**Community Corrections Advisory Board**

**Minutes – January 11, 2024 (In Person & Zoom)**

**Members Present:** In person: none

Via Zoom: Benita Chaplin, Samuel Steincamp, Sandra Clinard-Flanders, Santiago Hungria, Tyler Roush, Peter Shay, Aaron Breitenbach, AlmaAnn Jones, Dena Lee, Capt. Cody Alexander

**Members Absent:** Dr. Michael Birzer, Juanita Ridge, Becky Springer

**Staff:** In person: Lesa Lank, Julee Meslin, Andrea Drinnen

Via Zoom: Lori Gibbs, Tom Struble, Monica Harris, Sasha Teel, Steven Stonehouse

**Guests**: none

**Introductions and Announcements: Lori Gibbs introduced Monica Harris as the New Specialty Court Administrator. Aaron Breitenbach requested confirmation on the numbers needed for a quorum.**

**ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from the prior meeting on November 9, 2023: *A motion to approve the Minutes from the November 9 meeting was made by AlmaAnn Jones, seconded by Peter Shay and unanimously approved.***

**ACTION ITEM: Approval of revised 2024 meeting schedule. *Peter Shay made the motion to approve the revised meeting schedule, the motion was seconded by Sandra Clinard-Flanders and unanimously approved.***

**ACTION ITEM: Officer Election for 2024. *Unanimous votes to elect Sandra Clinard-Flanders as Chair, Dr. Michael Birzer as Vice Chair and Aaron Breitenbach as Secretary.***

**ACTION ITEM: Approval of Annual Summary Report Submission. *Peter Shay made the motion to approve the Annual Summary Report, the motion was seconded by Sandra Clinard-Flanders and unanimously approved.***

**Program Updates:** Tom Struble shared that in addition to staffing issues of ISOs and COs, that support staff has also suffered from understaffing. Tom recognized Lesa Lank, Business Administrator and Julee Meslin, Executive Officer Adult Services for their work to improve admin staffing and relieve the ISOs and COs of administrative tasks. Tom also recognized Andrea Drinnen, Executive Officer Juvenile Services, for her work on policy revisions. Tom shared that KDOC requires a 75% program completion rate or a 3% increase over the last year. In Fiscal 2023 the rate increased to 52%. In the first half of Fiscal 2024, that rate has jumped to 60% which is an 8% increase over last year. Tom shared that all supervisors will be working with their teams to complete 2024 evaluations and set goals.

Sasha Teel shared that Adult Residential and Work Release had a couple of holiday events for the clients. Pathway Church came in for a special Christmas service and meal. Adult Residential held a family holiday party with pizza, games and photo opportunities for clients and their families. Sasha presented a slideshow of the holiday parties as well as the grand opening of the H-3 Dorm.

Sasha announced that Kansas Children’s Service League will start parenting classes for Adult Corrections clients in February. She went on to say that Goodwill Industries has started an employment program for clients called “Way to Grow.” Five residential clients will be in the program. During the 90-day program, the clients will be employed by Goodwill Industries. There is set criteria for referrals to the program and each client will be provided with feedback every 30 days. Gift card incentives will be given. At the end of 90 days, clients will be eligible to continue employment with Goodwill or move on to other employment with a referral and reference.

Lori Gibbs shared that she has been out for the last six weeks and returned to work on January 1. She echoed the importance of the family holiday events held saying it is a great example of how DOC helps clients move thru difficult times and find a better path.

Lori provided updates regarding the KDOC audit and feedback on the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). This is a six month project to update protocols and policies following the audit last summer.

Lori also provided updates on staff training. Dr. Lovins’ Group, the NIJ Coaching Model, has been provided insight for consultants and their team for staff training. There is a scheduled site visit in March. Lori would like them to attend the March CAB meeting to share the work they have done with DOC.

Lori Gibbs shared that all DOC supervisors attended the second of three application sessions of the Kansas Leadership Center’s supervisory program. These three sessions are focused on peer coaching and exercising the skills they have been learning. The program will wrap up next month.

Lori asked if anyone had attended a Board of County Commissioners meeting and relayed that the Sedgwick County Sheriff had secured raises for his staff. This request was a result of the wage increase by the City of Wichita for their law enforcement. Lori indicated that this historically has an impact on DOC staff and there continues to be open conversation with the BoCC to keep up with compensation.

Steve Stonehouse reiterated that the Sheriff’s wage increase was in response to the City’s increase in pay and that DOC needs to be vigilant, as these types of increases have affected DOC staffing in the past.

Steve informed the board that on New Year’s Day, a 22 year old male resident was found unresponsive at Adult Residential. Life saving measures were given by staff and EMTs but they were unable to revive him. The Sheriff’s department was on scene and the incident will be actively investigated by the KBI as this occurred at a facilty. The victim’s family lives out of state and is working to get him home. There is an ongoing internal investigation to review pertinent processes and to be certain all procedures are being followed according to policy. ComCare and EMPAC were called in to provide debriefing sessions for clients and staff as this is a sensitive, emotional and stressful situation. Steve promised to update the Board and be as transparent as possible.

Aaron Breitenbach asked Monica Harris about a date for Drug Court Graduation. Monica said that there isn’t one currently scheduled but she will update the Board once a date has been set.

**Other Business**:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39a.m. Next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2024.