

Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Subcommittee | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 6/24/2020 11:00 AM | WI Dept of Justice – Virtual via Zoom

Co-Chairs

Kelli Thompson, State
Public Defender

David Mahoney, Dane
County Sheriff

Staff

Matt Raymer
Lara Kenny
Reneé Lushaj
Heather Kierzek
Derek Veitenheimer

Attendees

Kelli Thompson, Nick Sayner, Megan Jones, Lance Wiersma, Adam Plotkin, Chloe Moore, Becci Main, JC Moore, Sara Benedict, Lisa Yeates, Melvin Juette, Mark Abeles-Allison, Judge Levine, Beth Robinson, Tamera Oman, Sarah Wynn, Holly Audley, Jane Graham-Jennings, Kit Kerschensteiner,

Absent

Sheriff David Mahoney, Katy Burke, Patti Jo Severson, Kristy Gusse, Jessica Skemp, Judge Lowe, Colleen Clark Bernhardt, Robert Mann, DJ Klauser

AGENDA TOPICS

Welcome and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 11:02 a.m. Motion to approve the 2/14/2020 minutes was made by Mark Abeles-Allison and seconded by Nick Sayner. The minutes were approved.

COVID-19 TAD Program Impacts

The subcommittee discussed the impact COVID-19 has had on the program operations across WI. Those discussions included the following:

- Telemedicine has rapidly expanded and is being widely used.
- Efforts are underway to assist people with acquiring the appropriate equipment and reliable internet connections.
- Participants are struggling with relapse, lack of routine, and lack of structure.
- Every county seems to be operating differently. Some programs are struggling with a lack of referrals due to not having access to the jail.
- Practitioners encouraged to look at BRSS TACS to find resources to support people in recovery.
- Law enforcement is being utilized to perform welfare checks on participants who are struggling.
- Sanctioning has been difficult and requires creative solutions.
- Terminations are being discouraged across all programs, as services are lacking.
- MAT in the jail has been a struggle as practitioners are unable to make an initial connection with the participant at the jail.

March 2020 Report Follow-up

Executive summaries of both the Data Sharing Report and the TAD Report were discussed. The TAD Outcome Evaluation Report was also discussed.

Recommendation to include feedback from program participants in future reports and involve people with lived experience in oversight. Also recommended to review the results of the Procedural Fairness Surveys that were conducted last year at a future meeting.

TAD Statute Updates/Recommendations

Reviewed the recommended changes to the TAD Statute. A historical context was provided on the outcome of previous efforts to change the statute. A discussion was held regarding the violent offender restriction. Domestic violence offenders are of particular concern.

Meeting Recap/Future Meetings

DOJ will continue to work on the statute language. A future meeting date will be determined. Meetings will be scheduled on a monthly basis.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned by Co-Chair Thompson at 1:02 p.m.