

MINUTES

Monday, August 9, 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
Seth Bernstein, Psy. D., Sr. Vice President for Community Investments, United Way
Darcy J. Davis, Chief Executive Officer, Health Care District of Palm Beach County
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
Nicholas Fricke, Director of Acute Care, South County Mental Health Center, Inc.
Barbara Gerlock, Ph.D., Organizational Development Consultant
Deputy Chief Robin Griffin-Kitzerow, Florida Atlantic University Police Department
Sharon L'Herrou, President/Chief Executive Officer, 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast
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
Jill Sorensen, Director of Children's System of Care, SE FL Behavioral Health Network
Sharon Tarlow, Education Coordinator, JFK Medical Center North Campus
Magistrate Maxine Williams, 15th Judicial Circuit
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

Assistant Chief Dennis Weiner, MPA, JD, LLM, Field Services Bureau, Palm Beach School District Police Department

CJC Staff Present:

Regenia Herring, Executive Director

Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Welcome and Opening Comments by Chairman Martz. He recognized all of the collaborations that made the Aware & Care launch possible including the work with Youth Services, Children Service's Council, PBSO on the grant, FAU on the evaluation, and Stephen Plunk for his work on the website and graphic designs. He thanked everyone for their work in moving forward with the campaign. He also recognized Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Ph.D. and Vaughn Crichlow, Ph.D for preparing an overview of the project for the BCC Workshop. In addition, he reminded everyone about responding to the survey from FAU. They have received 13 responses so far.
- II. The agenda/minutes were approved by consent.
- III. Presentations/Updates
- IV. a. **Mobile Panic Solutions:** Assistant Chief Dennis Weiner, MPA, JD, LLM, Field Services Bureau, Palm Beach School District Police Department commended the work of the committee on this initiative. He also provided an overview of the mobile panic platform which was in response to a mandate from Alyssa's Law that was passed on June 2020. They are on track to implement the program by the beginning of the school year on August 10th. The intent is to reduce the response time for first responders. Each Charter School had to select their own vendor. The PBC School District selected Motorola SaferWatch as their platform. All of the campuses are connected to the system and all of their police officers currently have the application on their smart devices. They are going to continue to roll out the system to all employees of the School District. In addition, the tip application will be provided to all parents and students. This application provides real time tips to the Communication Centers and is shared with their partners.

b. **Update regarding gaps in law enforcement and mental health:** Captain Randy Foley, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Behavioral Services Division, advised that they formed an unofficial Task Force called the Palm Beach County Threat Management Team. They are in the midst of having all of the MOUs signed to have a formal Task Force for all Palm Beach County law enforcement. He reported that they have been working on a lot of informal deconfliction to prevent duplication of

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services and wasting resources. In January 1, 2021 he was asked by FDLE and Sheriff Bradshaw to take the Chair of the Regional Security Task Force Threat Management group that falls under FDLE. One of his goals this year is deconfliction on a state level. They were able to identify a solution that will be released within the next 30-60 days for law enforcement to deconflict any case within the state. Chairman Martz commended Captain Foley on the great work of this project. He also suggested that they look at including School Baker Acts, DCF cases, and Risk Protection Order Injunctions.

- V. a. **Business - Branding and Informational Campaign Update:** Danielle Ouellette, LCSW, Behavioral Services Division, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office advised that the website is live and up and running. Please let them know if you have any feedback. The PBSO Media Relations Department is preparing a video with all the partners in the community that should be completed in August or September. They are also working on a short voice over video as an introduction to the website. She advised that they just received approval from their Grant Manager for geo-fencing. The ad will appear in whatever language the person has selected in their phone settings. They also received approval for informational magnets. They are continuing to work on the graphics informational 4x6 cards for the community. In addition, they are hoping to have a 5K in March 2022. She also advised that they were able to secure a time to meet with the PBC School District to ensure that the information will be distributed to students and their families. She thanked Chairman Martz for his help in setting up the Aware and Care logo on the Palm Tran buses. They are also working with Tri-Rail to have our billboards at their stations and inside their advertisement areas. They contracted thirty bus shelters that are around schools and other high volume areas that will start running in August. The billboards were also secured with OUTFRONT media for mid-August. Chairman Martz commended the members that worked on the small committee on the awareness campaign. He mentioned that they did a phenomenal job on the campaign. On behalf of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Captain Foley also thanked the CJC, FAU, and the committee for the collaborative effort on the grant.

b. **Palm Beach County Board of County Commission Workshop on August 31, 2021 and Discussion about a Press Release:** Regenia Herring, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission mentioned that the first Workshop that was available was on August 31st. She thanked Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Ph.D. for preparing a report for the PBC Board of County Commissioners. A copy of the report was sent out to the Board. She also let them know to expect to see the billboards and other advertisements. Captain Foley will work with Director Herring on the press release. A copy of the PowerPoint for the Workshop was shown to the committee.

c. Feedback and Thoughts from Members: Tammy Fields suggested working on a presentation with Channel 20. Director Herring thought that it will be part of their Criminal Justice month. Judge Martz suggested doing a coffee table format.

Danielle Ouellette thanked everyone for the collaboration and mentioned that this is her last meeting as she will be working with the Violent Crimes Division at PBSO. Captain Foley thanked Danielle for all her work on the project.

b. Next meeting – September 13, 2021

c. Adjourn