**Reentry Task Force**

**Committee Chair Meeting**

**January 5, 2012**

**Minutes**

Attending: Dr. Kose Tina Pine Paul Lilley

David Scruggs Precia Stuby Carolyn Rodenhouser

The meeting was held in the Putnam room of the Board office and called to order at 4:15 p.m. Each Reentry sub-committee provided a report on their progress to date.

1. Peer Family and Pro Social Supports

David Scruggs gave the report for the Committee. The Committee is continuing to recruit members. There is now a peer support certification program in the state of Ohio which is sponsored by the Ohio Empowerment Center. Completion of the state certification program applies to the following areas of peer support: mental health; substance abuse and criminology. Consequently, the Committee is recommending use of this certification program as our community continues to develop and expand the use of peer certification with the criminal justice population. To date, Hancock County has had two peer support specialist complete the week long training and certification process. Both are employees of Century Health.

The Committee is interested in meeting with the Focus on Friends Board, the local Drop-In Center, in an effort to identify ways more collaboration can take place with the criminal justice community. The Drop-In Center is available for individuals who are dealing with a mental health and/or substance abuse disorder.

More work continues to occur related to expanding the use and availability of the Benefit Bank.

David also reported that there is currently an active AA meeting for men and women at the jail. David reported there is a need to develop some sort of resource directory for individuals involved with the criminal justice system.

1. Health

Dr. Kose and Tina Pine, Co-Chairs for the Committee provided an update. The initial work of the Committee was divided into three areas: exploration of a drug court; access to healthcare; and feasibility of a local residential/detox center.

The exploration of a drug court resulted in no interest in moving forward on behalf of the court. As a result, no additional work is planned in this area at this time.

The Health Committee focused on developing a process to link individuals involved with the criminal justice system to the Caughman Clinic for those without a primary care physician. The Caughman Clinic has been and will continue to be willing to see these individuals. When there is a need for substance abuse and/or mental health services, Century Health continues to be available for services.

Tina provided an update on the development of a forensic team at Century Health. The Hancock County Adult Probation Department was awarded two Probation Improvement Grants. The first is focused on training and will be used to complete training for those working in the criminal justice system as well as the treatment system on evidence based practices with this population. The second grant is focused on enhancing programming. The adult probation department will be expanding their services to include education groups. Century Health will be using a portion of these funds to establish a partial “forensic unit” within Century Health. The goal of this “unit” is to build expertise in working with this population. The ADAMHS Board also awarded a grant to Century Health to more fully develop the forensic unit.

Dr. Kose provided an update on the work related to a residential/detox facility. All members of the Committee are in agreement that such a facility is needed in this community. Carolyn Copus has been leading the efforts of this Committee. A survey has been developed to ask existing facilities questions related to budget; staffing; utilization, etc. The ADAMHS Board student intern will be following through with this study. Once results are availability, the Committee will review them. Precia also indicated the availability of a residential/detox facility will be addressed in the Innovations Grant.

1. Communication and Community Engagement

There was no update from a Committee Chair. Precia reported that this Committee has been struggling with participation. A decision will need to be made as to if the work of this Committee should be folded into other Committees and/or a plan for expanding participation will need to be developed.

1. Education and Employment

Carolyn Rodenhouser provided an update for this Committee. The Committee has been meeting monthly. They have developed a list of local employers who are willing to work with individuals who have been involved with the criminal justice system.

She reported that the Occupational Therapy Program from the University of Findlay has initiated programming at the jail to assist with daily living skills. Job Solutions has also been working with the Occupational Therapy program in an effort to ensure there is consistency in programming.

The Committee is now looking at developing some sort of “resource guide” that can be distributed.

1. Housing

The Chair of the Committee was not available to provide a report. Precia reported that the Committee has completed an inventory of existing subsidized housing in the community. There is very little available for individuals with a felony record and no availability of housing for those who are sex offenders.

The ABLE Housing Program that will be offered by Hope House will be available as of February 2012. There are 20 vouchers available under this program.

Construction has started on the ADAMHS Board NSPII Housing project. Two, two bedroom homes are being built on the north end of Findlay. The homes should be completed and ready for occupancy by the beginning of May 2012.

The Committee also reported a need to develop a resource guide.

1. Input Related to Federal Innovations Grant

There was a discussion regarding the availability of the Federal Innovations Grant. Precia reported that the ADAMHS Board will be submitting an application on behalf of this community. The grant will include services to the criminal justice population. The grant is due January 27th, with award announcements the end of March 2012.

1. Determination of Next Steps
2. A determination needs to be made as to the best way to move forward with the recommendations in the reentry plan that was assigned to the Community Communications and Engagement Committee.
3. Several Committees have referenced a need for a resource directory. Precia informed the group that she has a student intern starting next week. She will have the intern work with the Committees related to this.
4. The student intern is available to assist with all of the reentry committees. For assistance from her, please contact the ADAMHS Board office.
5. Precia will forward the minutes to all members of the Reentry Coalition; including the housing inventory.
6. The Committee will continue to work on areas of the Reentry Plan that have not been addressed and/or completed.
7. The group will reconvene in the next quarter to review progress. A meeting date was not set.

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Precia Stuby