

Douglas County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council

October 31, 2006

Douglas County Sheriff's Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gillian Wesenberg, Chair
Jack Banta, District Attorney
Mark Cadotte, Parole & Probation

Peggy Kennerly, Health & Social Services
Christina McMahan, Juvenile Department
Chief Mark Nickel, Vice Chair
Dennis O'Neill, Umpqua Community College

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Susan Buell, Umpqua Training &
Employment
Sheriff Chris Brown
Commissioner Marilyn Kittelman
Patti Lovemark, Sutherlin School District
Bruce Piper, Adapt

Mayor Rex Stevens, Winston
Eric Swanson, City of Roseburg
Bruce Tower, Public Defender

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susan Morgan, State Representative
Joe Garcia, Circuit Court
Susy Clagett, Circuit Court
Aric Fromdahl, Juvenile Dept.
Diane Schvaneveldt, Juvenile Dept.
John Ayer, Citizen
Mike Miller, Juvenile Dept.
Debbie Wheeler, Commission on
Children & Families

Welcome and Introductions: Gillian Wesenberg called the meeting to order at noon. Introductions were made.

Minutes: Gillian asked for corrections or additions to the May 17, 2006 local LPSCC meeting minutes. Minutes were approved by consensus.

Justice & Mental Health Collaboration Program: Joe Garcia reported that the U.S. Department of Justice announced that they are seeking applications for funding under the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program. Applications are due on December 12, 2006. Joe said that funding is available for mental health courts, alternative sentencing, and planning. Peggy Kennerly, Mark Cadotte, and Christina McMahan volunteered to work with Joe on this application.

RAYS Program Update: Chief Mark Nickel and Christina McMahan gave an update on the reopening of the RAYS (Roseburg Area Youth Services) program. Chief Nickels said that the program originally started in 1996-97, and was a partnership between the Roseburg School District, Roseburg Police Department, and the Juvenile Department for

youth charged with minor crimes. The program had a 95% success rate and provided restitution and community service by the offender. Additionally, the RAYS program had a peer court component. However, when funding became limited, the program closed.

Recently, one of the County's Meth Task Force's subcommittee met with local law enforcement agencies to discuss the impact of methamphetamine use in the county. During their discussion, Chief Nickel told the subcommittee about the RAYS program. As a result of this meeting, the Roseburg Police Department, in partnership with the Juvenile Department and the Roseburg School District, will be reopening the program.

Mary Kay Skourup of the Juvenile Department is the RAYS Program Coordinator. She is out-stationed at the Roseburg Police Department and has begun developing the infrastructure for the program. Christina said that Mary Kay is a skilled counselor and very excited about the program.

One of the components of the program will be a Youth Court. Youth Court is a program in which youth offenders are sentenced by their peers. Youth offenders will be referred to RAYS Youth Court through the Roseburg Police Department. The coordinator will meet with the youth and their parent(s) to determine if the youth is eligible for Youth Court. Some of the criteria for Youth Court are:

- Youth must be a first-time offender between the ages of 12-17;
- Youth must reside within the Roseburg School District;
- Offenses may include misdemeanors, violations and violations of municipal ordinance;
- Willingness by youth and their parent(s) to meet with the Youth Coordinator for a screening; and,
- Youth must admit guilt to the offense or the referral will be sent to the Juvenile Department.

Christina anticipates that the Youth Court will begin at the end of January 2007. Court will be held two times per week, on Tuesday and Thursday. Additionally, the Court will be using youth and adult volunteers.

Dennis O'Neill added that truancy is also an early indicator of delinquent behavior. He said that he had worked with a Student Attendance Review Board, which dealt with the truancy issues in middle and high schools. Mark said that this has been an issue, and they have been working with the school districts.

Juvenile Department Update: Christina McMahan said that the Juvenile Department has been undergoing some restructuring. As part of this restructuring, the Department developed a mission statement:

"The mission of the Douglas County Juvenile Department is to promote public safety by holding youth accountable for delinquent acts, providing youth with opportunities to restore their victims and our community, and

offering reformation services to assist youth in becoming productive and responsible citizens.”

Christina reported that the restructuring has taken place in three areas:

Department-wide focus:

- Developing community-based programs and services
- Focus on developing evidence-based practices and programs throughout the Department, to increase effectiveness and reduce recidivism, and be in compliance with SB 267
- Staff development and training
- Strengthening relationships with schools, law enforcement, and other community partners
- Development of performance measures and future “Report Card” to the community.

Accountability Services:

- Consolidation of Intake and Probation into Accountability Services
- Vertical Case Management, Teams approach
- MAYSI (an evidence-based screening tool to be used for all youth)
- Extra Tracker (an additional staff member to assist Juvenile Probation Officers)
- Juvenile Restoration Work Crew and upcoming BLM/Forest Service projects

Detention/Shelter Facility:

- Major Shift in the Use of the Shelter:
 - Capacity change – from 8 beds to 14 beds
 - Touchstone Residential Treatment program (an evidence-based program for high-risk youth in need of more intervention) (8 beds)
 - DHS Placements (3-4 beds for 30-90 day placements)
 - Short-term mental health “crisis” use, “diversion from behavioral health unit”(future: 1-2 beds)
 - Short-term “transient” placements
- MAYSI administered as part of intake process for both Detention and Shelter admissions.
- 30-day program (Detention) – ability to better serve high-risk/substance abuse issue.

Christina said that they are trying to offer more community-based services. For example, the Juvenile Department recently received approval to operate a 30-day detention program. Additionally, she said that they have been working with

the Mental Health Department to develop 3-7 day crisis intervention at the shelter.

State Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting: On October 24, 2006, Jack Banta, Gillian Wesenberg, and Aric Fromdahl attended the State LPSCC meeting in Lane County. Gillian reported that the Lane County LPSCC recently published a “report card” for their county. The State LPSCC is thinking about developing a state-wide criminal justice “report card”.

Other: Representative Susan Morgan said that the legislature will be continuing their work on accountability and funding evidence-based programs. She asked the members to continue to provide her with information on effective programs.

Mark Cadotte reported that his department has seen an increase of approximately 200 offenders. They are continuing to use evidence-based practices and will be reporting to the legislature their outcomes in 2007.

Jack Banta said that the cases the District Attorney’s office sees are 60-70% alcohol and drug related. Of these, 80% are meth-related.

Peggy Kennerly reported that the Mental Health Department has been changing their service-delivery system. She indicated that the Department is becoming more community-based – providing more staff in schools and other agencies. She would like to provide a presentation on these changes. Gillian suggested that a meeting be scheduled in January 2007 for this.

John Hamlin said that he recently spoke with the county’s medical examiner about the recent juvenile fatalities. The medical examiner asked if these fatalities could be linked to the 4-day school week. Members said that there is a correlation between criminal activity and after school hours; however, they had not thought about the shortened school week. Aric Fromdahl said that he would look into this.

Adjournment: Gillian adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Wheeler