

MINUTES

Monday, May 10, 2021 12:10 P.M.

Palm Beach County School & Community Safety Initiative Behavioral Health Track

Online via Zoom



Members Present:

Chairman Judge James Martz, Circuit Court Judge

Nicole Bishop, PBC Director of Justice & Victim Services

Patrick Chapman, Chief Operating Officer, JFK Medical Center North Campus

Elisa Cramer, Community Development Administrator, Fl Dept. of Children and Families

Megan Eaton, Circuit 15 Juvenile Justice Advisory Board Co-Chair

Tammy Fields, PBC Director Youth Services, Youth Services Palm Beach County

Captain Randy Foley, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Nicole Gasparri, Emergency Manager, City of Boca Raton, City Managers Department

Barbara Gerlock, Ph.D., Organizational Development Consultant

Sharon L'Herrou, President/Chief Executive Officer, 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast

Kevin McCormick, ESE Director, Palm Beach County School District

Alexa Lee, M.S., Director of Programs, Palm Beach County Substance Abuse Coalition

Danielle Ouellette, LCSW, Behavioral Services Division, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Dr. Gena Rowlands, Senior Planner, PBC Sheriff's Office

Robin Russo, Director of Student Well Being, Palm Beach State College

Judge Rosemarie Scher, 15th Judicial Circuit

Jill Sorensen, Director of Children's System of Care, SE FL Behavioral Health Network

Sara Talley, FBI Special Agent

Sharon Tarlow, Education Coordinator, JFK Medical Center North Campus

Captain Michael Waites, Palm Beach County School District Police Department

Craig Williams, State Attorney's Office 15th Judicial Circuit

Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Children's Services Council

Lauren Zuchman, LCSW, Executive Director, BeWellPBC

Guests Present:

Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Ph.D., Associate Director and Associate Professor, FAU

Vaughn Crichlow, Ph.D., Associate Dean and Associate Professor, FAU

Stephen Plunk, Graphic Designer, Plunk Designs

Jennifer Roisland-Rivera, Palm Beach State College

CJC Staff Present:

Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Welcome and Opening Comments by Chairman Martz. He noted that the small group is making a lot of progress with the awareness campaign and website. He also reminded members to let the group know about any goals that they would like to accomplish in 2021. Judge Martz had to leave the meeting to attend a probate and guardianship meeting. Ms. Shover chaired the meeting in his absence.
- II. The agenda/minutes were approved by consent. The motion was made by Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Children's Services Council and seconded by Captain Randy Foley, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.
- III. Palm Beach County School and Community Violence Prevention Project Report: Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Ph.D and Vaughn Crichlow, Ph.D., School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Florida Atlantic University provided an overview of the first report that was submitted to the PBSO. On October 1, 2018, the PBSO was awarded a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Project grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant started with a one year planning period which began on January 1, 2019 with implementation of the overall project to begin January 1, 2020. The overarching goal is to prevent incidents of community and mass violence. An overview and highlights of the Linking Individuals in Need of Care (LINC) program was provided. The LINC program is a partnership between the PBSO Behavioral Services Unit and Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network. Report recommendations include enhancing data collection reporting, defining and measuring success, and addressing the stigma of mental health.

Captain Foley commended Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Ph.D and Vaughn Crichlow, Ph.D. for their outstanding job on the report and presentation. He noted that the numbers only represent the portion that meets their criteria for the Behavioral Services Division. Last year there were approximately 5,600 calls for service in the

unincorporated areas of PBC that were related to mental health. They are teaching every deputy at roll call about the BSD which is resulting in an increase in the number of referrals. He noted that none of the data in the report is from the local police departments. He also reported that they are formalizing a task force with local police departments that will be working as a group. They are also working with federal and state partners.

- IV. Branding and Informational Campaign Update: Website Captain Randy Foley, Behavioral Services Division, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and Sharon L'Herrou, President/Chief Executive Officer, 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast discussed the meeting with 211 about direct reporting from the Aware and Care site. They decided to evaluate the current tiplines to see if any modifications need to be made. They also want to wait until the public outreach campaign is in full effect to make data driven decisions. Sharon L'Herrou remarked that she appreciates that the task force is an opportunity to brainstorm together to identify gaps. The team collaboration is really valuable as everyone comes from different perspectives of expertise. It is nice that they had an opportunity to explore and do some additional vetting prior to implementation. She also reported that 988 is rolling out next July. Additional information will be provided at a future meeting.
- V. Attachments: Palm Beach County School and Community Violence Prevention Project Report
- VI. Next Meeting Date – June 14, 2021