

Arizona Mental Health and Criminal Justice Coalition (AzMHCJC)
Meeting Minutes
03/06/2015

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items & Person Responsible
Welcome and Introductions by Mary Lou Brncik of David's Hope	The meeting was attended by 18 participants plus nine individuals calling in. Total 27. Mary Lou explained Weed & Seed handouts available for group. At future coalition meetings, each person will give their own update. Mary Lou explained the endorser agreement. MARC Community Resources was the 1 st endorser.	N/A
Vicki Staples, Director of Clinical Initiatives Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy (CABHP) ASU	Vicki gave update about Bureau of Justice grant. Three month extension granted. Dr. Lois Sayr, research director CABHP, met with participants of grant to put final report together. Dr. Noggle implemented trauma informed care in jail. Report will be out at end of April. Upcoming events sponsored by ASU CABPH will be Breaking Barriers and Housing next Tuesday. AZ Problem Solving Courts will be in April. Annual Institute held this summer.	N/A
Dr. Dave Wells, Grand Canyon Institute Director of Research, Professor ASU	Dr. Wells is a Quaker who has worked with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Grand Canyon Institute (GCI) started in 2011. GCI looks at economics of issues. Dr. Wells discussed Dept. of Corrections (DOC) gets \$1 billion of \$9 billion budget in AZ. AZ uses truth in sentencing on low risk-non-violent offenders. 85% of their sentence must be served. SB1390, which would allow release and enrollment in transition program 3 months early of release would save \$70 million per year. County Attorney Bill Montgomery supports this bill. SB 2498 is moving through the legislature. Dr. Wells asked the group what obstacles and research is needed on particular subjects. Brent stated that housing is big issue. Elizabeth S. stated data is needed. Currently people are living in deplorable conditions, high rent, and no maintenance. If SMI or on meds, half-way houses won't take. Housing restrictions for sex offenders exist because of statutory restrictions. Issues exist for LGBT persons and ADA issues.	Dr. Wells
Discussion	Elizabeth S. stated ministry donated 20 acres for a project she is working on. And invited others to become part of group developing this housing project. Project is modeled after one in Hawaii. Elizabeth talked about Hope model (transition housing in Tucson). Expressed need for research to show if it is successful.	Dr. Wells
	Visitor shared story of being SMI, incarcerated along with her two sons, then her charges being dropped, but sons still incarcerated.	N/A
	David's Hope will be meeting with ADC reentry staff regarding services for SMI.	Linda and Rae



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	DOC is revisiting the 2010 Weed & Seed Initiative as a guide for in their reentry planning efforts as David's Hope /Coalition continue to bring attention to this very comprehensive reentry blue print which was created while Dennis Burke was the state's Attorney General. Follow link here to Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee(LECC)Guide http://davidshopeaz.org/resources/LECC_WS_Reentry_Initiative_Report_2010.pdf	DOC
Discussion	Stephanie of Valley Interfaith Project (VIP) discussed need to let legislatures know they should vote no on funding more prison beds. She also stated this was the issue that VIP was focused on and that they would be actively pursuing a change in legislative priorities for the state which would promote money be spent on human services and education rather than incarceration.	N/A

Thank you to our hosts DBHS!

Please attend our next meeting on April 3 from 9-11am

