

GOVERNOR'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATE



JUSTICE INVOLVED YOUTH AND ADULTS – SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

2022

Report presented to:
Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council

Prepared by:

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Members of the Justice Involved Youth and Adults Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The intersection between the behavioral health and criminal justice systems is substantial. The frequency and intensity of involvement of people with mental illness, including addictions, in the adult and juvenile justice systems remain a challenge for both state and local governments and for the victims.

The JIYA Subcommittee convenes constituents at a policy level to carry out the vision and mission with the intent to promote actions for state level change through policy recommendations and planning.

JUSTICE INVOLVED YOUTH AND ADULTS' SUBCOMMITTEE CHARTER

1. Develop a strategic plan to identify goals and objectives for state level change through policy and planning.
2. Formulate and prioritize strategies to achieve objectives of the strategic plan.
3. Implement strategies through workgroups, including timeline for completion.
5. Issue annual policy recommendations and planning to the Secretaries from the Departments for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), Children and Families (DCF), and Corrections (KDOC).

VISION AND MISSION

The vision and mission of the JIYA is as follows:

Vision

Justice involved Youth and Adults with behavioral health needs will achieve recovery.

Mission

To promote a recovery-oriented system of care for individuals with behavioral health needs in or at risk for involvement in the justice system through policy recommendations and planning focused on prevention, diversion, treatment, and reentry.

MEMBERSHIP

Charles Bartlett, *KDADS, Liaison to GBHSPC*

Laura Brake, *KDADS, Liaison for AOT, Stepping Up, and 988*

Mike Brouwer, *Johnson County Criminal Justice Coordinator*

Ashley Brown, *DCF*

Gary Bunting, *Under Sheriff, Douglas County*

Harold Casey, *Executive Director, Substance Abuse Center of KS*

Bill Cochran, *City of Topeka, Topeka, KS*

Wes Cole, *GBHSPC Liaison*

Dale Coleman, *Under Sheriff, Ford County*

Hope Cooper, *Deputy Secretary, KDOC*

Letitia Ferwalt, *Johnson County DA's office*

Mike Fonkert, *Kansas Appleseed*

Jessica Harvey, *Consumer*

Jason Hess, *Executive Director, Heartland RADAC*

Jennifer Hornback, *Principal, Hazel Grove Elementary, KCK*

Ed Klumpp, *Local law enforcement*

Brandi Lane, *Johnson County Mental Health*

Dantia MacDonald, *Consumer*

Bill Persinger, *Executive Director, Valeo Behavioral Health*

Usha Reddi, *City Commissioner, Manhattan, KS*

Dr. Sherrie Vaughn, Ed. D., *Executive Director, NAMI Kansas*

Susan Wallace, *Family Member*

SUBCOMMITTEE AND WORKGROUP SUMMARIES

JIYA SUMMARY INTRODUCTION

In the FY21 JIYA Report, the JIYA subcommittee adopted the following FY22 Tasks:

- JIYA members will continue to serve on the Kansas Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center Oversight Committee
- Continue to follow the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission (KCJRC) and various subcommittees; anticipating working with KDADS and/or KDOC where possible on policy development and programs based on recommendations for reform
- Assist KDADS with any short-term projects or tasks needed in support of the statewide plan referenced in this report, the aforementioned “top priorities and recommendations”, or on any other ad hoc basis deemed necessary

In response to the FY22 Tasks, the JIYA subcommittee and its members have been actively involved serving on the Kansas Stepping Up Technical Assistance (TA) Center Oversight Committee, following the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission, working closely with KDADS and/or KDOC where possible on policy development and programs, and assisting KDADS with short-term projects or tasks as needed to support the statewide plan delivered to the Legislative Division of Post Audit in May of 2020. In FY22, under Audra Goldsmith’s leadership, the Kansas Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center, implementation continues to gain significant traction across the state of Kansas. At the conclusion of FY22, 97 counties participated in the TA Center. Thirteen are official Stepping Up counties with adopted resolutions of which four are Innovator Counties: Douglas, Reno, Johnson, and Shawnee. An additional 13 counties are participating and awaiting a Stepping Up resolution.

Additionally, NAMI Kansas continues to engage the Stepping Up Initiative through its awarded SAMHSA grant (Statewide Consumer Network) to engage people with a lived experience of mental illness and their families and friends to bring their voice to the community decision tables concerning the Stepping Up Initiative. Work is currently underway to facilitate focus with groups with the assistance of Greenbush.

Additionally, the JIYA Subcommittee members have engaged various statewide taskforces, committees, and workgroups discussions on mental health issues related to youth and adult justice systems in Kansas. The JIYA Subcommittee recognizes that these discussions, topics, and issues raised about systems of care specific to behavioral health and how these behavioral issues connect to the justice systems for youth and adults are transformational in nature. In response to these various discussions, topics, and issues, the JIYA Subcommittee recommends the following priorities that can aid in these transformational issues and initiatives.

Through the active work of this body and other community stakeholders and advocates, pilot programs demonstrated that Standardized Competency to Stand Trial Evaluations and Restoration procedures can be successful at the local level. The first step in initiating this program statewide was completed with the passage of HB 2508 in 2022. Work remains to fully implement the modifications to the statutes. A need also remains to restore capacity at the state hospitals for this work to reduce admission waiting time for evaluation, restoration, and time in jail.

Lastly, KDOC developed and managed a Wellness Program for KDOC staff which included the funding of a full-time position titled Wellness Coordinator. This program and position will help

KDOC staff access health and well-being services, peer support, childcare, and other retention services. KDOC has moved the needle in recognizing and addressing the health and well-being of its employees with a desire to retain those individuals that are already employed by the agency and to attract those additional employees that are needed.

TOP PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS

Immediate

1. Support the continued development and funding for **988, Zero Suicide Kansas Project, and the Kansas Suicide Prevention Coalition**, including prevention/intervention strategies between state and local systems.
2. Continue support, development, and implementation for **Behavioral Health Jail Liaison** positions in all CMHCs, explore expansion and replication of the three county pilot sites, and facilitate cost study to support and implement statewide.
3. Increase **peer support** in the arenas of behavioral health and justice systems, such as peer support services within correctional and community-based settings.
4. Continue to support the expansion of the **Competency to Stand Trial Evaluation and Restoration** services to reduce waiting time and address the legal challenges, delay, and system capacity issues and explore the development and cost of locally based behavioral health teams to manage and implement.
5. Continue support and training for implementation of **Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)**, including review and discussion on relevant statutes and regulations.

Longer-Term

1. Support formalizing behavioral health and juvenile and adult criminal justice system **collaborations**, including but not limited to:
 - a. Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC)
 - b. Stepping-Up Initiative, including ongoing contract and funding for the Technical Assistance Center such as the current contract with the Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG Justice Center)
 - c. Specialty Courts (i.e., mental health courts, veterans' courts, and drug courts)
 - d. Multi-Branch Community of Practice by the Kansas Office of Judicial Administration (OJA)
 - e. City and county level innovations and services, including support for learning and information sharing statewide
2. Support the study and implementation of **best practices** where the public behavioral healthcare system and the justice systems intersect, keeping in mind the principle of "scalability" of programming/services adaptable to frontier, rural, and urban regions/counties.

FY 2023 TASKS

- JIYA members will continue to serve on the Kansas Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center Oversight Committee
- Continue to support the behavioral health **recommendations** of the Governor’s Commission on Racial Equity and Justice Task Force, the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission (KCJRC), anticipating working with KDADS and/or KDOC where possible on policy development and programs
- Assist KDADS with any short-term projects or tasks needed in support of the statewide plan referenced in this report, the aforementioned “top priorities and recommendations”, or on any other ad hoc basis deemed necessary

SUMMARY

In summary, the JIYA Subcommittee, through its diverse members of the subcommittee and workgroups, provides a unique avenue for members to come together to collaborate, analyze, and create recommendations for the GBHSPC. A continuing role and mission of the JIYA should be to monitor the work of other groups and make sure that important issues show up in their work. Also, our JIYA role should continue to be to encourage communication and coordination of the work of the various groups, as well as being a sort of clearinghouse and a resource to the KDADS Secretary and her team as they build policy.