

Salt Lake County
Criminal Justice Advisory Council
Full Committee
September 14, 2016
Room N2800 - Noon

In Attendance: (Executive Board Members*)

Mayor Ben McAdams*	Chief Robby Russo*	Karen Crompton*
Harry Souvall	Kele Griffone*	Noella Sudbury
Irene Brown	Jeannie Edens	Josh Scharman
Clint Smith	Layne Hilton	Barry Rose
Patrick Corum	Judge Randall Skanchy*	Isaac Higham
Jon Thelen	Robert Sampson	Vanessa Walsh
Weston Clark	Tim Whalen	Sherri Trujillo
Sheriff Jim Winder*		

(Note: There may have been others present who did not sign the Attendance Roster)

MEETING CONVENED AT NOON (lunch provided)

Welcome and Introductions

Noella welcomed everyone and introduced Vanessa. Noella stated that Vanessa will be helping the data team and thanked the council for seeing the need for, and providing funding for the position.

Approval of Minutes

Judge Randall Skanchy moved to approve the minutes. Karen Crompton second. Motion carried.

Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) Program Discussion

- **Welcome to UNI, Unified Fire, SLCPD, others**

Noella welcomed representatives from UNI, Unified Fire, and SLCPD, and thanked them for coming.

- **Overview**

- Noella went through some slides for the group that provided some background on MCOT teams (see attached). In general, she explained that MCOT teams are interdisciplinary teams of professionals, most often contacted by community members or law enforcement officers. MCOT teams travel to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis to provide rapid support and help with crisis intervention.

- Guests from UNI explained that they have three MCOT teams on duty during the week and 2 teams on the weekends. Patients can use the receiving center that is funded by the county. Tim Whalen stated that the service is very successful.
 - Guests explained that in many cases, MCOT teams are able to de-escalate the situation and stabilize the individual. If the individual cannot be stabilized, and they need immediate intervention, then the individual would be “pink sheeted.”
 - Tim Whalen stated that MCOT has a great relationship with law enforcement, but they are strapped for resources. MCOT teams are on back to back calls so they have to prioritize and sometimes cannot serve all individuals who need their assistance.
 - MCOT receives thousands of calls per month and averages 310 visits per month.
- **Discussion: What’s Working, What’s Not, and What are the Next Steps?**
 - Noella then engaged the group in a discussion about some recent issues that have come up between law enforcement officers and MCOT teams.
 - Law enforcement officers stated that there are tricky questions about how much force can be used when an individual does not want to be taken into custody and that more training for officers may be needed so they know when it is appropriate to call MCOT.
 - UFA stated that another tricky issue arises when someone is not a threat to others, but is a serious threat to themselves. In this situation, law enforcement officers and MCOT teams do not always agree on how to handle the situation.
 - Noella asked the UFA representatives how they typically get involved in these situations, and UFA said they are often called by law enforcement to transport the patient to the hospital. This is not always the best use of resources, due the cost of the ambulance.
 - Noella stated that the District Attorney issued a letter about transporting individuals into custody and that she was happy to circulate the letter to the group. Several individuals in the room expressed that while the letter was helpful, it did not answer many of the questions concerning some of the conflicts that arise between MCOT teams and police.
 - Law enforcement officers stated that sometimes MCOT response time is slow, and UNI representatives reiterated that the teams are swamped and could use additional resources.
 - The group then engaged in a discussion about training materials. Someone mentioned that a video about the program can be viewed online, but that in-person training has not been done for a number of years. Sheriff Winder suggested that this issue might need to be looked into further because of officer turnover. While some officers received the training a few years ago when the program started, many of his newer officers have not been educated on the program, and he stated that further training might be helpful.
 - Noella stated that CJAC would take a look at the training materials, assess what further training may be needed, and try to put together a short document of FAQ/resources for all groups involved with MCOT teams. Noella stated that CJAC would also reach out to city attorneys and LEADS to address the issue.

2016-2017 CJAC Policy Priorities

Noella put up a slide of the potential CJAC priorities the group generated in the last meeting (see handouts for complete list). Noella then asked how the committee would like to narrow the list. Karen Crompton suggested members rank the items both by priority and ability to achieve. Carlton Christensen stated that some key members of the Committee were not present at the meeting and suggested doing a ranking by email to make sure we consider everyone's input. Judge Skanchy suggested it may also be helpful for CJAC to provide some background information to the committee to help members determine priority.

Noella then asked the committee whether they wanted to add any priorities to the list. Judge Skanchy suggested adding something about homelessness, as there is a lot of overlap between homelessness and criminal justice, and these issues have had a visible impact on the downtown area. Noella stated that CJAC would add this potential priority to the list.

Noella stated that before the next Executive Committee meeting, CJAC will circulate a list of priorities, provide some background information on them, and ask all members to rank them in terms of priority and level of difficulty. She then stated that the Executive Committee will discuss next steps at the November meeting.

With no further business, the meeting ADJOURNED.

***Minutes available via CJAC website www.cjac.slco.org or by request to the CJAC Administrative Assistant, Sherry Craig (385) 368-3534.