

CCA Board Meeting  
February 27, 2023

**Statutory members:** Judge Reginald Routson; Retired Judge, Joseph H Niemeyer; Hancock County Commissioner, William Bateson; Hancock County Commissioner, Tim Bechtol, ADAMHS Board, Precia Stuby; Hancock County Job & Family Services, Randall Galbraith; CASA, Ashley Bell; Dr. William Kose, Community Member, John Bindas, CEO, Family Resource Center; Kathryn Bausman, City Mission; Victoria Graham, Ohio Guidestone; Candace Griffith, City of Findlay; Sheriff Michael Heldman; Ryan Kidwell, Hancock County Sheriff's Office; Judge Mark Miller; Brooke Nissan, Focus: Recovery & Wellness Community; Kyle Russell, Hancock County Sheriff's Office; Jesse Sterrett, Hancock County Sheriff's Office; J. Steve Welton, Hancock County Treasurer

**Guests:** Asst. Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka; Fiscal Manager, Julie Smith; Hancock County Probation Officer, Chad McClain; Hancock County Probation Officer, Brandy Tiell; Family Resource Center, Cristina Christensen; Hancock County Adult Probation Office Manager, Melanie Fox; Welcome to a New Life, Puck Rowe; Welcome to a New Life, Carla Benjamin; University of Findlay Occupational Therapy Intern, Olivia Metzger-Miller; Ohio Guidestone, Sherry McDonald; City of Findlay, Lt. David Hill; Hancock County Public Defender, Alex Treece; CIT Coordinator, Dan Harmon;

**Call to Order, Introductions and Approval of Minutes:**

Judge Routson called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

Judge Routson requested minutes from the October 11, 2022 meeting be approved; Victoria Graham suggested edits, Precia Stuby seconded edits. Minutes approved motioned by Precia Stuby, second Dr. William Kose.

**Community Corrections Act Updates:**

•Web Site: [www.co.hancock.oh.us/government-services/common-pleas-court](http://www.co.hancock.oh.us/government-services/common-pleas-court)

**CORRECTION ACT AND OTHER PROBATION GRANT UPDATES**

**Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) Funding Subsidies – Patrick Brzozka**

**Purpose:** Purpose is to establish, plan, implement, and operate correctional services within the county.

**O.R.C. Section 5419.34:** Membership and Guests – Handout reviewed

**Funds and Programs Managed:**

- Pretrial/Bond Grant: annual \$87,844.00; assigned probation officer who supervises 200+ defendants on bond.
- Intensive Supervision Grant: annual \$221,988.00; provides probation services to moderate/high risk defendants.
- Justice Reinvestment and Incentive Grant (JRIG): annual \$161,500.00 (Lost \$36,640 per year for FY22/23); Goals related to lowering the number of F4/F5 defendants to prison.
- TCAP Funds: annual \$161,148.00; assists with jail costs.
- Judge Routson stated that loss of funding is related to goals set by the grants. By accepting the grant funding the County agrees to follow the set targets. Patrick Brzozka added that FY24/25 grant targets put Counties into cohorts and will compare those counties in relation to performance goals.
- Judge Niemeyer asked if these amounts were per fiscal year, Patrick Brzozka stated yes.
- Precia Stuby inquired if there was a further loss of grant funds would that fall on general revenue fund. Judge Routson stated yes, if we want to maintain the Probation department we currently have.

**Financial Pie Chart** – Handout reviewed

**Case Flowchart/Program Location** – Handout reviewed

## **CCA REPORT**

Asst. Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka

- FY22/23 Fiscal Reports – Handout reviewed
- Satisfaction Survey Coming Soon
- Treatment Concerns with no In-House Forensic Services: Kim to meet with FRC/ADAMHS.
- CCA Board Resolution – Recently approved by Hancock County Commissioners now needs to be adopted by the CCA Board. Judge Routson inquired if anyone opposed, no members opposed, Resolution adopted by CCA Board.
- FY24/25 Grant Applications; Due April
  - o DRC Correspondence from Director Galli regarding Comprehensive Plan update needed for application. There are six questions to answer within the Comprehensive Plan– Handout
  - o Application will combine Pretrial, Intensive Supervision, and JRIG grants. This includes the performance reports that will now be unified.
  - o Fewer Fiscal Reporting Requirements

## **Continued Trends/Needs**

Asst. Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka

- Record number of criminal cases
- Staffing changes, recruiting, training at Adult Probation, recently hired additional Probation Officer
- Meth and Fentanyl Substance Abuse
- Housing Issues
- Mental Health Case Management; Suicides; Overdoses, Constant Trauma
- Access to full range of outpatient services again (created with Forensic Team)
- Staff turnover continues to relate back to too many expectations.
- Trauma care for local probation staff; ADAMHS paying for 8 sessions through Hancock Cares. Any staff member can access this care by contacting the participating providers listed and state you are with Hancock Cares.

## **Drug Court – Brandy Tiell**

- Program Activity handout reviewed.
- Program handbook is getting updated to make it easier for participants to understand. Researching a new curriculum called Decision Points. This is an open-ended group that would accept new participants at any time.
- Currently 22 actively in drug court, 4 more pending court hearings to be accepted.
- Both dockets up for Re-certification this year. Judge Routson added that after his retirement the new judge could choose to not run a drug court.

## **Family Resource Center (FRC) – John Bindas/Cristina Christensen**

- John Bindas advised the Board that construction at the Carlin St. facility will be complete in April 2023. The \$1.75 million renovation project will give FRC 13,000 sq. ft. of space for offices and telehealth needs. Once the facility is open all Adult Services will move to Carlin St.
- Brandy Tiell asked if there was concern about clients getting to the new facility. John Bindas stated the parking lot is easily accessible for HATS. Cristina Christensen added they are working with clients to get rides through Medicaid set up.
- Cristina Christensen states adult clinical services now offering grief recovery group, trauma group, CBI-SA, T4C, IOP, and Advance Practices. CBI-SO also being offered as a group but hoping to expand to individual meetings. Nicole Frankart changed roles within FRC, Kati Rinker is now the Forensic Team Leader. Case management is now being offered two times per week at the Hancock County Adult Probation office. Quick Response Team

assisted 12 people within 4 months to access residential treatment. Jail services continue to offer case manager and therapist, also have substance use groups conducted.

#### **Ohio Guidestone (F.K.A. A Renewed Mind) – Victoria Graham**

- Victoria Graham introduced herself, new to Hancock County but not to Ohio Guidestone and excited to start. Ohio Guidestone is currently offering services in 32 Ohio Counties. Ohio Guidestone has continued to provide adult substance abuse and mental health counseling. Can also provide ILC Assessments and letters for the courts.

#### **ADAMHS Update – Precia Stuby**

- Federal grants continue to assist with stabilization services at Steady Path as well as housing. Federal grant dollars include travel to National Conferences.
- Through a SAMHSA grant, ADAMHS is partnering with City Mission to provide low barrier housing for individuals who are unable to comply with treatment rules but are in need of housing. This will provide housing that is minimal but respectful with a separate entrance to City Mission. Intake is minimal with only five questions asked, and would be available to Law Enforcement as a ~~24/7~~ seven days a week drop off location. Individuals can enter treatment services at any time and move to the main part of the City Mission.
- Kathryn Bausman added best practice is to intervene as soon as possible to assist with homelessness.
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#### **County Criminal Justice Business**

- Findlay Municipal Court updates – Candace Griffin
  - o Municipal cases in January 2023 saw an increase but remain steady otherwise.
  - o Outside jail housing continues to assist with Hancock County jail population.
  - o CASC Update – Stated research has been turned into the City for their review. Judge Routson inquired if City wanted to partner with Hancock County for the expense of the CASC. Candace stated she was unsure but thought the entities could work together. Judge Routson stated that recent Criminal Justice Reform bill would only allow F4 OVI convictions to serve their sentence at the CASC and that was a very small population of cases. Judge stated if it remained that way Common Pleas Court judges' participation would be limited.
- Sheriff's Updates – Sheriff Michael Heldman
  - o Thanked Capt. Kidwell and Lt. Sterrett for their assistance in getting jail open again. Able to manage a jail population of 80 – 90. Jail was fully open again starting January 15, 2023.
  - o Capt. Kidwell added that jail staffing patterns are the same across Ohio. Jail is seeing lots of substance use issues, Xanax and alcohol withdrawal, and general healthcare issues that cause hospitalizations. FRC is actively engaged with jail population.
  - o Judge Routson praised jail staff for doing a great job of providing recommendations and treatment plans to Judge.
- Jail Committee – Retired Judge Niemeyer
  - o Committee continues to meet regularly about once a month. Current projects such as the Probate/Juvenile Court building need to be finalized before any real decisions can be made. Commissioner Bateson added that all concerns for jail and treatment needs are being considered.
- County Commissioners – Timothy Bechtol
  - o Probate/Juvenile Court building now in 3<sup>rd</sup> design phase, should have the maximum build cost soon. At that time the committee will vote to move forward.
  - o State of the County presentation will be soon.
- Legislative issues/updates – Judge Routson
  - o Criminal Justice Reform Bill – nothing fundamentally changed.

- Marcy's Law
- State budget must be in place by end of June
- Arraignment System Meeting – Alex Treece, Public Defender's Office
  - Public Defender meeting with clients before arraignments to get them connected with a court appointed counsel. An intake person is at the Courthouse every Wednesday at 1 pm to assist.
  - Public Defender using "written plea of not guilty" more often now if applicable.
  - Court Docketing is potential, but still in the works.
- Puck Rowe asked the group a question regarding autopsy results, suggestions offered.
- Randall Galbraith addressed upcoming changes to SNAP and Medicaid benefits post-COVID. Many households are going to lose benefits starting in April and he wanted all agencies to be aware that needs may increase. Hancock County currently has 16,000 people on Medicaid and that number should be around 12,000.
  - Judge Routson inquired if the change would affect Medicaid transportation. Mr. Galbraith stated possibly if they lose their eligibility for Medicaid. Precia Stuby added that ADAMHS has funding to be able to help.

Next Meeting Date: April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Courtroom #1 at 5 pm.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:34 pm by Judge Routson