

LEGAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
9:30 AM 8.10.21 @ ECSO and Zoom

ALLISON PATTON, SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, Retired Attorney

RONNIE RIVERA, SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, Neighborhood Specialist with ECSO

Call meeting to order at 9:28

CONNIE BOOKMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, Pathways for Change

MAGGIE MCKEAN, Tulane Intern

AVALON "MAL" MALLORY, 211 Resource Manager/United Way of NorthWest Florida

ED FLEMING, Attorney/Downtown Business Owner

BRITTANY AUSTIN, Pathways for Change

JUDY NALER, Legal Services of North Florida

KATLIN BASS, Opening Doors Street Outreach

KAITLYN BONAM, Clerk of Court

SHIRLEY CORNETT, Alfred Washburn Center

LESLIE POWELL-BOUDREAUX, Legal Service of North Florida

DELARIAN WIGGINS, Neighborhoods Specialist with ECSO

Recap of the last meeting that took place down at the bridge.

CONNIE: Task Force update- six sub-committees. Housing and services are going to be priorities in discussion of city funding going forward.

BLAIR: Communications and website, data updates

Introduction of New Members:

PAT JENNINGS, Attorney with Legal Services of North Florida- helps often with eviction process

KYLE KOPYTCHECK, Real Estate who works closely with PPD with attrition issues

Scott Lunsford is also a new member who was at the previous meeting, but could not make it today.

TRACIE MOORER, Department of Children and Families- Incompetent to proceed

PATTY BABCOCK, former deputy secretary for DCF, consultant

Recap of people identified from past meeting; Parks & Rec, State Attorney's Office/Public Defender, REAP or ACTS

KEVIN EASON, REAP- men and women coming off of incarceration

Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Department and Milton Police, as well as Parks & Rec in Santa Rosa are still missing from this group.

Discussion on adding more members, how many members to add, and when too many members would be difficult to manage

Discussion on mental health and homelessness: Melissa Johnson at the bridge has identified 12/13 people who are, in her view, a danger to herself or others and is trying to get them Baker Acted or off the streets. Met with Michelle Salzman to discuss improving the current mental health services we have. Open for discussion on how to help these people.

How we are leveraging managing entities? Mobile Response and FACTS Teams. Maybe one person can come out and someone can come out under the bridge as well to determine where to assist.

Discussion on encampment not having restrictions, and how to enforce the law despite the mental health issues people are sustaining. There will be no new campers, people there are getting case management, it will serve more as a triage center.

KATHY WHITE, Specialty Courts: Overview of specialty court system
Drug Court- need to be 18, open felony, non violent felonies 22-61 points (roughly)
State Attorney has to approve the charges for drug court, also need a screening from treatment providers (Pathway of Lakeview- intensive outpatient treatment), they enter a plea, is a post-adjudicatory process meant to keep them out of prison. There are certain requirements like drug testing, going to court, maintaining a job, having a sponsor, etc. At the end of the program, they have an aftercare component that helps them transition.

Participants have to have a home, phone number, etc. Probation has to check on them. Funded by the state. Treatment is expensive so the state has a lot of requirements.

Success rate for 2020 is 67%. What is the recidivism rate? Currently 58 participants, average at 100 but lower because of COVID. Judge Bowles is a Drug Court Judge.

Suggestion on obtaining data on exactly how many homeless people are denied for the specialty courts programs

Discussion on having Judge Quartermaine from Sarasota come talk to us about that Mental Health Court/Homeless Court, Judge Bowles, Rapid Response Team, Scott Lunsford on IDs, Eviction Moratorium

MEETING ADJOURNED 11:00 PM