

Drug Commission Meeting
May 16, 2017, 1:30-3:30pm
First Call, 9091 State Line Road, KCMO 64114
Minutes

Present:

Gene Morgan
Keith Query
Lanna Ultican
James Witteman, Jr.
Mark S. Bryant
Dr. Joseph Spalitto
Dr. Kelvin Walls
Melesa Johnson

Also Present:

Stacey Daniels-Young, COMBAT
Vince Ortega, COMBAT
Jaime Masters, Chief of Health Services
Michael Mansur, Prosecutor's Office
Dan Cummings, Drug Task Force
Chief Byron Price, Drug Task Force
Cheryl Rose, Deputy Chief of KCPD
Jay Haden, County Counselor's Office
Jennifer Dameron, Prosecutor's Office
Alfred Jordan, Jackson County Legislator
Lauren Moyer, KC Assessment and Triage Center
Susan Whitmore, First Call
Joan Dickey, COMBAT
Laci Beavers, Communications
LaTasha Bunting, COMBAT

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Keith Query motioned to approve April minutes; Lanna Ultican second; motion passed.

Susan Whitmore, First Call

Susan Whitmore of First Call welcomed the Commission and described First Call processes and programs. They receive Hotline calls from those seeking help with drugs and alcohol with a crisis call coordinator answering the phone during business hours. If the call is from a family member in crisis, that person is connected with a family counselor while a person in crisis is connected with a substance abuse counselor and recovery specialist who brings that person in for an assessment. In cases of emergencies, First Call will stay on the phone with an individual while the police is called. If a call is made after business hours, someone will call back within an hour.

COMBAT funds First Call's ME First and Sober Me programs. The COMBAT funding is for people who are incarcerated, in some cases for substance abuse related offenses. First Call's Me After program helps these ex-offenders get into treatment after their release or gives them support as they get into sober housing. First Call works with Urban Prevention Coalition (whose conference this year was co-sponsored by COMBAT). First Call also has Caring for Kids, a program for kids who are affected by drugs and alcohol in their homes, and a How to Cope program for adults. First Call is the Regional Prevention Specialist for this part of Missouri. Commissioner Gene Morgan asked if the services cross state lines in Kansas and Missouri. Susan

stated that First Call serves the Greater Kansas City Metro and that clients in Kansas get the same services as those in Missouri. First Call will also help navigate with insurance and the recovery addict will find resources where the person is. Commissioner Gene Morgan asked if Susan can give an example of what happens to a kid with a parent who uses heroin. Susan responded that the family would go to a family service counselor and the parent would be enrolled in the How to Cope program and meet with a recovery addict. First Call would engage the child and have them take an assessment. First Call will continue dialogue after treatment. Chairman Jim Witteman asked if First Call works with other COMBAT funded agencies. Susan stated that First Call is a technology partner for Connections which provides all the software that is used for the data that's gathered for COMBAT Treatment reporting. Their website also has a resource directory. First Call is the chair of the work group for Opioid Treatment

Presentation from Jackson County Legislator Alfred Jordan and the Prosecutor's Office

Jackson County Legislator, Alfred Jordan, spoke of his interest in COMBAT preparing an RFP in the category of violence intervention services related to abandoned housing. He mentioned that, for example, he is aware that there are drugs and guns in many neighborhoods. He would like to give folks from NOVA, Second Chance, and those re-entering from the Jackson County Detention Center the job training skills to repair and rehab abandoned houses. This on the job training would include 60 days of Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT), give them marketing skills, and give them a certification of completion. He stated that we could measure outcomes by police contacts of arrests before and after, on the job training group, and CBT group, perhaps using a control group. Alfred is also interested in additional Hope Hangout approaches.

Gene Morgan stated that CBT therapeutic approaches are excellent in changing behaviors and that CBT with on the job training has the opportunity to change some lives. He asked would the on the job training be paid. Alfred stated that, yes, he envisions paid on the job training. Chairman Jim Witteman and Gene Morgan both like the idea.

Mike Mansur from the Prosecutor's office stated that the Prosecutor's office is interested in pursuing an RFP to reach out to victims/witnesses of violent crime in additional ways. He mentioned that the Prosecutor's office has added 3 more victim advocates and that they have 8 or 9 total. He stated that they need more ways of reaching out to improve the relationships between police, community, and the criminal justice system. He believes that more expression of concern and more offers to help could improve the community's willingness to cooperate. The Prosecutor's office has a Smart Prosecution federal grant, however, the grant is only limited to certain hotspot areas. Mike wants to know how this can be expanded, with a goal of including violent crimes in the entire Jackson County. He stated that Mother's In Charge has funding through KC N.O.V.A. to respond to crisis and homicides, which help, while this would address victims more broadly. Melesa Johnson stated that there's reluctance of victim/witness involvement due to cultural barriers. She mentioned having cultural diversity training and having someone who knows the community be in charge of these sort of projects.

Stacey asked if these two ideas would be two different RFP's. Alfred stated "yes." Jaime asked if their goals are the same, to improve the relationship between the community, police, and criminal justice. She also asked if the Prosecutor's Office is looking for someone to respond at the time or someone that follows up. Mike stated that he would like to meet with KC Victim's unit and coordinate with them.

Reports from Ex Officio

Mike Mansur mentioned that the KCMO Call-In is on June 20th at 6:00 PM at a church in Independence – more details for those interested can be provided later.

Fentanyl and Narcan

Cheryl Rose from KCPD stated that they recovered 35 lbs. of Fentanyl last week. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid which is prescribed legally for pain and comes in a patch or powder but is now coming to Kansas City for illegal use. Sgt. Chris Cesena further explained that Kansas City is being hit with Opioid and Heroin, and now extremely deadly Fentanyl is coming from the Southwest states and Mexico. He mentioned that an officer in Ohio who came into contact with fentanyl had to be revived with Narcan after an arrest traffic stop in which he got Fentanyl powder on his skin. Gene Morgan asked if it's easy to make in the lab. Chris replied that it was.

Chris requested that COMBAT fund purchasing Narcan for their narcotics investigators as a safety precaution. According to his research, the cheapest price is \$75 per box for 2 units of 2 nasal sprayers (1 year shelf life). It would be a \$750 expenditure not including provision for the Drug Task Force. Chris mentioned that it required 4 sprays to revive the officer in Ohio. Cheryl also requested purchase of some for their lab. Dan Cummings from the Drug Task Force stated that they would like Narcan for their supervisor and evidence technician for safety as well.

Jim Witteman asked if the EMT's have Narcan; Chris reported that they do. Jim asked where it would be stored for police. Chris responded that they would store it in the detective's or supervisor's trunk and that it would be used at the scene. Lanna Ultican asked what happens if the Narcan goes bad; Dr. Kelvin Walls responded that it would become ineffective.

Stacey requested that KCPD and the Drug Task Force work together to figure out how much Narcan they would need, and that it appeared \$2,000 for both would be adequate. Mark Bryant asked if there was money in the police's substantial budget for this and if COMBAT was the first resort for this. Chris stated that it wasn't in their budget and that COMBAT is the first resort when it involves drugs as others, such as HIDTA, wouldn't fund it.

Dr. Walls commented that Narcan is life-saving. After lengthy discussion, Gene suggested that the Drug Commission wait for more information. Jim tabled the discussion until the July meeting when more information can be presented, including issues of storage and the best way to most quickly meet officer needs.

Presentation from the Kansas City Assessment and Triage Center (KCATC)

Lauren Moyer from Kansas City Assessment and Triage Center (KCATC) spoke about the center. Community Stakeholders (including representatives from COMBAT) met for 4 years to identify the gap in the system of care for chronic substance users and those with mental illness; KCATC is the result of those discussions. The center opened on Halloween, 2016 and has been operational for 6 months. The basic premise of the Triage Center is to divert individuals from using the Emergency Department or going to jail, targeting those suffering from mental health and/or substance abuse issues. KCATC is staffed with a physician, licensed therapists, nurses, tech staff, and 5 case managers. They can stay at the KCATC for up to 24 hours for crisis remediation. So far, they have helped 1,300 individuals. There has not been much re-entry due to their follow-up program: they are able to get clients to detox, transitional living or an apartment and then into an appointment at an outpatient center. Less than 5% are referred back to the hospital; if referred back it's primarily due to medical issues that require inpatient stay. COMBAT funded \$100,000 for transitional housing. The KCATC is currently working on development of tiny houses and is looking for other housing partners

Stacey asked where KCATC funding come from. Lauren stated that they received \$1 million for 2 years (\$1 million each year) from the participating hospitals, the attorney general of Missouri's office devoted \$2 million over 10 years from the sale of Ascension hospitals, and the Mental Health Department gave 2 million this year and has assured half of that next year, which helps to provide individuals with medication or shots at KCATC.

There is also a Respite Center in which individuals can stay for 3-5 days, 2 weeks, or up to 90 days. Gene Morgan asked how many clients can stay in the respite center; Lauren responded that up to 16 clients can be housed there at a time and that it's staffed like KCATC. KCATC plans to open to the Eastern Jackson County hospital system in October 2017. There is also a commitment from the State of Missouri to open a second location in Eastern Jackson County in the future. Vince asked if for a list of the agencies that KCATC refers to and the outcomes.

Old Business: Additional Funding Recommendations

Treatment

Stacey presented summaries of funding requests and recommendations for funding. First, she reported on the investigation of Journey for a New Life, as directed by the Commission. This is a facility created by a group of nuns which works with people who have left prison, providing housing and ensuring they are in drug treatment. Journey offers transitional housing, communal living, and an apartment complex. They submitted a COMBAT proposal to fund 10 Peer Support Specialists who have a Missouri certification; Stacey encouraged them to make sure they also have some services from a professional counselor available. She recommended funding them in the amount of \$50,000 and stated that the group is targeting a population that does not have others who specialize in their area (i.e., women in Jackson County who are

returning from prison). Journey for a New Life would be new to COMBAT but has been in existence for over 2 years.

The request from the KCATC was for the salary of one Case Manager, as there is no outside funding for Case Managers. Stacey recommended one-time funding in the amount of \$45,000.

Footprints requested funding for a Recovery House, which is a drug- and alcohol-free, place to go for those who are in recovery. Stacey noted that the creation of Recovery Houses in various locations within the metropolitan area is a recommendation of the Opioid Treatment Work Group, since those who are trying to stay clean often have difficulty finding places drug- and alcohol-free places to go for recreation and socializing. Footprints is located on 46th and Troost, which is in the urban core and accessible by the bus. Stacey asked them to add recovery counseling available on site for those who would benefit from this services when needed. Jim Witteman stated that Veteran's Hospital also sends a lot of people to Footprints. Stacey recommended \$35,000 for Footprints.

Stacey requested an additional \$25,000 in funding for the First Call COMBAT program for Drug Court clients at the Jackson County Detention Center, which includes 5 days of treatment and one day of individual counseling for each client—longer than the previously funded COMBAT program designated for Drug Court (clients may also come from other judges if requested).

She also requested an additional \$15,000 to the Healing House COMBAT program, which provides housing for those in residential treatment at Swope. In addition, it has become a recommended drug-free place for transitional housing. The total amount requested from remaining Treatment funds is \$170,000.

Gene Morgan stated that the new programs are 3 excellent programs. He moved to fund these Treatment recommendations in the amount of \$170,000; Mark Bryant second; motion passed.

Grant Match

These proposals are being reconsidered upon recommendation of the Drug Commission.

After a visit by Stacey and Joan Dickey, Program Manager for Treatment, Stacey recommended funding in the amount of \$25,000 for Plaza Academy. She has secured a commitment of DeLaSalle to mentor Plaza Academy, using the DeLaSalle model for early identification, intervention and treatment. Ward Worley, the Director, is a licensed psychologist and will oversee the treatment.

The Metropolitan Crime Commission has submitted a request for funding for its Second Chance program, which works with and provides training for ex-offenders. COMBAT funds would enhance the training of trainers. Stacey recommended \$12,500 for the Crime Commission.

Stacey presented the modified request of \$4,150 for Palestine Senior Citizens. Stacey has introduced them to Lee's Summit CARES' Love and Logic program, to determine if this might be a fit for the grandparents they wish to get involved in additional programming; many of them

are caregivers for grandchildren and the Love and Logic program could assist. Melesa Johnson stated that there's lots of potential with this Palestine Senior Citizen program since the nuclear family is different now. Stacey recommended funding this smaller proposal.

There was discussion on all three of these recommendations. Jim Witteman stated that the request of Palestine Senior Citizens included travel and conference funds. Jaime suggested reducing the amount to \$1,500. Gene Morgan motioned to fund these Grant Match recommendations in the amount of \$39,000 with Palestine Senior Citizens being funded at \$1,500 only; Lanna Ultican second; motion passed.

Prevention

These are additional requests to current funded COMBAT programs. Stacey requested an additional \$10,000 for Synergy's bullying prevention program. She also requested an additional \$3,000 for Morningstar, which provides case management for a re-entry population. Gene Motioned to fund these Prevention recommendations in the amount of \$13,000; Keith Query second; motion passed.

Announcement:

Jim Witteman mentioned the Fly-In this Thursday, 6-8 PM at Lee's Summit for the Peer Court of Southeastern Jackson County. There will be 2 helicopters along with KCPD, FBI, DEA, the Secret Services, and the National Guard in attendance.

There will be a Neighborhood Clean-Up in Grandview on June 9 in Grandview, and another one in Northeast Kansas City on June 14.

The COMBAT Retreat is on June 27th at the Midwest Public Risk Facility in Independence.

Stacey announced that she will be retiring on August 31st.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.