15.891 --> 00:47:17.891

community-based things.

00:47:18.081 --> 00:47:22.081

Because a lot of the programming that we have, I think, really is

00:47:21.346 --> 00:47:26.346

last resort or after you're coming back.

00:47:26.403 --> 00:47:29.403

type things. So things that i

00:47:29.723 --> 00:47:32.723

would urge us to be looking at is again that

00:47:34.242 --> 00:47:36.242

Before we get to us point.

00:47:36.741 --> 00:47:38.741

And the beginning point.

00:47:39.173 --> 00:47:42.173

to keep people from

00:47:43.853 --> 00:47:47.853

ending up walking up, climbing up, running up

00:47:47.880 --> 00:47:50.880

the staircase of the criminal justice system.

00:47:51.257 --> 00:47:54.257

So those are my thoughts.

00:47:54.566 --> 00:48:02.566

Okay, thank you for that. I don't have any questions. I just have to say that you're exactly right about the focus on prevention.

00:48:02.809 --> 00:48:05.809

If we could stop crime from happening, or at least most of it

00:48:06.020 --> 00:48:11.020

then you're not going to have a victim. You're not going to have somebody with a felony designation. You're not going to have either of those.

00:48:10.972 --> 00:48:24.972

And fortunately, as someone who teaches criminology, there's not that focus going on in schools really either. It's all about reentry, which is where all the money is going now. It's like we just accepted that we have this problem that we can't get out of. So, hey, let's just try to tidy it up at the end.

00:48:25.280 --> 00:48:37.280

So yeah, I don't disagree with most of what you said. Any more questions from the board? I do actually have one more thought that I forgot that I meant to talk about, which is the families

00:48:38.030 --> 00:48:40.030

So many times

00:48:40.965 --> 00:48:43.965

We have families of adult

00:48:43.852 --> 00:48:47.852

people, adults who have mental health issues

00:48:48.053 --> 00:48:54.053

And many of them severe, late onset, you know, schizophrenia

00:48:54.076 --> 00:48:57.076

that sort of thing that come on in their 20s

00:48:56.141 --> 00:48:59.141

and the um

00:48:59.195 --> 00:49:05.195

Family support is really needed because they are struggling and again

00:49:06.074 --> 00:49:12.074

You know, we can't necessarily just hold somebody in custody on a cash bond that their parents aren't going to post.

00:49:12.704 --> 00:49:15.704

That doesn't exist anymore, you know, and so

00:49:15.585 --> 00:49:18.585

There are a lot of terrified

00:49:18.454 --> 00:49:23.454

parents and siblings who are dealing with

00:49:25.895 --> 00:49:29.895

family members, loved ones who have very serious mental health issues

00:49:29.531 --> 00:49:36.531

And again, we have to wait. I mean, this is the horrible part. We have to wait until they commit a horrible offense

00:49:36.955 --> 00:49:38.955

before we can

00:49:38.272 --> 00:49:43.272

hold them and get them maybe to the treatment place that they need to be.

00:49:43.450 --> 00:49:45.450

So that is a huge issue.

00:49:47.522 --> 00:49:51.522

I mean, one of the things I'll keep going back to is, I mean.

00:49:51.725 --> 00:49:56.725

the money for diversion or prevention. I know we're now

00:49:57.857 --> 00:50:00.857

taking care of people as they come out of corrections.

00:50:01.481 --> 00:50:05.481

how can we divert that money into

00:50:05.984 --> 00:50:07.984

the schools or into schools

00:50:07.429 --> 00:50:11.429

the community to work on prevention and things like that.

00:50:11.674 --> 00:50:16.674

I keep running into a young man that I knew as a kindergarten student.

00:50:17.100 --> 00:50:19.100

He's unhoused right now.

00:50:19.105 --> 00:50:23.105

And when I don't see him for a week, I'm wondering, has he been picked up

00:50:22.750 --> 00:50:25.750

for some heavy thing?

00:50:25.633 --> 00:50:29.633

And it's that continues just that back and forth.

00:50:30.006 --> 00:50:33.006

how could we, and when he was in kindergarten i

00:50:32.687 --> 00:50:37.687

had a sense because his family system was, they were unhoused also at that time.

00:50:37.997 --> 00:50:39.997

but i was and

00:50:39.745 --> 00:50:41.745

It's just..

00:50:43.133 --> 00:50:45.133

Yeah.

00:50:44.371 --> 00:50:48.371

I don't know what to say, but I know..

00:50:49.130 --> 00:50:53.130

20 some years ago, there was a victim offender reconciliation program

00:50:54.243 --> 00:50:55.243

that was in this county that was in this

00:50:55.625 --> 00:50:57.625

the guy just before you

00:50:57.570 --> 00:51:01.570

And I don't know where the funds came from, but I think it's something that

00:51:01.817 --> 00:51:04.817

if there was a way to get something like that happening.

00:51:04.569 --> 00:51:09.569

It's something that I'm still willing to do it. I'm not too old for that shit. Oh, stop.

00:51:09.819 --> 00:51:11.819

I'm sorry.

00:51:13.245 --> 00:51:25.245

Well, and I appreciate that that program, the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, again, was one of those things that started because somebody was passionate about it. It was a church-based program initially.

00:51:25.990 --> 00:51:29.990

That then became part of our diversion program

00:51:29.429 --> 00:51:32.429

where people

00:51:32.750 --> 00:51:41.750

would volunteer to community members would volunteer to sit on a panel and sit with somebody who had committed a lower level offense and

00:51:42.061 --> 00:51:44.061
try to come up with a resolution

00:51:43.782 --> 00:51:48.782
And direct them to some sort of services. And unfortunately.

00:51:48.887 --> 00:51:50.887
We had a pretty robust

00:51:50.785 --> 00:51:56.785
diversion program. And then in 2009, 2010, when the economy went

00:51:56.713 --> 00:52:01.713
horrible, and the people working in that area were retiring and i

00:52:02.227 --> 00:52:05.227
We had to make budget cuts and I didn't wasn't able to

00:52:05.469 --> 00:52:12.469
you know continue those programs. I am looking now at a couple of online

00:52:12.345 --> 00:52:17.345
type programs and seeing if there's a way that we can restart that at a
lower level.

00:52:17.399 --> 00:52:21.399
But again, that requires people with commitment

00:52:21.731 --> 00:52:23.731
and passion.

00:52:23.367 --> 00:52:31.367
to do that hard work, especially if you're talking about mental health
and substance abuse issues as opposed to just

00:52:31.383 --> 00:52:34.383
standard retail theft kind of stuff.

00:52:34.567 --> 00:52:38.567
But your standard retail theft can turn into

00:52:39.189 --> 00:52:42.189
an onion as you start peeling the layers back

00:52:42.681 --> 00:52:44.681
And end up right where we're at.

00:52:44.566 --> 00:52:48.566
Because a lot of times it's not just one issue. I mean, I think, yes,
many

00:52:48.504 --> 00:52:58.504

of young people who end up in the system have layers of things. The family systems have not been worked with. Their individual is more of

00:52:59.066 --> 00:53:01.066
is a symptom that we see.

00:53:01.129 --> 00:53:03.129
of something that's behind

00:53:04.268 --> 00:53:07.268
And I know in your criminology classes, you probably talk about those things

00:53:07.259 --> 00:53:09.259
Because that individual is just

00:53:10.211 --> 00:53:12.211
a representative of someone that's behind him

00:53:12.821 --> 00:53:15.821
And hopefully there will be funds for

00:53:16.028 --> 00:53:18.028
prevention as time goes on.

00:53:17.445 --> 00:53:22.445
Yeah, and there are so many different issues. Again, you know, so many different issues with

00:53:23.136 --> 00:53:28.136
layers of, you know, where did this start and what and it cuts across

00:53:28.959 --> 00:53:32.959
all aspects of criminal justice. You know, I'm thinking like Molly -

00:53:32.885 --> 00:53:37.885
domestic violence, you know, where does that fit into the programming here?

00:53:38.023 --> 00:53:51.023
the mental health issues, the substance abuse issues, the dysfunction, family dysfunction issues that go into that is a whole other piece that we haven't really even touched on.

00:53:51.289 --> 00:54:03.289
While I was about to comment on it, I mean, one thing that I'm really proud that the mental health board does look at in terms of prevention is

00:54:04.167 --> 00:54:09.167
funding some of the sexual assault prevention programming that RACES does.

00:54:08.230 --> 00:54:14.230
Funding, Courage Connection, which does prevention programming as well.

00:54:14.758 --> 00:54:22.758

And I understand that there may have been times before I was on the mental health board where other kinds of prevention programming may have been funded too. And I think

00:54:22.725 --> 00:54:27.725

We have these pockets of prevention that the mental health board has

00:54:27.783 --> 00:54:31.783

looked at and supported over the years, but I'm hearing from

00:54:31.921 --> 00:54:40.921

this conversation so far is that there may be more and more ways that we can look at that and that that continues to be important.

00:54:41.245 --> 00:54:46.245

I am one, I am one of those passionate people who

00:54:46.581 --> 00:54:55.581

care, you know, my passion has been gender-based violence and doing prevention for that at the college level. And I'm not currently doing that now.

00:54:56.200 --> 00:55:00.200

But I also know how challenging it can be to be that person who

00:55:00.846 --> 00:55:02.846

is pouring all of that passion in.

00:55:02.730 --> 00:55:04.730

And...

00:55:04.533 --> 00:55:11.533

may need extra support. And so I know that one thing we're looking at is the mental health board is to

00:55:11.922 --> 00:55:18.922

have a priority around developing, building a sustainable workforce

00:55:19.231 --> 00:55:22.231

for mental health and substance use.

00:55:22.053 --> 00:55:27.053

Which could potentially help sustain people in positions in the future.

00:55:26.612 --> 00:55:29.612

So that was a comment that

00:55:29.424 --> 00:55:36.424

I wanted to share, but you brought me into it. So I'm glad that I could contribute.

00:55:36.668 --> 00:55:40.668

Yeah, I mean, I think, too, the concept of self-care and

00:55:40.953 --> 00:55:48.953

supports for our providers is huge. You know, I mean, because it's really easy to say, oh, we need people to do this work, but this is

00:55:49.180 --> 00:55:59.180

Hard work. And it's not, you know, not even, I mean, I see that not just even from the provider, but from people, my own people, all the people who work for all of us, work with all of us.

00:55:59.277 --> 00:56:11.277

you know, the mental health toll, we talk about this a lot in, I'm on the Prosecutor Best Practices Committee nationally and the concept of mental health

00:56:11.819 --> 00:56:15.819

care for people in these jobs is huge as well.

00:56:21.336 --> 00:56:26.336

Everyone good? Okay. Thank you, Ms. Reitz.

00:56:26.303 --> 00:56:29.303

Elisabeth Pollock, would you like to go next?

00:56:29.297 --> 00:56:33.297

Sure. I'm next in the line, I suppose.

00:56:34.108 --> 00:56:44.108

So my name is Liz Pollock. I'm the chief public defender here in Champaign County. I've been in this job for almost two years and have been a public defender at the federal level.

00:56:43.487 --> 00:56:49.487

before that for 12 years and then did a little private practice. I like to think I have a breadth of experience.

00:56:50.056 --> 00:56:58.056

And one thing that's consistent across everything I've ever done and everyone I've ever represented is that everybody has a life history that is complicated.

00:56:57.804 --> 00:57:02.804

And my clients have a variety of issues that include trauma.

00:57:02.987 --> 00:57:10.987

and substance abuse and mental health concerns, but they all start with a lack of resources from the time that they were very small.

00:57:11.169 --> 00:57:18.169

And have kind of been shafted throughout their lives by various factors beyond their control when they were young people.

00:57:18.293 --> 00:57:27.293

And I would love to see more prevention. My role in this system is not one of prevention. I am reactive.

00:57:28.258 --> 00:57:37.258

And I respond when people are charged with crimes. And that is up to Julia to decide, her office to decide what the crimes will be. And it's my job to represent them to the best of my ability.

00:57:37.823 --> 00:57:44.823

We have very limited resources for our clients, our clients who are in custody. I'm on the phone with Carrie all the time.

00:57:44.893 --> 00:57:51.893

I think I have a concern about a client's mental health. Can we get them in to see your social workers? Can we get them enrolled in a class?

00:57:52.142 --> 00:57:54.142

I have been routinely disappointed

00:57:55.268 --> 00:58:00.268

by the hospital response in this town because we have people who do not belong in the jail. The jail is

00:58:00.771 --> 00:58:03.771

doing the best they can, but they are not a mental health facility.

00:58:03.898 --> 00:58:06.898

And that is what they have turned into for a lot of our clients.

00:58:06.275 --> 00:58:15.275

And that's not their role. It's not what they're prepared for. It's not what they're funded for, but we're doing the best we can to help those people with very limited resources.

00:58:16.074 --> 00:58:19.074

And I have had clients who are floridly psychotic.

00:58:20.022 --> 00:58:25.022

who are banging their heads against the wall in the jail and the hospital says, go ahead and send them back.

00:58:25.385 --> 00:58:29.385

And it's very frustrating, I think, for us and for you guys.

00:58:29.564 --> 00:58:43.564

So, you know, my role in this, I think, is more limited because of the reactive nature of the work that we do. I've been able to add mitigation specialists to my staff through a grant. I now have two social workers, which the PD's office has never had before.

00:58:43.322 --> 00:58:49.322

And so we are using our mitigation specialist to try to connect with the providers here in town.

00:58:50.212 --> 00:58:52.212
They've been tasked with making those connections.

00:58:53.015 --> 00:58:58.015
trying to like if any of any of my attorneys have a client who we feel is in need of services.

00:58:58.031 --> 00:59:06.031
we simply refer them to our mitigation specialist and say, let's go find something for them. And a lot of times we have to try four or five, seven.

00:59:05.874 --> 00:59:12.874
100 places before we can find something that's appropriate for that individual. But I mean, that's the kind of work that, I mean, I never got trained in that.

00:59:12.885 --> 00:59:30.885
Everything I know I've learned through experience, through years of dealing with similar types of issues, but I didn't have a psychology degree. I'm not a social worker. I've learned what I've learned, but the attorney's role in the criminal justice system, especially given the number of cases that we have.

00:59:30.275 --> 00:59:38.275
We have to deal with the legal part. We don't have the resources to deal with the emotional impact on our clients.

00:59:38.649 --> 00:59:43.649
or on the services that they need. And so I'm very gratified that we have these two social workers

00:59:43.663 --> 00:59:56.663
But we need 10 in order to help the clients that we currently serve. So in a very limited way, what I would like to see maybe the mental health board be able to support is restarting mental health court.

00:59:56.805 --> 00:59:58.805
Drug court.

00:59:58.229 --> 01:00:03.229
is not a place for people with mental health issues. It is a single

01:00:03.338 --> 01:00:15.338
you know single problem court. It is for people with substance abuse problems. And anybody who's been around our population of clients knows that they never come one without the other.

01:00:15.362 --> 01:00:22.362
There are often dual diagnoses. We have a substance abuse issue in combination with a mental health issue.

01:00:22.360 --> 01:00:39.360

And we have as a drug court team, we have had to reject people from drug court who have legitimate mental health issues because we don't have the capacity, the staff or the people to help them with that mental health issue. And so people who have access one diagnoses

01:00:39.705 --> 01:00:42.705

We have to say we can't serve them because

01:00:42.243 --> 01:00:49.243

we can't ensure that they're going to stay on their medication long enough to benefit from the drug court services.

01:00:49.686 --> 01:00:57.686

And so that has become kind of a disqualifying factor in drug court is that if there's a serious mental health issue, we cannot accommodate that client.

01:00:57.633 --> 01:01:04.633

And so I know we used to have it. I know Julia was in on it when we had it, and I know that we haven't had it in a long time.

01:01:04.261 --> 01:01:11.261

And there's a lot of discussion and debate to be had about how we're going to restart that, but that's a priority for me.

01:01:11.597 --> 01:01:27.597

And I just hired somebody through the adult redeploy grant who is going to specifically be dedicated to specialty courts, including trying to explore how we can jumpstart mental health court. But I think the thing that everybody agrees on is that we can't have a successful mental health court unless we have the resources

01:01:27.406 --> 01:01:30.406

to support it. So we need a provider.

01:01:30.975 --> 01:01:32.975

We need to hopefully fund

01:01:32.670 --> 01:01:38.670

somebody who can dedicate themselves or at least part of their practice to seeing mental health court clients

01:01:39.315 --> 01:01:56.315

We need an extra probation officer because Max is the most phenomenal human being that ever lived. You can tell him that I said that. But he's one guy and he is consumed with the people that we have on drug court. And we're at about half capacity for drug court. We have a 70 person limit and we're at around 35 people.

01:01:57.220 --> 01:02:07.220

So we're trying to expand that as well using this adult redeploy grant money that we've received, which is to your point that this is all at the end of the road focused and not at the prevention focus.

01:02:07.738 --> 01:02:14.738

I think the issue would be that we need the provider, we need the mental health care team, we need counselors, and we need an extra probation officer, we need an extra prosecutor.

01:02:15.054 --> 01:02:17.054

I've got somebody to do it.

01:02:16.788 --> 01:02:22.788

But he is on the adult redeploy grant. So that means that the only people he can serve

01:02:22.667 --> 01:02:27.667

are people who otherwise would be sentenced to prison. That is the purpose of the adult redeploy grant.

01:02:27.917 --> 01:02:39.917

So we can't use Ernie as the public defender for a preventative diversionary mental health court because that would violate the terms of the grant that currently pays his salary.

01:02:39.797 --> 01:02:48.797

So I would love to see a diversionary mental health court because the number of clients I have that I know for a fact would not be my client

01:02:49.042 --> 01:02:51.042

if they had the appropriate treatment.

01:02:51.104 --> 01:02:54.104

It is innumerable the number of people that go through that.

01:02:54.418 --> 01:03:05.418

And so if we had a diversionary mental health court, then we would need all the accoutrement to support it. We need a probation officer, a PD, a state's attorney, which means we need money.

01:03:06.041 --> 01:03:09.041

And we need a provider, a counselor, and a case manager.

01:03:08.415 --> 01:03:31.415

And that is kind of like the universe of people that we need to get this thing started. And we are making some progress towards the discussion at least. I mean, we're talking about it. It's a priority. I know Judge Dyer is in favor of it, even though he can't be here tonight. I'm in favor of it. I think that if we get the right people, Julia's in favor of it. Shannon would be in favor of it. We just need the humans and the money to do it.

01:03:32.426 --> 01:03:34.426

Yes.

01:03:35.050 --> 01:03:37.050

Oh, wow.

01:03:40.870 --> 01:03:47.870

There's something else behind this that you touched on and I kind of I had meant to say it, but forgot to put it in my notes. And that is that

01:03:47.252 --> 01:03:56.252

In Illinois, the two service systems are separated. They have been administered by two separate agencies and this is why

01:03:57.009 --> 01:04:02.009

On the ground, you have service providers who recognize a substance use disorder and the mental health

01:04:01.584 --> 01:04:04.584

issue, but can't treat them both.

01:04:05.137 --> 01:04:13.137

So right now, Illinois is working to put those two agencies together and the director of mental health called me and asked what

01:04:13.757 --> 01:04:17.757

What do you think? And I was like, please rewrite the rules

01:04:17.577 --> 01:04:20.577

So that a provider can serve people and

01:04:21.082 --> 01:04:26.082

on both sides of this. And then I talked to their consultants. They have a consulting firm

01:04:26.951 --> 01:04:36.951

Also asking for input and that was my main thing like we have to rewrite the rules. It's boring. It'll take staff time, but you've got to do it so that one provider can serve

01:04:36.697 --> 01:04:41.697

A project like that and provide both types of service. It's really a

01:04:41.912 --> 01:04:45.912

It's a very outdated barrier and it's specific here.

01:04:45.927 --> 01:04:55.927

I agree with that. And I actually think that because I've been looking into the various mental health courts across the state to see what kind of models we could use and what the rules are, et cetera.

01:04:55.755 --> 01:05:04.755

So severe mental health may be a disqualifier for drug court, but substance abuse is not a disqualifier for mental health court.

01:05:04.439 --> 01:05:08.439

So mental health courts

01:05:08.569 --> 01:05:11.569

In Illinois under statute can treat

01:05:11.825 --> 01:05:13.825
people with both issues.

01:05:13.694 --> 01:05:21.694
I know that may be a barrier for the provider. We hear about dual diagnoses, dual diagnoses rehabilitation programs.

01:05:22.005 --> 01:05:25.005
And try finding one. I mean, it's almost impossible to get anybody in.

01:05:25.724 --> 01:05:34.724
So that's, I mean, my priority, the next big project I would like to see happen in our county is to restart mental health court. And we're going to need funding to do that.

01:05:39.984 --> 01:05:41.984
Physically.

01:05:43.278 --> 01:05:45.278
Oh.

01:05:45.924 --> 01:05:55.924
Oh, present now. Okay, got you. I just wanted to say one thing real quick before we move on. Thank you for being exact on what you wanted. What do we have to do to get this mental health court ball rolling?

01:05:59.152 --> 01:06:05.152
I got like two bucks on me. I think it would help with if we could

01:06:04.444 --> 01:06:07.444
look into funding a provider.

01:06:07.946 --> 01:06:11.946
I think that's the number one priority because, I mean, look, we have staffing needs

01:06:12.040 --> 01:06:22.040
But we're going to have staffing needs for the end time. I mean, that's always going to be a problem in public service work because, you know, people graduate from law school and they want to

01:06:21.988 --> 01:06:32.988
work for Capital One in Chicago and make \$8 million. And if you do this kind of work, you do it because you love it and because you believe in it, not because you're going to ever make a lot of money at it, as I'm sure everybody in this room knows.

01:06:32.923 --> 01:06:47.923
But I think that the piece that we can look for alternatives, we can go to the county board and ask for staff, we can look for other grant opportunities. The staffing piece is not, I don't think a mental health board problem. I think the provider piece is where we could really get help.

01:06:47.921 --> 01:06:51.921

So now we'll work on getting the ball rolling there because definitely

01:06:51.990 --> 01:06:54.990

We need specialization in that because co's police

01:06:55.292 --> 01:07:03.292

attorneys, you know, they don't need to be worrying about mental health. They got a job to do. So hopefully we can find providers who can actually do that who are specialized. Okay, Chris, go ahead.

01:07:03.297 --> 01:07:12.297

Oh, is there any more questions from the board? Actually, I had a question. I think he's presenting, right? Okay, I have a quick question. I know it's a big question.

01:07:12.149 --> 01:07:20.149

So we had a couple people talk about how we send people to our local ERs and crisis and they send them right back.

01:07:21.521 --> 01:07:27.521

what is their justification of not wanting to keep these people? Is it because they don't have

01:07:28.145 --> 01:07:31.145

the rooms, I mean, because again, we don't have a

01:07:31.717 --> 01:07:36.717

I don't even think we have a psych floor in this city, do we? There's always have

01:07:36.728 --> 01:07:44.728

OSF does still, okay, I didn't know they still do. So I guess what's without like divulging too much, why do they not want to keep anyone?

01:07:47.562 --> 01:07:51.562

Well, they don't have to answer to me because I asked them why they don't.

01:07:51.190 --> 01:07:58.190

But a lot of times they'll tell me they're looking for someone who's currently actively suicidal or homicidal.

01:07:58.873 --> 01:08:00.873

And a lot of the people we send over there

01:08:00.563 --> 01:08:04.563

they may not necessarily tell them. They also know what to say to get out.

01:08:04.682 --> 01:08:11.682

One, but a lot of times it's just because we know they can't even take care of themselves. That's not enough for them because they say that

01:08:11.446 --> 01:08:15.446

In most cases, they're not a current crisis. They're looking for that current

01:08:16.010 --> 01:08:19.010

crisis. And I know, like I said, we.

01:08:19.121 --> 01:08:26.121

We send people a lot. I'm trying to think of how often. And Julie, I think's office has been doing some things a little bit different.

01:08:26.646 --> 01:08:28.646

on involuntaries on the civil side.

01:08:28.394 --> 01:08:33.394

To try to help with that so that they have to see them. But I don't know if it's beds.

01:08:33.322 --> 01:08:40.322

I don't think it's beds. They never told me they don't have a bed available or they don't have the staff. I just think that they're looking for that

01:08:40.333 --> 01:08:42.333

current crisis.

01:08:42.761 --> 01:08:49.761

So, okay, there's a whole body of law on the concept of involuntary commitment.

01:08:49.263 --> 01:08:52.263

Which is what we're talking about because again

01:08:52.819 --> 01:08:55.819

It is not illegal to be mentally ill.

01:08:55.956 --> 01:09:01.956

And so the government cannot hold somebody against their will

01:09:02.568 --> 01:09:05.568

Because they're mentally ill and that includes

01:09:05.539 --> 01:09:12.539

I mean, the way that a hospital would hold somebody against their will would be to enforce that through the law

01:09:12.602 --> 01:09:17.602

And the government. So there's a whole criteria now we can

01:09:17.909 --> 01:09:19.909

cynically say.

01:09:19.354 --> 01:09:23.354

that the hospitals are making choices

01:09:24.474 --> 01:09:29.474
and question those choices. But I think that they would say

01:09:29.963 --> 01:09:31.963
that we

01:09:32.721 --> 01:09:35.721
the jail or law enforcement or

01:09:35.280 --> 01:09:39.280
a service provider or a family member might bring

01:09:40.151 --> 01:09:46.151
somebody to the hospital and say, this person needs inpatient treatment,
they need help.

01:09:46.543 --> 01:09:52.543
And then the hospital personnel have to sit down and go through an
evaluation

01:09:52.851 --> 01:09:58.851
And if that person does not meet the legal definition for involuntary
commitment.

01:09:58.476 --> 01:10:03.476
You know, the person could choose, could agree voluntarily to stay

01:10:04.219 --> 01:10:06.219
But if they don't.

01:10:06.301 --> 01:10:09.301
the doctor has to sign off.

01:10:09.442 --> 01:10:13.442
swearing that this person meets this criteria

01:10:14.121 --> 01:10:18.121
And then we have to go in front of a judge and have

01:10:18.814 --> 01:10:24.814
that person have the judge make a finding about whether that person meets
that definition, which is

01:10:24.594 --> 01:10:30.594
You know, are they a danger to themselves or others basically is the
simplest way to look at it.

01:10:30.847 --> 01:10:32.847
you know so

01:10:32.719 --> 01:10:38.719

A lot of times when someone comes into the jail, they may make statements and be

01:10:38.403 --> 01:10:42.403
you know, obviously have a mental health issue

01:10:42.429 --> 01:10:46.429
And so then we'll agree, okay, take them to the hospital

01:10:46.706 --> 01:10:52.706
And then the hospital will do their thing or time has passed and the crisis has passed.

01:10:52.828 --> 01:10:54.828
And the hospital will say.

01:10:56.019 --> 01:11:05.019
this person doesn't meet that level. And depending on the offense that the person committed, then the police might come back and then

01:11:05.150 --> 01:11:07.150
take the person back from the hospital

01:11:08.205 --> 01:11:09.205
back to the jail or

01:11:09.962 --> 01:11:14.962
They might then just be released back to the street again without medication, without supports.

01:11:16.105 --> 01:11:23.105
And that cycle continues. But we have to start from it's not illegal to be mentally ill.

01:11:23.750 --> 01:11:25.750
So how do we support people

01:11:25.944 --> 01:11:27.944
who are mentally ill.

01:11:31.394 --> 01:11:34.394
And what I would say is, you know, the ER can't

01:11:35.150 --> 01:11:41.150
start someone on like Prozac or Zoloft or antipsychotic medication and say, oh, follow up with your PCP like you're

01:11:41.469 --> 01:11:47.469
your provider, that's not how that works. So they will say you need to follow up with your doctor

01:11:47.545 --> 01:11:50.545
And those patients often don't.

01:11:50.739 --> 01:11:53.739

And so then they end up back into the ER.

01:11:53.365 --> 01:11:59.365

And so, you know, at least from a pediatric standpoint, like when parents take their kids to the ER,

01:11:59.620 --> 01:12:06.620

they will you know usually when they call us, they're like, okay, they're threatening themselves or they're threatening others like yeah you have to take them to the ER and then they will

01:12:07.179 --> 01:12:13.179

you know, do the evaluation and say, well, if they are having thoughts of wanting to hurt themselves or others, then they will admit them

01:12:12.514 --> 01:12:20.514

OSF is for 18 and older, but usually it's pavilion. And then if pavilion is full, which it does happen.

01:12:20.816 --> 01:12:31.816

They go to Lincoln Prairie if they have space. Otherwise, they may go somewhere else. There's some places in the northern Illinois that we have had patients go to. I think it's like Streamwood or something. I can't remember.

01:12:31.245 --> 01:12:35.245

So, you know, those beds do fill up

01:12:35.621 --> 01:12:41.621

And that's with actively people with active suicidal or homicidal ideation.

01:12:42.904 --> 01:12:48.904

And I get what Juliet is saying about it's not illegal to have mental illness. I guess I was hoping that

01:12:48.326 --> 01:12:55.326

my experiences in the civilian world were different than if you guys said, hey, we have someone who needs, you know.

01:12:55.329 --> 01:12:57.329

But the idea of

01:12:57.715 --> 01:13:00.715

Knowing what to say to a doctor, yeah, I've experienced that.

01:13:01.088 --> 01:13:03.088

when you touched on um

01:13:02.845 --> 01:13:07.845

you know parents who want to help their especially adult children and you can't

01:13:08.911 --> 01:13:10.911
That hit a nerve too. And I get it.

01:13:10.355 --> 01:13:16.355
But it's like, I was hoping that at least if a police officer, a lawyer,
someone was saying.

01:13:16.474 --> 01:13:18.474
this person's in danger that

01:13:18.530 --> 01:13:24.530
there was more to do. But I get it. They have rights to be mentally ill
and not treat themselves, unfortunately.

01:13:26.101 --> 01:13:28.101
That's one thing I think that

01:13:28.773 --> 01:13:34.773
We really try from the jail, our mental health team will call over to the
hospitals. We try

01:13:35.161 --> 01:13:39.161
to give them everything we can, but they also have their hand tides. I
get that.

01:13:38.723 --> 01:13:48.723
But I think that's part of the concern that like Julia had mentioned
about the beginning is that's where my concern is. There's not enough and
you guys can't fix all that in the community.

01:13:49.214 --> 01:13:57.214
You know, I wish there was more options for people to be able to walk
straight in and get the help they need, or the parents or family members
when they see their child's in crisis

01:13:57.774 --> 01:14:02.774
to get them the help they need right away. Again, that's what Julia's
whole point is, is trying to get it beforehand.

01:14:02.781 --> 01:14:04.781
I'm a course once you're in jail

01:14:04.555 --> 01:14:10.555
You know, PDs at the very end. So of course, we're coming at with ideas
of what we can do at our level.

01:14:10.787 --> 01:14:12.787
But I know that if we had

01:14:12.801 --> 01:14:16.801
the ability for people to walk in and get those services much quicker

01:14:16.166 --> 01:14:19.166
They get to see a psychiatrist within weeks.

01:14:20.043 --> 01:14:26.043
sometimes a week at the jail. So they're going to see them a lot faster
in the jail than they would in the community, which could be months out.

01:14:27.044 --> 01:14:34.044
So I hate to say it that sometimes they come to jail, like she said, to
get some of those resources, but I wish that that wasn't the cycle.

01:14:38.009 --> 01:14:41.009
Well, I think we had Rose Krantz present.

01:14:40.710 --> 01:14:44.710
Well, a couple like last month saying that they have five providers

01:14:44.658 --> 01:14:49.658
for psychiatric care. Oh, sorry, Promise Healthcare, Promise Healthcare,
Promise Healthcare.

01:14:49.595 --> 01:14:53.595
So hopefully, you know, I don't know if they're on here

01:14:54.030 --> 01:14:56.030
would be able to help

01:14:56.030 --> 01:14:58.030
with some of that need.

01:15:01.367 --> 01:15:07.367
Chair has temporarily been deferred back to me, but it's about to be
deferred back to Chris momentarily.

01:15:07.610 --> 01:15:10.610
Yeah, go for it. I just...

01:15:11.364 --> 01:15:16.364
On the topic of mental health court, which I am supportive of the
concept.

01:15:16.242 --> 01:15:19.242
But having been through

01:15:19.933 --> 01:15:21.933
an experiment.

01:15:22.919 --> 01:15:24.919
it failed.

01:15:24.427 --> 01:15:28.427
And the reason why it failed

01:15:28.813 --> 01:15:30.813
is because

01:15:31.553 --> 01:15:35.553

We did not sit down and create the process.

01:15:36.791 --> 01:15:41.791

As a team okay and i found

01:15:41.805 --> 01:15:46.805

And I would say that Randy Rosenbaum, who is the public defender at that time.

01:15:46.417 --> 01:15:49.417

who was working on it as well found.

01:15:49.233 --> 01:15:52.233

that people were going to jail more

01:15:53.170 --> 01:15:56.170

as a sanction.

01:15:57.421 --> 01:16:00.421

or to get them to take their medication.

01:16:01.363 --> 01:16:03.363

than they would have

01:16:03.491 --> 01:16:05.491

if they were not in mental health court.

01:16:06.320 --> 01:16:11.320

And that is partially where the provider piece comes in.

01:16:11.563 --> 01:16:14.563

of needing to have a very strong

01:16:14.191 --> 01:16:21.191

organized, purposeful provider who is leading that process.

01:16:21.901 --> 01:16:24.901

As opposed to it being a judicial

01:16:26.758 --> 01:16:36.758

court, it's very different from drug court. And I think all of the experts, all the specialty court experts would say that two things are very different.

01:16:36.257 --> 01:16:46.257

You know, because the concept of something hanging over your head like incarceration as a motivator in the substance abuse treatment.

01:16:47.016 --> 01:16:49.016

is something that works.

01:16:48.572 --> 01:16:51.572

But that does not work.

01:16:52.698 --> 01:16:56.698
in the mental health arena to get somebody to take their medication.

01:16:57.338 --> 01:17:03.338
And so I found as the state's attorney that people were going to jail

01:17:04.032 --> 01:17:06.032
more often than they would have

01:17:05.413 --> 01:17:12.413
in mental health court, you know, than if they had just been on regular probation. And I said, no, we're not doing this.

01:17:12.735 --> 01:17:15.735
And in mental health, I mean, you have to

01:17:15.736 --> 01:17:19.736
I mean, it's not just that individual. And I think a lot of times we're still

01:17:19.354 --> 01:17:26.354
a society that sees the individual as opposed to seeing the community behind the individual.

01:17:26.483 --> 01:17:30.483
How do you keep how you keep that person out of a system

01:17:31.067 --> 01:17:33.067
It's also about how you keep that family

01:17:33.566 --> 01:17:35.566
all his community or her community.

01:17:35.808 --> 01:17:37.808
intact and it's

01:17:38.441 --> 01:17:42.441
It's not that person individual in front of you

01:17:42.518 --> 01:17:47.518
has a bunch of people behind him. And if he or she, I'm someone say he

01:17:47.641 --> 01:17:50.641
is unhoused. That's also part of a problem.

01:17:50.391 --> 01:17:53.391
And it's part of a way we have to look

01:17:53.268 --> 01:17:56.268
And not just that individual, but that's saying

01:17:56.274 --> 01:17:59.274
what in our system is broken

01:17:59.781 --> 01:18:01.781

Because mental health is what we see

01:18:01.665 --> 01:18:05.665

But there is a lot more behind it. And I go back to the young man that I see

01:18:05.285 --> 01:18:08.285

every day almost every day downtown and

01:18:08.290 --> 01:18:11.290

He's been unhoused um for

01:18:12.220 --> 01:18:14.220

a while now. And he tells me about it all the time.

01:18:14.652 --> 01:18:16.652

But go ahead, Tony.

01:18:16.796 --> 01:18:18.796

From this.

01:18:23.541 --> 01:18:30.541

I do think as a mental health board, we need to explore a diversion program for having a mental health court.

01:18:31.091 --> 01:18:39.091

And so I've been thinking about this and what would be some of the outcomes that we would be looking for? Would the outcomes be

01:18:39.487 --> 01:18:49.487

like we want you to have one year of outpatient counseling. And if you were able to attend the one year of outpatient counseling, then

01:18:49.351 --> 01:18:55.351

you will avoid your sentencing. And so what are the outcomes that we'd be looking for with a

01:18:55.511 --> 01:18:58.511

diversion mental health court? So there's there's

01:18:59.056 --> 01:19:01.056

you know, the pre diversion

01:19:00.628 --> 01:19:04.628

of the mental health course. So no conviction is entered.

01:19:05.205 --> 01:19:15.205

Which means that the charge is there. It's present. We know you've been charged with it, but if you complete X number of requirements specifically, then the charge will be retroactively dismissed.

01:19:14.830 --> 01:19:17.830

So you don't end up with a criminal conviction.

01:19:18.278 --> 01:19:32.278

on the team, and it would be for it would depend on the nature of the offense, how long it would be like right now, drug court has 30 months and 48 months. It depends on what the charge is because certain charges have certain lengths of probation that can be affiliated with them.

01:19:31.913 --> 01:19:40.913

So like some you can only have 12 months, some is 24 months, some's 36 months, some, you know, and you can go up and up depending on how serious the offense was. There would have to be some requirements because

01:19:40.932 --> 01:19:48.932

a lot of these courts, we can't accommodate violence. So it would have to be nonviolent, I think would be qualifying to do that.

01:19:48.423 --> 01:19:55.423

And it would really depend on where the money came from, I think, because if the money comes from the grants that exist.

01:19:55.945 --> 01:20:00.945

those that grant money can only be spent to defer prison.

01:20:00.689 --> 01:20:12.689

And by the time that a person is facing that length of a prison sentence, they likely already have a prior conviction. So stopping a conviction from being entered doesn't really help that person in terms of

01:20:13.253 --> 01:20:17.253

They already have a felony conviction, so it doesn't change their circumstances in that way.

01:20:17.709 --> 01:20:29.709

And so if the money comes from like adult redeploy, it's going to look a lot different than if we can get something that's diversionary entirely. And I think, you know, 24 months in the program is generally acceptable.

01:20:29.856 --> 01:20:47.856

You can always terminate it early if somebody is doing a really, really good job and they think that we're assured that this is not going to be an issue anymore, but we need a multidisciplinary team like on the drug court team, we have Rose Krantz who handles some mental health counseling and also the group's substance abuse groups.

01:20:48.152 --> 01:20:52.152

We've got CU at Home on the team. We've got task probation on the team.

01:20:52.479 --> 01:21:01.479

We've got Family Service Center for other counseling and assessment. I mean, we have like, it's everybody. We're all together and we're all, so we're dealing with that issue of unhoused

01:21:01.240 --> 01:21:10.240

While also going through substance abuse, while also having criminal involvement. And so that's, I would like to see something with that level of cooperation.

01:21:10.300 --> 01:21:12.300
Between everybody.

01:21:13.858 --> 01:21:15.858
And see, this is where we're going to fight.

01:21:23.936 --> 01:21:25.936
Is that okay?

01:21:26.543 --> 01:21:29.543
Approved. I just want to

01:21:29.989 --> 01:21:38.989
blow your mind and make all your dreams come true. We are currently funding a provider to offer mental health court services, and we did last year as well.

01:21:38.549 --> 01:21:49.549
But there wasn't a mental health court to serve, but they're ready to do it. So we've got a tiny foot in the door. They know that this is

01:21:49.738 --> 01:21:57.738
the direction that Champaign County wants to go so they continue to apply for funding to support it, but it just hasn't happened yet.

01:21:58.113 --> 01:22:10.113
So that's part of our... I don't know who that provider is. They're probably keeping themselves very quiet. It's Rosecrance and they have in the application, they indicate this is

01:22:10.260 --> 01:22:12.260
understood.

01:22:13.148 --> 01:22:21.148
Well, it's sort of like a chicken and the egg question then, because we're sitting here going, well, who's going to provide the services? And maybe that

01:22:21.167 --> 01:22:32.167
was kind of why I threw that conversation out yesterday at that meeting and looked right at him and said, who's the provider? And didn't really frankly get a very firm response, to be very frank.

01:22:32.978 --> 01:22:35.978
20 years in, I don't care anymore you know um

01:22:36.282 --> 01:22:43.282
So again, based on my experience, in my opinion, what would a mental health court be?

01:22:43.972 --> 01:22:45.972
It would be a diversionary program.

01:22:47.044 --> 01:22:57.044
It would mean that somebody would leave without a criminal conviction.
Part of the problem when we tried this before was that was what we
started out with and then

01:22:56.738 --> 01:23:01.738
The judge decided that everybody was going to have to plead and be
sentenced to it.

01:23:02.869 --> 01:23:08.869
That's what happened. All of a sudden it was, well, I can't dismiss a
case after you've already

01:23:08.672 --> 01:23:11.672
sentenced somebody to probation

01:23:11.243 --> 01:23:18.243
I disagree about long periods of time because, again, we're talking about
people with mental health issues.

01:23:18.360 --> 01:23:20.360
You know, I want to get people on

01:23:20.604 --> 01:23:22.604
the right track

01:23:23.105 --> 01:23:25.105
And six months, eight months, nine months.

01:23:26.421 --> 01:23:29.421
let them go and call it a success.

01:23:29.990 --> 01:23:34.990
not two years in because... I'm not objecting to shorter terms.

01:23:35.181 --> 01:23:41.181
See, we're working this out. But it's also different because you can't
have somebody come back

01:23:40.557 --> 01:23:43.557
every week because every week

01:23:44.114 --> 01:23:50.114
you know, it's not like this, right? You need more time to figure out how
we're climbing the mountain.

01:23:49.112 --> 01:23:53.112
So there's a lot of things that need to be discussed.

01:23:53.615 --> 01:23:58.615

You know, it's not going to solve all the problems, but if we're going to do it.

01:23:58.795 --> 01:24:00.795
We need to do it.

01:24:00.614 --> 01:24:06.614
right and we all need to know what we're doing and what we're trying to accomplish and who's doing what.

01:24:07.500 --> 01:24:14.500
Because it's not just everybody just says, oh, well, we need a mental health court. And then we all like go, oh, yeah, that'd be great. And then nothing happens.

01:24:16.002 --> 01:24:18.002
Because we think that's going to solve all the problems.

01:24:19.579 --> 01:24:23.579
Online comment. Oh, sorry. Sorry.

01:24:23.348 --> 01:24:28.348
Did you want to comment now, Jen? Was it something before we move on?

01:24:28.788 --> 01:24:30.788
I have...

01:24:30.305 --> 01:24:33.305
Okay. I just wanted to say.

01:24:36.053 --> 01:24:38.053
Okay.

01:24:38.243 --> 01:24:43.243
I also just want to point out about this exact conversation. We also have to be certified.

01:24:44.119 --> 01:24:52.119
Before we can go. I mean, it's a little bit different than drug court. We have to get certified with the administrative office of Illinois courts before we can start a mental health court.

01:24:51.794 --> 01:25:06.794
Drug court, you can start doing it and then get certified. For a mental health court, you have to be certified first. So that's a whole process that we would have to go through. We'd have to have everything done ahead of time. Like Julia said, that's not just a

01:25:06.480 --> 01:25:10.480
let's we want to do it. Let's jump in. We can get it going next month.

01:25:10.894 --> 01:25:21.894
I mean, we'd have to have all the documentation ready. We'd have to know what the phases are. We'd have to know all the requirements. And that

would have to be approved by the administrative office of Illinois courts before we could even start taking people in.

01:25:21.073 --> 01:25:25.073

So just a little additional background info.

01:25:25.636 --> 01:25:29.636

And Chris, you've been trying to get in forever. Do you just have a comment or?

01:25:32.704 --> 01:25:35.704

Thank you. I'm Chris Stohr.

01:25:35.324 --> 01:25:40.324

I used to work in the jail with

01:25:40.883 --> 01:25:45.883

with the GROW program, and I currently serve on the Champaign County Board.

01:25:45.275 --> 01:25:48.275

And, uh.

01:25:51.144 --> 01:25:55.144

to pick up Dr. Omo Osagie's

01:25:54.768 --> 01:26:02.768

remark uh very very good. And I'm awfully glad to see everybody here especially

01:26:03.264 --> 01:26:06.264

I know, I know, I know.

01:26:07.461 --> 01:26:09.461

I...

01:26:10.856 --> 01:26:12.856

The...

01:26:13.906 --> 01:26:16.906

This matter of

01:26:17.158 --> 01:26:22.158

incarceration and especially mental health, behavioral health

01:26:22.126 --> 01:26:26.126

And domestic violence, which hasn't been mentioned yet

01:26:25.899 --> 01:26:29.899

has been under discussion.

01:26:30.142 --> 01:26:32.142

If quietly.

01:26:32.475 --> 01:26:35.475
between county board members for

01:26:35.536 --> 01:26:40.536
For years. And how can we do this? How can we help?

01:26:40.979 --> 01:26:42.979
And, uh.

01:26:42.981 --> 01:26:45.981
You rightly point out that the that the big

01:26:45.910 --> 01:26:49.910
that one of the big impediments is financial resources to

01:26:49.478 --> 01:26:53.478
to hire people to develop the programs

01:26:53.840 --> 01:26:57.840
And do everything that needs to make it work.

01:27:00.780 --> 01:27:04.780
on the ballot coming up in only a few weeks.

01:27:04.974 --> 01:27:08.974
is a measure requesting 25 cents

01:27:09.211 --> 01:27:12.211
Which I neglected to bring my prop.

01:27:12.844 --> 01:27:14.844
25 cents per

01:27:15.298 --> 01:27:25.298
\$100, one quarter of one cent. That is the least amount of money that
anyone can ask for a tax

01:27:26.914 --> 01:27:29.914
And although...

01:27:29.215 --> 01:27:35.215
the money is not currently under discussion specifically for

01:27:35.226 --> 01:27:37.226
mental health.

01:27:37.778 --> 01:27:43.778
The money is intended, would be intended, we hope, if we get it

01:27:43.845 --> 01:27:47.845
four additional attorneys for the defender's office.

01:27:48.213 --> 01:27:50.213
for the state's attorney's office.

01:27:50.537 --> 01:27:54.537
or a coroner and uh

01:27:54.656 --> 01:27:59.656
and some other uses, including software, which is not

01:27:59.717 --> 01:28:06.717
sexy sort of thing that we like to talk about for to operate the
courthouse

01:28:08.152 --> 01:28:10.152
But...

01:28:11.465 --> 01:28:14.465
in coming in in

01:28:15.026 --> 01:28:20.026
you know, this would be a financial vehicle that could be used.

01:28:20.217 --> 01:28:22.217
And that's

01:28:22.231 --> 01:28:24.231
bringing you know bringing

01:28:24.819 --> 01:28:27.819
Specific needs, especially if it's

01:28:27.316 --> 01:28:31.316
a unified program as as

01:28:32.314 --> 01:28:37.314
has been under discussion here. I think Ms. Reitz made an excellent

01:28:37.257 --> 01:28:41.257
point in talking and saying, you know, say, oh.

01:28:42.312 --> 01:28:44.312
Previous...

01:28:44.512 --> 01:28:48.512
Mental Health Court failed because it wasn't an integrated program.

01:28:49.074 --> 01:28:51.074
Well...

01:28:50.139 --> 01:28:56.139
If everybody's not singing out of the same hymn book.

01:28:56.328 --> 01:29:00.328
It just not going to work.

01:29:00.577 --> 01:29:02.577

So I...

01:29:03.528 --> 01:29:06.528
I encourage it.

01:29:06.827 --> 01:29:13.827
I encourage anybody who's listening and the folks around the table here

01:29:13.725 --> 01:29:16.725
to spread the word that

01:29:17.659 --> 01:29:19.659
that this

01:29:19.718 --> 01:29:22.718
small sum, which I do

01:29:22.772 --> 01:29:24.772
We are at so many

01:29:24.981 --> 01:29:28.981
entities are asking for tax increase right now.

01:29:29.150 --> 01:29:37.150
would go for this important effort that will help our families and
communities.

01:29:37.336 --> 01:29:39.336
And...

01:29:40.225 --> 01:29:44.225
I think that this is a good place to stop.

01:29:48.907 --> 01:29:51.907
Excellent. So just to check in real quick, do we have any online
comments?

01:29:54.033 --> 01:29:58.033
Okay. There was a comment from Jen Straub a while ago.

01:29:57.285 --> 01:30:00.285
But I think, do you want me to read it?

01:30:00.713 --> 01:30:03.713
Yeah. Okay. It says...

01:30:04.157 --> 01:30:06.157
Unless Jen would like to read it herself.

01:30:05.280 --> 01:30:12.280
And for so many folks, timing is everything. If they can't get the
resources on the day they've decided

01:30:12.618 --> 01:30:16.618

to seek treatment, that opportunity may not present itself again for a long time.

01:30:21.243 --> 01:30:23.243
Okay, so...

01:30:23.700 --> 01:30:25.700
Anybody want to go next?

01:30:26.647 --> 01:30:28.647
Shannon, go Shannon.

01:30:28.975 --> 01:30:33.975
Hi, I'm Shannon Siders. I am the director of Champaign County Probation and Court Services.

01:30:33.809 --> 01:30:38.809
I started my career out at the juvenile detention center in 2002.

01:30:38.650 --> 01:30:45.650
I worked out there for 14 and a half years and then I transferred over to adult probation in 2017.

01:30:45.612 --> 01:30:53.612
And then I just got promoted to the director in 2023. So this is a fairly new role for me, but I've been

01:30:53.294 --> 01:30:56.294
and a county employee for many years.

01:30:56.885 --> 01:31:00.885
And, you know, it affected me listening to

01:31:00.938 --> 01:31:13.938
what Alex and Elizabeth had to say, obviously, because they're talking about my staff and about me. I talked to Alex briefly before he left and he didn't mind me sharing a little bit of additional information about

01:31:14.068 --> 01:31:16.068
my experience with Alex.

01:31:16.504 --> 01:31:23.504
And there were many times where I wasn't sure if Alex was going to make it. I mean, I was constantly worried about Alex when he was on

01:31:23.522 --> 01:31:30.522
my caseload. I wasn't sure if Alex was going to be alive the next day. And I would talk to Alex's mom about

01:31:31.205 --> 01:31:39.205
Have you heard from him? Do you know how he's doing? So he has made amazing strides, but we did face

01:31:38.636 --> 01:31:44.636

you know many issues in trying to get him into treatment. And just like Jen just said

01:31:44.446 --> 01:31:48.446

You know, there were times where he was ready and we couldn't get him anywhere.

01:31:49.127 --> 01:32:13.127

And then we miss that opportunity and then he gets in the jail and he sits in the jail for 30 days and then no one will take him because he's been clean for too long, just like what Max was talking about yesterday. I mean, that happens a lot. And somebody from Gateway, we were trying to get him into Gateway and he had been clean for too long. We couldn't get him into Gateway, but somebody from Gateway actually helped me find a place for him to go in Peoria.

01:32:12.748 --> 01:32:28.748

Which is where he ended up going at some point in time. But there are so many challenges these people are facing in trying, you know, they decide, okay, I want to do this, but oh, we can't get you there for a couple of days or we've got to try to figure out how to get you a

01:32:28.302 --> 01:32:35.302

transportation or get you the bed and the bed might not be available for a couple of days or it might not be for a couple of weeks.

01:32:35.917 --> 01:32:40.917

And then they're constantly, they're the ones that have to keep calling and trying to find out, is there a bed and

01:32:42.103 --> 01:32:49.103

Something else comes up and they forget to do that. And then we're kind of right back in the same situation again.

01:32:50.032 --> 01:32:58.032

had a lot of, I have a lot of little notes here. So family support is one thing that, you know, we talked about. Alex's mom was beside herself.

01:32:58.118 --> 01:33:03.118

worried about her son not wanting to enable him, but also not knowing what to do.

01:33:03.181 --> 01:33:05.181

And as a parent.

01:33:04.939 --> 01:33:09.939

I can't imagine that feeling, you know, Alex told me tonight that he just turned 30 last week.

01:33:09.314 --> 01:33:13.314

You know, when this was three, four years ago.

01:33:13.278 --> 01:33:21.278

Alex, I mean, we didn't even know if Alex was going to be alive the next day. And as a parent, I can't imagine what she was going through. And we have so many

01:33:21.888 --> 01:33:24.888
parents who call my staff at this point

01:33:25.138 --> 01:33:31.138
worried about their adult child and they have a mental illness and they can't, they won't get help.

01:33:31.327 --> 01:33:38.327
You know, they're going through a substance use disorder and they're not sure if their kid is going to be alive. So I think parent

01:33:38.583 --> 01:33:43.583
and family support is a good place to try to focus on because those people

01:33:43.456 --> 01:33:56.456
or beside themselves, they are constantly worrying. And that is so hard as a parent, I'm sure. So I think family supports would be a good place. I also like the prevention idea and just a

01:33:57.716 --> 01:34:17.716
a little side note, I had met with some people from Reimagine Justice to try to do some restorative justice programming at the juvenile detention center, which also falls under my supervision. So we were trying to do some restorative justice programming out there and we met with a couple people about that last week.

01:34:17.672 --> 01:34:23.672
And then I got a quote from them today and it's going to be \$15,000 to get our staff trained.

01:34:24.056 --> 01:34:31.056
So, you know, trying to figure out where I'm going to get \$15,000 to try to get some staff trained.

01:34:30.743 --> 01:34:36.743
is, you know, I was a little bit thrown off. I wasn't expecting a \$15,000

01:34:36.237 --> 01:34:44.237
proposal coming my direction when we talk about this restorative justice programming. But I think there's some prevention there that

01:34:45.172 --> 01:34:48.172
is possible by trying to do some of those pieces

01:34:48.237 --> 01:34:51.237
early and ahead of time that might help

01:34:51.380 --> 01:35:15.380

the cause a little bit. And then at probation, we have a lot of good partnerships. We do have a lot of positive things happening. Rose Krantz comes in and they're doing MRT groups. They're doing anger management groups at the probation office. We also have the groups through drug court, the Family Services Center that's doing the Seeking Safety and Healthy Boundaries. We work with Cognition Works. That's a group, the

01:35:16.225 --> 01:35:31.225

responsible choices that I think Elizabeth had mentioned. So we are open and we do or we also have sex offender treatment groups happening at the probation office. We're very open to having different services going on. We try to get our staff to

01:35:30.788 --> 01:35:36.788

be aware of what services are in the community. We have providers come in monthly.

01:35:36.920 --> 01:35:53.920

We've had races, we've had see you at home, Grow is going to come in the future. So every month we have a different provider come in and speak to our staff about what services are available in the community so our staff know what they can refer our clients to. But it all comes down to the people.

01:35:54.174 --> 01:35:56.174

You know, the people that are working in my department

01:35:57.107 --> 01:36:06.107

care about the clients that we're serving. And you can tell that from the way that they spoke about my staff tonight. I mean, they both talk very highly about Max and what Max has done

01:36:05.419 --> 01:36:18.419

for them. And that's, I was at a training last week in Kane County about juveniles and detention, and they brought back a gentleman who'd been incarcerated at the Kane County Juvenile Detention Center when he was

01:36:19.191 --> 01:36:25.191

you know, 15 or 16 and now he's grown with two kids in college. And then they brought a kid from the

01:36:26.076 --> 01:36:29.076

who's being incarcerated at the juvenile

01:36:29.395 --> 01:36:33.395

The IDOJJ facility in St. Charles, they brought him over

01:36:33.790 --> 01:36:56.790

And they were asking them what experience you got out of your time in custody and what programs you liked and what kinds of things helped you. And both of them talked about the people. It's the people that are working with them that's making the most difference. And I have a lot of really amazing people in my department who really care about our clients and want to help them

01:36:56.685 --> 01:37:03.685
improve their lives. And I think that's a really important piece that it's those relationships that are going to help us

01:37:03.311 --> 01:37:07.311
make these positive things happen moving forward.

01:37:09.123 --> 01:37:14.123
Excellent. Thank you. And Alex caught me and got my information, so hopefully I can do some work.

01:37:14.809 --> 01:37:16.809
with him because he said he wanted to go to college and that's

01:37:17.001 --> 01:37:25.001
a big counterbalance to having that felony conviction people are a little more likely, a little bit more likely to give you a second chance when they see you've done something like that.

01:37:25.064 --> 01:37:27.064
Any questions?

01:37:29.125 --> 01:37:31.125
Oh, we're getting tired?

01:37:31.498 --> 01:37:34.498
Great. Okay. All right. So now we have...

01:37:35.070 --> 01:37:37.070
Megan? Oh.

01:37:38.571 --> 01:37:47.571
All right, so I am the crisis coordinator at the University of Illinois Police Department. So we have a co-response team.

01:37:47.566 --> 01:37:50.566
within our department that partners

01:37:50.328 --> 01:38:01.328
clinical level social workers that respond with police officers to dispatch calls for service that have some component of mental health issues with them.

01:38:01.579 --> 01:38:07.579
So I guess I'll start with some of the things or the thing that's working, the things that are working.

01:38:07.978 --> 01:38:17.978
We're pulling a lot of research from the first couple of years that we've been sort of doing what we're doing. I think we're on our fourth year now with our team.

01:38:17.495 --> 01:38:32.495

But we're working with a research group within the university to kind of see like, are we meeting the goals that we wanted to be meeting with this program? And one of the things that we are finding is that when we have our reach teams, our co-response teams.

01:38:32.183 --> 01:38:39.183

go to these calls, there are less arrests and there's less transportation to the hospital.

01:38:39.497 --> 01:38:44.497

And what we're also finding is when we do transport to the hospital, those folks are getting admitted.

01:38:44.376 --> 01:38:52.376

And so what that tells me is that we're doing a better job of figuring out sort of what needs to happen with those folks in those times.

01:38:52.312 --> 01:38:55.312

by using a clinician, which

01:38:55.744 --> 01:39:00.744

I mean, I think everybody can say that makes sense. It's just a matter of implementing programs like that.

01:39:00.519 --> 01:39:07.519

So that's something that's working. Another thing that we are finding that really works and probably is contributing to this is

01:39:07.403 --> 01:39:17.403

that our social workers are speaking the same language as the hospital staff a lot of times, right? So we can go there and we can use

01:39:18.172 --> 01:39:33.172

We are doing the same assessment tools, right? And we're providing that information in ways that they can understand it rather than, or we can speak to a family member who tells us all the things that we're seeing, and then we can organize it in such a way that it's easy to understand for a provider.

01:39:32.553 --> 01:39:36.553

And so I think that just sort of like communication

01:39:36.560 --> 01:39:40.560

sort of assistance there has been really helpful.

01:39:41.251 --> 01:39:45.251

So that's been really good. And I think...

01:39:45.936 --> 01:39:56.936

training on the petitions that we mentioned, right? That's always a concern and issue. And before we had social workers, our officers would transport a lot to the hospital.

01:39:56.558 --> 01:40:03.558

oftentimes the only thing they know how to do in those moments is to get them to a provider.

01:40:03.741 --> 01:40:13.741

But we have found that some petition training, even within our university settings, the health setting, the counseling center.

01:40:13.874 --> 01:40:16.874

If we train them on the ways

01:40:17.095 --> 01:40:30.095

that to write a petition, again, speaking the same language, sometimes that is enough to kind of like fill in the gap there between what we're seeing, all the things that we're seeing and saying that person needs to be admitted to the hospital to then the next person.

01:40:29.974 --> 01:40:34.974

Because that's not going to come from the patient. We already know that we kind of spoke about that.

01:40:34.590 --> 01:40:43.590

That stuff has been working and I'm excited to get some more data and research back from our research team, hopefully.

01:40:43.471 --> 01:40:51.471

soon. But some of the things that we're noticing that are sort of obstacles or opportunities for us is

01:40:51.905 --> 01:41:15.905

A lot of siloed communication between agencies and providers. And so oftentimes, even between providers who are able to talk to one another, right, we just don't talk to one another. And so we were sitting in a meeting just like this and we learned that the jail doesn't get the full report the officer just wrote, even though it has really good information from it, right? And so how do we bridge that gap?

01:41:16.031 --> 01:41:34.031

And oftentimes probation doesn't get that information, right? When they're dealing with folks and trying to help them, they never even knew that there was a mental health issue from the first encounter with law enforcement. And so again, how do we figure out how to deal with that? Those seem like the low hanging fruit that maybe we can kind of

01:41:34.101 --> 01:41:37.101

kind of work on, but we need to do it probably systematically.

01:41:37.345 --> 01:41:48.345

Another thing that we're seeing is just the severity of, and I'm sure everybody in this room is seeing that, the severity of the illness of folks.

01:41:49.039 --> 01:41:51.039

is pretty extreme.

01:41:50.589 --> 01:42:00.589

And so we're having contact with a lot of folks with serious mental illness, but on the very extreme ends of that, it's gotten to be very, very difficult to help those individuals.

01:42:00.785 --> 01:42:05.785

And sometimes arrest does have to happen, right? Because they've had they've

01:42:05.591 --> 01:42:29.591

committed a crime that needs to be that is arrestable. And sometimes it's the only avenue to connect them with a mental health provider. But then the obstacle that we're having, because they have that in the jail, the obstacle we're having is they're getting released before that happens, right? And so that's one of the things that we're like, oh, gosh, I wish I wish that we could have got them seen while they were there. Because now they're back.

01:42:29.974 --> 01:42:35.974

unsupported on the street kind of as others have mentioned. So that's been a struggle for us.

01:42:37.099 --> 01:42:43.099

A lot of those folks with that serious mental illness that commit those low level crimes

01:42:43.593 --> 01:42:55.593

would that cause a lot of police contact, but they don't really belong in a jail. They also don't really, as we talked about, meet criteria for inpatient hospitalization.

01:42:55.983 --> 01:43:07.983

And so you have these sort of folks in the middle who are very ill and lack the ability to see that they're ill because of their illness, but they don't fit in either one of these systems.

01:43:07.609 --> 01:43:14.609

And so they're just kind of floundering a bit. And we see, unfortunately, we see them decline

01:43:14.922 --> 01:43:24.922

over weeks and it's only until they decline so badly that they have lost significant weight or can't feed themselves that we can actually do something.

01:43:25.108 --> 01:43:30.108

So that's been a struggle for us as well.

01:43:30.431 --> 01:43:45.431

I think somebody spoke to this, but turnover for some of the big agency providers has impacted the programs that they can provide. So we made a lot of referrals to Rosecrans's ACT program for a while that worked with seriously mentally ill folks.

01:43:46.234 --> 01:43:49.234
with justice involvement and they they

01:43:49.689 --> 01:43:56.689
for several months, couldn't take any new referrals or couldn't service the people that we referred because I didn't have anybody on that team anymore.

01:43:56.390 --> 01:44:05.390
Because they, you know, they lost all those folks. And so somebody mentioned supporting the staff that are already in these positions. I think that's an incredible idea.

01:44:05.639 --> 01:44:07.639
To be able to kind of

01:44:08.088 --> 01:44:11.088
keeps some sustainability in those programs.

01:44:11.772 --> 01:44:22.772
But I think that's all the notes that I've made so far. Those are my thoughts. I'm sorry to interrupt everybody. I'm supposed to be on a volleyball court in West Champaign in 20 minutes.

01:44:22.523 --> 01:44:42.523
So I had it calendared until 730. I'm going to have to leave you all. And I'm sorry I didn't get to hear from the people that I haven't gotten to hear from yet. But thank you for doing this and having us. And if anybody wants to chat, I am available for that. Anybody's got ideas, you want to talk, figure it out from the PD side, let me know.

01:44:42.581 --> 01:44:44.581
And thank you. Thank you.

01:44:46.026 --> 01:44:53.026
One question. So you're talking about doing the social workers riding along with cops. The social workers aren't in police uniforms, though, are they?

01:44:54.216 --> 01:45:06.216
I'm wearing something that they would normally wear, right? It has our logo on it. However, they go to all calls that the police go to, not just these mental health calls, right? So they are riding on patrol with them all day long.

01:45:06.477 --> 01:45:18.477
So because that's what gets them there very quickly, right? So they do wear a ballistics vests, right? Because they are dispatched to all 911 calls. It really hasn't been an issue. Like if somebody

01:45:18.431 --> 01:45:23.431
will say, like, why are you wearing that? We simply tell them why we're wearing it. Oh, I ride around with the police all day.

01:45:23.618 --> 01:45:38.618

And they're always like, oh, okay, that makes sense, right? But I mean, they usually wear something like what I'm wearing today. Gotcha. That's okay. I just asked because I have a master's in social work. So we've talked a lot about this. If you're just a police by another name, but that's all good.

01:45:38.687 --> 01:45:40.687

Any questions from the board?

01:45:42.442 --> 01:45:51.442

So you're with UIUC. So are most of the contacts you're talking about actually U of I students or are they just

01:45:51.315 --> 01:45:55.315

community members who happen to be maybe be

01:45:55.567 --> 01:45:58.567

unhoused or is it a variety?

01:45:59.190 --> 01:46:07.190

Yeah, it is definitely a variety. I will say, of course, a majority of our clients are students, right? That's the students, faculty, staff.

01:46:08.132 --> 01:46:15.132

But we also have a pretty significant portion, I would say about a quarter of our calls are really more community members.

01:46:15.444 --> 01:46:27.444

generally folks from the homeless community that kind of wander around campus basically and kind of hang out there. So we do have a pretty significant amount of folks that kind of fall into that category.

01:46:28.132 --> 01:46:32.132

So do you feel like you're seeing an increase, like you said these

01:46:32.317 --> 01:46:40.317

bigger mental illnesses in the current student body. Yes. Right. Across the board. Yeah.

01:46:41.507 --> 01:46:44.507

Yeah, and his teaching in college and university it's

01:46:44.690 --> 01:46:47.690

There's a lot, but address stuff. I think it's a lot of

01:46:47.324 --> 01:46:54.324

overlap from COVID, from the seclusion. A lot of people can't adjust back. I'm having issues myself sometimes. So yeah.

01:46:57.937 --> 01:46:59.937

Did you have, you got more, Chris?

01:47:00.934 --> 01:47:04.934

Oh, okay. I didn't know. So has anyone here not spoken?

01:47:06.371 --> 01:47:08.371
Does anyone here want to speak?

01:47:10.192 --> 01:47:11.192
I think Lynn has something to say.

01:47:11.516 --> 01:47:23.516
Actually, I have one more question for Megan. I'm sorry. So where does majority of your funding come from? Does it come from the university or is it get county dollars also?

01:47:23.334 --> 01:47:47.334
That's a good question. I don't know the exact answer, but our funding for our police department is, I believe, solely through the chancellor's office, right? Through the university. Our team has applied for and received a SAMHSA grant that we use partially. It's for a training grant, but our crisis responders train as part of that. And so we get some money for

01:47:47.578 --> 01:47:52.578
Like computers and things like that to pay for that. But as a general sort of

01:47:52.763 --> 01:48:01.763
rule it comes from the university funding. I mean, I was the first person hired on our team and it was diverted directly from an officer, what it would be an officer salary.

01:48:05.543 --> 01:48:13.543
Okay, so I guess to summarize what we've heard tonight, mental health courts, but not the way it was done last time. Have some better collaborations to try to try something else.

01:48:14.107 --> 01:48:19.107
Money, lots and lots of money. We need money. Where are we going to find money? We need \$15,000 for her. We got that hanging around.

01:48:19.741 --> 01:48:23.741
No? Yeah. Oh, I guess that was easy. There you go.

01:48:23.233 --> 01:48:29.233
Can I just jump in on that? Because I was just telling Shannon um

01:48:29.419 --> 01:48:34.419
And Chris, I'm going to throw this sort of at you as a county board member. ARPA funds.

01:48:37.112 --> 01:48:38.112
We have them.

01:48:38.858 --> 01:48:43.858

So funny you should mention because that's... Is that what you wrote on your piece of paper? Yeah. Yeah.

01:48:48.384 --> 01:48:53.384

I mean, I think there are still ARPA dollars at the county

01:48:54.608 --> 01:48:56.608

Well, that's because we

01:48:57.601 --> 01:49:03.601

keep giving them away. Anyway, put them for good use. Yes, ma'am. Not internally.

01:49:04.153 --> 01:49:06.153

And I'm going to stop talking now.

01:49:09.209 --> 01:49:10.209

What's ARPA fund?

01:49:10.682 --> 01:49:14.682

It's the American Rescue Plan Act that was uh

01:49:18.368 --> 01:49:20.368

Well, let's get that spent.

01:49:21.122 --> 01:49:25.122

the deadline date for ARPA funds. I think it's next year.

01:49:25.560 --> 01:49:28.560

Oh, okay.

01:49:28.510 --> 01:49:32.510

So reimagine justice will be there.

01:49:32.623 --> 01:49:34.623

Okay.

01:49:35.311 --> 01:49:39.311

Okay, so with that, is there anything else we need to cover tonight?

01:49:43.871 --> 01:49:48.871

I had a question that might turn into other questions. Sorry, everyone.

01:49:48.402 --> 01:49:58.402

Megan, I was wondering who, if you don't mind sharing, because I think you said you have a SAMHSA grant, but also there's a research team that's evaluating

01:49:58.532 --> 01:50:05.532

the programming, is that a research team at the University of Illinois? And if so, like who are

01:50:05.842 --> 01:50:09.842

Who is this research team and are there more of these research teams out there?

01:50:09.848 --> 01:50:16.848

So our research team is several researchers through the School of Social Works Research Lab.

01:50:16.226 --> 01:50:20.226

So there is a professor

01:50:20.343 --> 01:50:35.343

Dr. Rachel Garthe, she heads it along with another researcher through UIS and public health in Springfield, Dr. Brian Chen. So they really sort of like are kind of organizing it and then they have students as well who help us out.

01:50:35.225 --> 01:50:39.225

But the university is

01:50:39.782 --> 01:50:41.782

ripe with researchers so

01:50:44.726 --> 01:50:57.726

I might have another question, but I also feel the pressure of we might be leaving. I know Dr. Garthe well, so I'm not surprised that you mentioned her.

01:50:57.543 --> 01:51:08.543

But one thing that we've talked about on the mental health board is, you know, having more collaborations with the university in terms of being able to

01:51:09.173 --> 01:51:16.173

evaluate outcomes, being able to bring in grant money to support some of these programs.

01:51:16.854 --> 01:51:19.854

So that's something I wanted to mention.

01:51:19.796 --> 01:51:24.796

I guess one theme that I know board members have asked about

01:51:24.793 --> 01:51:27.793

And many folks

01:51:27.426 --> 01:51:30.426

who have shared tonight have talked about is this

01:51:30.623 --> 01:51:32.623

issue of

01:51:33.422 --> 01:51:35.422

individuals who

01:51:36.257 --> 01:51:45.257

need some kind of support that do not rise to the level of being hospitalized. And as a therapist.

01:51:46.191 --> 01:51:48.191

in the community, it's not

01:51:49.129 --> 01:51:53.129

very common that I send somebody to the hospital because of

01:51:54.006 --> 01:51:58.006

One, knowing that they might get turned away. Two, it's a really

01:51:57.765 --> 01:52:01.765

It's a big thing to

01:52:02.012 --> 01:52:05.012

be hospitalized for this and to

01:52:04.516 --> 01:52:08.516

Because it does restrict a person's freedom.

01:52:08.709 --> 01:52:10.709

and um

01:52:11.456 --> 01:52:19.456

And I've recognized, you know, with people I've worked with, there are times when an intermediate level of support is needed beyond

01:52:19.638 --> 01:52:21.638

I can't you know like i can't

01:52:22.019 --> 01:52:24.019

seeing you once a week, Molly, isn't enough.

01:52:24.841 --> 01:52:29.841

But I know that I'm not going to be able to be admitted to the hospital because

01:52:29.299 --> 01:52:34.299

of I don't have an active plan to harm myself or someone else.

01:52:34.669 --> 01:52:40.669

And I've had difficulty for people who are resourced in such a way that they can

01:52:40.797 --> 01:52:42.797

see me for therapy.

01:52:42.169 --> 01:52:45.169

even getting them into getting them

01:52:45.796 --> 01:52:53.796

an intermediate program like intensive outpatient treatment, which might be online. It's not in a facility necessarily.

01:52:53.485 --> 01:53:00.485
can be extraordinarily challenging. And yet I know that some of these intermediate programs can have

01:53:00.173 --> 01:53:03.173
really strong outcomes for people.

01:53:03.918 --> 01:53:08.918
And I know that sometimes it's about having a place to go where there are caring people to

01:53:09.237 --> 01:53:15.237
look out for you and support you and you could be able to talk to them. And so I guess I asked to everybody

01:53:16.041 --> 01:53:19.041
partners who have joined us tonight.

01:53:18.488 --> 01:53:22.488
Board members and anybody else.

01:53:22.802 --> 01:53:26.802
If we could create an ideal place

01:53:26.940 --> 01:53:28.940
for people who

01:53:28.937 --> 01:53:32.937
really need support, but the hospital and the jail are not

01:53:33.942 --> 01:53:38.942
appropriate, what would that place look like and who would the providers

01:53:39.997 --> 01:53:42.997
what providers and peer supports would be there

01:53:43.014 --> 01:53:48.014
to support them. Like I'm thinking of like a dream big kind of question.

01:53:48.204 --> 01:53:50.204
But what do you all think?

01:53:52.952 --> 01:53:54.952
It's kind of like to know what happens in my settings.

01:53:55.075 --> 01:53:57.075
Oh.

01:53:57.644 --> 01:54:07.644

I'd like to know what happened. They lost something for one year that was state funded. It went away for one year and it's back. They may be having trouble staffing it. I'm not sure, but it's back

01:54:07.634 --> 01:54:09.634
Okay. Well, that's good to know.

01:54:09.898 --> 01:54:11.898
And then...

01:54:12.821 --> 01:54:16.821
Anytime you don't have a place to send somebody.

01:54:17.516 --> 01:54:19.516
We have nine groups.

01:54:19.773 --> 01:54:21.773
We have three that meet in the community.

01:54:21.780 --> 01:54:26.780
There is no reason why there isn't any human being that cannot come into our groups.

01:54:27.008 --> 01:54:32.008
And what we don't get is people walking into our groups that have been referred.

01:54:32.631 --> 01:54:35.631
And at one time we were like...

01:54:37.040 --> 01:54:43.040
everybody's right hand. Oh, if we can't get you in or appear on a wait list, go to grab until we can get there.

01:54:43.037 --> 01:54:45.037
That's not happening right now.

01:54:45.848 --> 01:54:52.848
are, of course, the groups that we go to where we have the captive audiences where we walk in and they're there yeah

01:54:52.849 --> 01:54:54.849
But as for our community groups.

01:54:55.025 --> 01:54:57.025
I can't tell you the last time

01:54:56.857 --> 01:54:59.857
someone walked into one of our community groups and said.

01:54:59.475 --> 01:55:03.475
Oh, I was referred by Molly or I was referred by this person.

01:55:04.121 --> 01:55:08.121

It's not happening. And so we've been trying to do an all out blitz

01:55:08.397 --> 01:55:17.397

in the community, making sure Rose Grantz knows about as Promise knows about us, first followers knows about everybody that knows that knows about us.

01:55:17.700 --> 01:55:20.700

And because I think of the staff turnover.

01:55:20.576 --> 01:55:23.576

I mean, we've been here since 1978.

01:55:24.011 --> 01:55:27.011

We should, everyone should know Grow exists.

01:55:26.519 --> 01:55:30.519

Yeah, we're here.

01:55:30.258 --> 01:55:36.258

And so I think that's a lot of it. And it's the silo thing. People aren't talking about

01:55:36.447 --> 01:55:40.447

I guarantee if you come to a grow group, we know your resources because we've used them.

01:55:40.204 --> 01:55:45.204

And so even if it's a resource thing where people have broken down

01:55:45.395 --> 01:55:53.395

That's how we started with serving the most chronically, mentally ill. I was one of them.

01:55:54.021 --> 01:56:00.021

And so I think that we just need to make sure that we know what's going on in our community and who's serving.

01:56:01.041 --> 01:56:03.041

And so that's all I have to say.

01:56:04.565 --> 01:56:15.565

I think that's very accurate. Someone made reference to Promise Healthcare actually has a no waiting list for psychiatry. And we're like, what?

01:56:15.884 --> 01:56:19.884

And I used to be in media and I'm like, they need to get some PSAs in this town.

01:56:19.256 --> 01:56:24.256

you know dr Jon said as a pediatrician, he didn't know that.

01:56:24.272 --> 01:56:32.272

So I totally understand what you're saying about these silos. And I don't know how we fix that among providers, but

01:56:32.530 --> 01:56:40.530

it's got to be fixed quickly because there are a lot of fantastic resources out there that you're right, people don't know about.

01:56:40.540 --> 01:56:47.540

Well, and there's no wait list in GROW. I promise you, if we end up with too many people in a grow group, we'll just start a new one.

01:56:47.535 --> 01:56:53.535

And we are, and I hope people realize, and I know I'm probably preaching to the choir.

01:56:53.238 --> 01:57:01.238

We are a whole lot more than just a weekly grow group support meeting. We are a comprehensive rehabilitation leadership model.

01:57:02.108 --> 01:57:05.108

And I think that gets lost sometimes, especially

01:57:05.372 --> 01:57:07.372

People who know us know that but

01:57:07.435 --> 01:57:11.435

or this community doesn't know us anymore because of all the new people that's

01:57:11.361 --> 01:57:16.361

come on board and, you know, you know what we went through through COVID so

01:57:17.176 --> 01:57:20.176

Yeah, longevity is important. Having the same person I was

01:57:20.491 --> 01:57:28.491

Listen to you guys. It's been there 20 years, been there. People like to see the same people. They don't want to walk in cold.

01:57:28.360 --> 01:57:31.360

mentally ill and tell their story again.

01:57:31.298 --> 01:57:33.298

it's not fair to them.

01:57:34.181 --> 01:57:40.181

And so, you know, I guarantee you, if you come to grow, you won't walk in cold because everybody's going to know your story.

01:57:40.734 --> 01:57:42.734

So just keep that in mind.

01:57:48.815 --> 01:57:56.815

Just on a last, as we're ending a last historical note, I was just sitting here thinking how far

01:57:57.995 --> 01:58:02.995

we as a society have actually come on this. If you have never toured

01:58:03.254 --> 01:58:11.254

One of the big mental institutions that are now museums, there's one in Traverse City that is the size

01:58:11.496 --> 01:58:18.496

was when it was operated the size of a small liberal arts college. There's one in Athens, Ohio.

01:58:18.570 --> 01:58:20.570

where people

01:58:20.882 --> 01:58:22.882

used to be sent.

01:58:22.699 --> 01:58:30.699

And I cannot, I've been trying to find out what happened to a great uncle of mine who went into one of those.

01:58:31.624 --> 01:58:34.624

family, probably out of embarrassment, kept

01:58:34.628 --> 01:58:37.628

Listing him on the census as home.

01:58:37.432 --> 01:58:46.432

And all of the graves in the substantial cemetery of this former mental institution

01:58:46.695 --> 01:58:50.695

have no names on the tombstones. They only have numbers.

01:58:50.951 --> 01:58:52.951

So if you could

01:58:52.145 --> 01:58:55.145

ever go to one of those and just

01:58:55.207 --> 01:59:05.207

tour it and the size of the rooms, the cells, the massive iron gates that close off different corridors as

01:59:05.262 --> 01:59:07.262

if needed quickly

01:59:07.801 --> 01:59:12.801

They're different, you know, but I've been to two or three of them and and uh

01:59:12.175 --> 01:59:18.175

we should that we are sitting here talking about these things and solving it

01:59:18.607 --> 01:59:25.607

in a community is really pretty amazing where we've come from. So thank you all for being here.

01:59:40.289 --> 01:59:42.289

That's all.

01:59:42.350 --> 01:59:44.350

Go home.