



Clinton County Justice Coordinating Commission
Clinton County Courthouse
612 North Second Street, Suite 103
Clinton, Iowa 52732
(563) 243-6210 ext. 4310

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 12, 2015

TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Clinton County Courthouse 2nd Floor Jury Room

The Committee met with Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Commission Coordinator and Kim Ralston, CAP Director, Committee Chair presiding. Present: 14 members and guests.

Members & Guest Present: Tim McClimon, Adult Probation; Tom Roble, Clinton Police Dept.; Becky Eskildsen, MH CDC; Kristin Huisenga, CSAC, CAAD Director; Leslie LaShelle-Mussmann, Area Substance Abuse Council; John Rolf, Clinton Herald; Gabe Gluba, ASAC; Colleen Meggers, Mercy Medical Center-Clinton; Jacie Waterry, Mercy Medical Center-Clinton, BHU; Mary Walker, Bridgeview CMHC; Cindi Lind, Clerks Office; Penny Linden, Admin. Asst., MH Dept.

Strategic Goals:

1. Divert individual with MH and SA issues to more appropriate services:

There is a need to train law enforcement in CIT.

Discussion was held on Drug Court Programs. It was noted Scott County already has a Drug Court program in place which is comprised of Judge, County Attorney and Probation with other entities as necessary. A comment was made that in order for the program to work there needs to be a commitment from everyone involved in the program. Funding needs to be looked into for programs. Members need to create a subcommittee for the Drug Court Program to identify steps to start a program.

2. Build new jail:

Margaret Kuhl stated there is no immediate date set for a county referendum.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2015. Members were asked to bring ideas for programs that may be beneficial in a new jail.

3. Encouraging people to be better Citizens up returning to the community:

The discussion centered on whether a reentry program needed to be in place now or to wait for the outcome of the jail project. A member noted the individuals are advised to schedule appointments with a mental health provider while being released from jail but most individuals decline to make an appointment at that moment, citing they wouldn't keep the appointment anyway. Whereas the layout for the proposed new jail would allow counselors to be available on site.

Ideas presented on how to assist citizens returning to the community after being released from jail are:

- To have an assigned coordinator/social worker to ensure individual would make it the appointment by giving them a bus schedule, or providing a ride.
- To teach computer skills so they can know how to access the IA Workforce Development web-site. Public access to computers is available at the Library, college, churches.
- Assistance with getting a GED.
- There is need for housing after being released.
- Some churches have a mentoring plan to help individuals to learn housekeeping skills.