

Rock County
Evidence-Based Decision Making Ad Hoc Committee
Wednesday, January 20, 2016 Minutes
Conference Room N-1/N-2

- 1) Call to Order. Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:16 A.M.
- 2) Committee Members Present. Judge Alan Bates, Commander Erik Chellevoid, Judge James Daley, Troy Enger, Vice Chair Sandra Kraft, Charmian Klyve, Stephen Meyer, Angela Moore, Chair Eric Nelson, Josh Smith, David O'Leary, Judge Richard Werner at 9:23, Larry Barton at 9:24, Chief David Moore at 9:52 and Captain Dan Molland at 9:55.
- 3) Committee Members Absent. Judge William Henderson, Dorothy Harrell, Elizabeth Krueger, and Sheriff Robert Spoden.
- 4) Staff Members Present. Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Criminal Justice System Planner/Analyst; Tracey VanZandt, HR Secretary; Gina Koehl, Deferred Prosecution Director; Shelley Sturdevant, Victim Witness Coordinator; and Dara Mosley, Public Safety Systems Manager.
- 5) Others Present. Tommy Gubbin, EBDM State Coordinator; Faun Moises, State Public Defender's Office; Krystal Judah, Jamie Dieckhoff, Jessi Luepnitz and Martha Pearson, YWCA.
- 6) Approval of Agenda. Ms. Klyve moved approval of the agenda, second by Mr. O'Leary. ADOPTED.
- 7) Approval of Minutes of November 16 and November 18, 2015. Judge Bates moved approval of the minutes of November 16, 2015, and November 18, 2015, second by Ms. Kraft. ADOPTED.
- 8) Victim Perspective/Impact Presentation. Up to this point in our meetings we have been looking at the defendant's point of view. Today we want to look at the impact on the victims. Ms. Moore introduced four members of her YWCA staff who have many years of experience in helping victims. The YWCA has a Care House, Emergency Shelter (Alternative to Violence Program) and a Transitions for Women Center. The Care House is part of a multi-disciplinary team including the District Attorney, Victim Witness, CPS, YWCA and law enforcement. The Care House assists families with children who have been physically and/or sexually abused. The YWCA acts an advocate for the child. The

biggest challenge that they encounter from the victims standpoint is the traumatization of the child when called to the stand to testify.

The Janesville Police Department (JPD) is one of very few law enforcement agencies that has a Domestic Violence Intervention Team. This is the first response in a continuum for the victim. Within 24 hours, the team gets the victim connected with the YWCA and there is a follow up within 72 hours. This team started on a volunteer basis with the JPD along with the District Attorney's Office. The follow-up has greatly assisted in prosecutions. The YWCA only helps women in Janesville in domestic violence situations. They assist the victims with the legal process like CCAP, address determinations, and Temporary Restraining Orders. Some of the difficulties that victims in the Emergency Shelter encounter are child custody issues, as they are homeless because they are fleeing domestic violence. They also have issues with obtaining employment. Most abusers typically have a Public Defender so they are represented but the victim typically does not, which can be intimidating. The YWCA legal advocate is there to help the victim in court. Restitution is rarely paid to the victims, as well. Swift process is an advantage to the victim. A safe child visitation system is needed for when parents need to exchange children with the other parent. When parties are in court, sufficient information needs to be communicated as to whether a third party facilitator is available. There are child exchange programs in other counties that we can review and model after. This has been tried previously but there is a lack of volunteers to assist. CPS currently has a budget for supervised visitations. It was suggested to contact Rita Costrini-Norgal, Rock County Mediation Director, as she attempted a similar program in the past.

It was asked how the YWCA advocate discusses recanting with the victim. Some victims feel as though they have no choice other than to recant. Judge Daley said that judges need some sort of sign from the victim showing that they are under duress. When a victim wants to recant, the District Attorney's Office does make the victim come back to court. This is never a winning situation as the defendant is in court as well. Ms. Moore passed out a "Rights of Victims and Witnesses of Crime" handout. It was suggested that the YWCA should communicate with the DA's Victim Witness office. Only the victim can contact the office due to confidentiality. Can a release be signed by the victim right away? Probably not, as there are safety and trust issues. Mr. Nelson asked if Legal Action of Wisconsin can help the victims. There is only one attorney for eight counties. This attorney hardly makes it to Rock County. Mr. Barton has some private funding ideas that he will talk to Ms. Moore about. It was suggested that if one judge is assigned to a family to address all issues this could be helpful as the judge would be familiar with the situation. It was mentioned that when a victim is homeless and she has her children taken away by CPS that she cannot get certain jobs in the future, such as a teacher or a Certified Nursing Assistant. The form being referred to is the Background Caregiver Check. Ms. Klyve said that there is an appeal process for these type of situations. Just recently the judicial system implemented a trauma informed initiative. There is a YWCA designee on the committee.

Ms. Carter suggested that the YWCA put a proposal of remedies together and provide at a future meeting.

- 9) **Update on National Initiative/Phase V and Phase VI.** A number of teams have requested an extension therefore Phase V will now end June 30th. The Phase VI application process will be due June 30th or later; exact date TBD. This will be very competitive and must be a state/local partnership. We have now scheduled meetings for April, May and June. Ms. Carter has the resources to attend two of these three meetings. We can let her know which meeting would best fit our needs.
- 10) **Workgroups Update.** All workgroups have now met once. Some workgroups were asking for some guidance and expectations. Mimi passed out an “EBDM Change Target Work Group Process” handout for guidance. The purpose of this document is to provide support to each of the workgroup teams by leading them through a step by step planning and implementation process. This will ensure that the workgroups progress in a synchronized manner, and also help to guard against “implementation failure.” Ms. Carter reminded us that, according to the research, 70-85%% of all new efforts fail due to poor planning. The committee reviewed the handout step by step. Among the resources that are available to support the Change Target Workgroups is the National Institute of Correction’s Information Center (NICIC). The NCICI has a library of resources available that may assist the workgroups, including a searchable database on the web and library service providers at NICIC. In addition, Ms. Carter can help with the logic modelling work when workgroups get to that point. Regarding baseline data, it was recommended that workgroups identify a limited number of key performance measures (3-5) that will indicate the effectiveness of the the change strategies the workgroup ultimately will seek to implement. Technical assistance around the identification of these key measures—and methods to gather baseline data—is also available from the national project team. During the course of this discussion, Judge Daley stated there is data now that we are not taking advantage of.

Goal Statements. (What is the ultimate outcome of this workgroup?)

1. Risk Assessments - Identify decision points where evidence-based risk assessment tools can inform decision making and identify tools available for use.
2. Community Education/Buy-In - Train participants of the criminal justice system on EBDM principles and practices. Educate public on potential improvement to criminal justice system based on EBDM principles by providing clear reasons for changes and target goals to understand expectations and show data/results for continued financial personnel support.
3. Risk Reduction Programs - To have effective, evidence-based risk reduction interventions and practices in place across criminal justice system decision points.
4. Behavioral Health Information Sharing - Mental Health/AODA information sharing between criminal justice professionals and behavioral health professionals 24/7.

The group gave Ms. Carter and Ms. Pohlman McQuillen permission to revise the goal statements (wordsmith) so they are similar to one another. The revised statements will be sent out to the policy team and workgroup co-chairs for final approval.

Notes: The risk assessment workgroup and risk reduction program workgroup need to work in parallel for efficiency as one will affect the other. Workgroup #4 is also a state issue. It would be nice to see health information sharing with all mental health professionals, but we need a starting point. The information sharing would only be on potentially harmful individuals.

Future meetings: Workgroup chairs to report out. We will chronical any accomplishments already achieved and document those.

11) Citizen Participation and Announcements. None.

12) Future Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at 9:15 A.M., Conference Room N1/N2, Fifth Floor Courthouse East

13) Adjournment. Mr. O'Leary moved adjournment at 12:06 P.M., second by Mr. Meyer.
ADOPTED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey VanZandt

HR Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.