

CCA Board Meeting
September 15, 2020

Statutory members: Retired Judge, Joseph H Niemeyer; Hancock County Common Pleas Court, Judge Jonathan P. Starn; Hancock County Common Pleas Court, Reginald J. Routson; Director of Court Services/CPO, Kimberly Switzer; Hancock County Commissioner, Timothy Bechtol; Findlay Police Department Sgt. Dan Harmon; Juvenile/Probate Court Judge Kristen Johnson; Family Resource Center, John Bindas; CASA/GAL, Leah Cole; Family Resource Center, Ginny Williams; City of Findlay Mayor, Christina Muryn; Dr. William Kose; Findlay City Schools, Troy Roth; ADAMHS Board, Precia Stuby; City of Findlay Judge Mark Miller; FOCUS, Brandy Keeter; Hancock County Job & Family Services, Randall Galbraith; Community Member Tony Grotrian

Guests: Asst. Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka; Drug Court Coordinator, Brandy Tiell; Hancock County Probation Officer, Steve Wiechart; Fiscal Manager, Julie Smith; A Renewed Mind, Jeff Howell; Family Resource Center, Derek Puchta; Family Resource Center, Cayla Fortman; Family Resource Center, Nicole Frankart; BVDD, Nicole Bowen; University of Findlay OT intern, Brooke Wallace; Family Resource Center, Kelly Cleveland; City of Findlay Probation, Dave Claflin; Hancock County Sheriff's Office, Lt. Jesse Sterret

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

Judge Routson called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Judge Routson requested minutes from November 12, 2019 meeting be approved; Precia Stuby motioned to approve, second by Dan Harmon.

Community Corrections Act Updates:

•**Web Site:** www.co.hancock.oh.us/commonpleas

CCA REPORT

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka

- FY20 Pretrial Release terminations are 83% successful with a goal of 60%, ISP terminations are at 70% with a goal of 50% successful.
- Steve Wiechart reported that Adult Probation completed a Virtual Audit on the Pretrial grant. Received a 100% compliance in all standards. Some remaining standards to be reviewed related to case files but could not be done virtually. A date will be scheduled in the future for auditors to come in person.
- Fiscal Quarterly reports – Handout reviewed
- TCAP Grant – Sheriff FY18/19 received \$139,686.87; FY20/21 - \$100,716.50 (to date)
- Grant Program Activity – Handout reviewed

Adult Probation Staffing updates – Patrick Brzozka

- Hired Tahlor Fisher as Probation Officer, has been an intern at Probation for about a year prior.
- Currently seeing an increase in violations related to substance abuse and mental health issues. Revocations have increased compared to June, July and August 2019.

Drug Court – Brandy Tiell, Drug Court Coordinator

- Handout reviewed
- Currently have 27 participants, since 2015 Drug Court has had 122 total.
- Hancock County has a 57% success rate to date; the national rate 50%.

- As of 6/30/20 Hancock County had 57 successful completions to date.
- COVID has slowed groups, hopefully able to get groups back in person.
- Kim Switzer added, she would like to get together with ADAMHS Board and Treatment Team to find out what treatment is going to look like in the future regarding COVID.
- Judge Routson advised the lack of personal contact has really affected Drug Court, he is trying to reinstitute in person Drug Court. Judge Johnson added Family Dependency Court attendees have been participants only.

Family Resource Center (FRC) – Cayla Fortman

- LEAD Diversion program – A harm reduction collaboration, with FRC and FPD, through case management with. Two ways to get involved, one is social contact provided by police or probation officers. Participants include those with severe mental illness or substance abuse disorder. This does not lead to diversion or any clearing of arrest record. The second is arrest diversion, in which the participant would not have that arrest on their record. Training has been completed with FPD Lieutenants and Supervisors. Had 22 referrals since starting in June 2020 and 15 people consistently engaged. Program is limited to only Findlay Police Department and Findlay Municipal Probation due to only having two case managers at this time.
- Dan Harmon added they are getting ready to schedule Officers to get trained. Going very well so far.
- Emergency Response to COVID Suicide Prevention Grant – Ginny Williams – Grant has recently been received to increase outreach and engagement in suicide intervention. Part is specifically designed to address domestic violence. The shelter in place order and isolation have increased domestic violence. FRC will be partnering with Open Arms for this portion.

A Renewed Mind (ARM) – Jeff Howell

- For the most part still running as telehealth.
- Evening IOP group running as a hybrid, they can accommodate up to 6 people in person with additional participants joining via telehealth.
- Mom’s program currently has 13 active moms in treatment.
- ARM continues to work on gender specific groups, low enrollment numbers typically stall this.
- Recently transitioned a 15 passenger van from Toledo office to help with transportation.
- ARM received a FCC grant. Helps support telehealth mission, new software, tablets to loan to clients.
- ARM had staff turnover affecting Open Access assessments but working to get this up and running again.
- Judge Starn inquired when in person groups will return. Jeff Howell responded he wasn’t sure, seems to depend on if the clinician is comfortable with in person groups again. Ginny Williams responded that FRC is seeing clients in person at a 60/40 split with masks mandatory. FRC is hoping to get Open Access back to in person by Mid-October. Derek Puchta added there were a few weeks without groups running but switched to virtual quickly.

ADAMHS Update – Precia Stuby

- ADAMHS has a federal grant pending to allow the reopening of Treeline, should know by first of October.

Introduction of new attendees – Judge Routson

Focus – Brandy Keeter has taken Ellyn Schmeising’s place after her resignation. Working on more online resources as well as in person.

Family Resource Center – Kelly Cleveland, excited about LEAD program.

Findlay City Schools Superintendent – Troy Roth

County Criminal Justice Business

- Systems Process Analysis subcommittee – Judge Mark Miller – COVID slowed progress way down, however if there is interest in this subject we would need a greater commitment from members.
- Jail study – Lt. Jesse Sterret – Sheriff's Office is waiting for the final report to be released.
- Judge Routson inquired how the jail was handling COVID. Lt. Sterret advised it has been challenging, as well as the large jail population to keep people separated and distanced.

Juvenile/Probate Court – Judge Johnson

- Began an initiative with children services regarding youth involved in child welfare and juvenile justice center.
- Judge Routson inquired on the new building status. Judge Johnson stated she could not discuss but stay tuned.

Common Pleas Court – Judge Routson

- Judge Routson advised that initially the court docket was reduced due to COVID. Courtroom #1 is utilized often to allow for social distancing. Other options utilized include Marathon Performing Arts Center for grand jury and a jury trial. Continuing on with security remodeling to 3rd floor of Courthouse starting in October. Judge Starn added that he has worked through the bugs that COVID has brought. Believes that two jury trials could be held at the same time with the usage of Marathon Performing Arts Center.

Findlay Municipal Court Updates – Dave Clafin

- Findlay Municipal Court now has a Facebook page.
- Safe Surrender Days are scheduled for 9/28/20 – 10/2/20 and will be by appointment only to reduce the amount of people in the building at one time. Utilizing texting, recently sent out 1,400 texts regarding the Safe Surrender Day.
- In regards to COVID, Findlay Municipal Court increased the amount of GPS units from 20 to 43, scam units are being used more, and house arrest in lieu of jail days.
- Kim Switzer stated she would like to talk to Dave Clafin more about utilizing GPS during COVID. Hancock County Adult Probation, because of staff turnover, did not have the resources available to maintain the level of electronic monitoring we had last year. We've started utilizing GPS again to help reduce the jail population.

Legislative issues/updates – Judge Routson

- Reagan Tokes Act – Indefinite sentencing terms would be imposed.
- Senate Bill 3 – pending reforms to low level offenses are still in discussion but seem to have stalled.
- Bail Reform/Rule 46 – Changes to bail rules proposed; explore options other than cash based.
- State v. Hitchcock – States that a Common Pleas Court Judge cannot impose a prison commitment cannot be followed by consecutive commitment of Community Control.

Attendee Questions: Tony Grotrian inquired if court was open to the public at this time. Judge Routson responded yes, with masks and social distancing. This may reduce the number of attendees allowed however. Judge Starn added he's had a fair amount of family members and friends attend court hearings.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 5:00 pm via Zoom

Meeting adjourned @ 6:12 pm by Judge Routson