

**Public Safety Coordinating Council
Pinellas County
November 15, 2021**

The Pinellas County Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) met at 2:01 PM on this date in the Third Floor Judicial Conference Room, 14250 49th Street North, Clearwater, Florida.

Present

Pat Gerard, Chairman, County Commissioner
Adrian Arnold, representing Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney
Dianne Clarke, Operation PAR, Inc.
Chris Dudley, Department of Corrections
Jennifer Parker, representing Chief Judge Anthony Rondolino
Gregory Williams, representing Public Defender Sara Mollo

Not Present

Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff
Michael Jalazo, Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition (PERC)
Paul Levine, County Judge
Anthony Rondolino, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit
Sara Mollo, Public Defender

Others Present

Tim Burns, Pinellas County Human Services
Laurie Elbow, Suncoast Center
Melissa Fuller, Department of Juvenile Justice
Frank Kopczynski, Pinellas County Bail Bond Association
Jodee Nicosia, National Alliance on Mental Illness Pinellas County, Inc.
Gabriela Piloseno, Pinellas County Justice Coordination
Matthew Tolnay, Pinellas County Attorney's Office
Ari Weisberg, Public Defender's Office
Denise Whitfield, National Alliance on Mental Illness Pinellas County, Inc.
Katie Poviones, Board Reporter
Other interested individuals

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PSCC MEMBERS

Chairman Gerard welcomed those in attendance, and at her request, the members introduced themselves.

Designation of New Members

Chairman Gerard introduced new members Jodee Nicosia, Denise Whitfield, and Justin Shea and thanked them for volunteering their time and expertise.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 5, 2021

Ms. Clarke made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 5, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dudley and carried unanimously.

JAIL POPULATION

Indicators and Incarceration Rates

Referring to a document titled *Indicators Report, November 2021*, Ms. Piloseno reviewed jail population figures, relating that there was a 17% increase in the average daily population from November 2020; that the average daily population is 88% of the pre-COVID amount; and that the average monthly incarceration rate is approximately 280 inmates per 100,000 residents, which is slightly higher than the state average but also lower than most neighboring counties.

PROGRAM REPORTS

Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant – Road to Success Expansion of the Public Defender’s Crossover for Children Program

Mr. Weisberg indicated that the program is currently serving 13 clients, has previously served 24 clients, and has closed out 11 cases, with four likely clients actively being screened. He noted that COVID-related barriers have led to less arrests and fewer children being detained, less teenagers being removed from their families and placed into foster care, and have made it more difficult to reach the youth that the program aids.

In response to queries, Mr. Weisberg remarked that part of the expansion requires that the youth volunteer to participate with mental health services; and that if participants refuse to talk to a therapist, the program does not force them to.

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Updating the Pinellas Reentry Plan

Ms. Piloseno related that the most recent updates to the Reentry Plan from 2011 are included in the agenda packet; and that the updates include modifications to services and providers made during the pandemic that are becoming permanent. She noted that to assist in the development of the plan, the County is pursuing a grant opportunity with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for a sequential intercept mapping workshop; and that any insight and feedback from the members or their agencies would be valuable and appreciated.

Responding to queries by the members, Ms. Piloseno indicated that the sequential mapping workshop is a collaborative discussion aimed at mapping the various intercept points in the justice process and coordinating efforts among stakeholders to provide stability to individuals coming into the system. She remarked that while the five-year goals in the plan are from 2011, the Office of Justice Coordination will undertake several activities over the next year to gather information; and that its findings will be presented to the members for their feedback as goals are developed for the new five-year plan.

Mr. Burns noted that the Reentry Plan was originally developed because several federal grants required that the County have a “second chance to act” plan; that the County has been through sequential intercept mapping processes in the past; and that the intent of having another workshop is to ensure that the County justice system has the most current information available.

2022 PSCC Meeting Dates

Ms. Piloseno remarked that the current PSCC meeting dates for 2022 are to be determined; and that the Office of Justice Coordination is flexible with scheduling to ensure everyone is able to attend the meetings, as feedback from the members is essential to the progress of the initiatives being undertaken. She requested that the members notify staff of any recurring meetings that would prevent them from attending in February, May, August, or November; and that PSCC meetings may then be scheduled accordingly to allow more members to be present.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 PM.