Safe Haven Advisory Board meeting

Monday, June 12, 2017, 11:00AM

Board Members present were the following:

Designee for Kelly Rabalais, Jan Robert. Dr. C. Preston, designee for Sheriff Randy Smith, Major Wharton Muller. Judge Garcia. Adele Bruce Smith, Bill Davies, Patti Ellish, Colin Sims, Tony LeMon

1. Meeting called to order, Jan Robert
2. Roll call, quorum established, Jan Robert
3. Approval of minutes, March 2017
4. Safe Haven update and overview, March-May 2017, Jan Robert
5. Safe Haven Committee reports
6. Jail Diversion, Judge Peter Garcia
7. Healthcare, Dr. Charles Preston and Richard Kramer
8. Training and Education, Major Wharton Muller, Nick Richard
9. Other business:
10. Meeting adjourned

Jan Robert reported the following on behalf of Kelly Rablais and the Safe Haven executive meeting

1. Safe Haven Asbestos remediation is going well and are going as planned.

3. Verges Rome has given STP 50% Plans for Quad A’s Renovations and is awaiting their cost estimate. I have a verbal of $2.2 mil down from the $2.6 mil given at the onset of design services

4. Due to the recent Tax renewal failing HUD funds are now going to be used.

5. The refurbishing the Mechanical HVAC equipment and reusing some of the existing ductwork. Currently, Facilities is rebuilding Quad D’s equipment with great success and therefore we will most probably save the added dollars and do the same to Quad A. This ticket item along with Electrical is historically you biggest costs.

6. Verges Rome is on track to complete the plans by the end of June or mid- July.

7. Rachel Edelman had confirmed that she was successful in receiving the SAMHSA grant for Optimizing and enhancing Veterans court. This Grant must be used for treatment, housing or transportation.

Judge Peter Garcia informed us on the updates from the

Safe Haven Jail Diversion Committee meeting

1. Points of interception: Identifying those in front of the judge and diverting them to resources and treatment rather than jail.

2. Tiger Program: Pilot program used in the 22nd which is a screening tool used on individuals after sentencing to determine appropriate probation requirement.

3. Sequential Intercept Model:

The SIM has been used to develop a comprehensive map of how people with behavioral health conditions flow through the criminal justice system in St Tammany along five distinct intercept points: Law Enforcement, Initial Detention and Initial Court Hearings, Jails and Courts, Re-entry, and Community Corrections. The SIM for the St Tammany criminal justice system needs to be expanded and revised to provide more detail of gaps, resources and roles of providers in the BH system.

4. Judge Garcia reported on implementation of the “hybrid model” risk assessment tool developed by the 22nd Judicial.

data system and reviewed in 24 hours. The screening score is seeking to quantify risk, mental illness, and substance use. There may also be tools available through the Stepping Up initiative.

5. Judge Garcia told of his intent to meet with the new Medical Director at STPSO as soon as possible.

Wharton Muller gave us the updates on behalf of the Training and Education Committee.

1. Major Wharton Muller informed us that the Crisis Intervention Forum that was held at Greenbrier on May 9 to introduce the 4 STPSO CIT deputies to the healthcare community. All completed the 40-hour CIT offered by the San Antonio police department.

2. The STPSO CIT will operate Monday through Friday working 8-hour shifts. Sheriff Randy Smith presented the team and described their responsibilities. The CIT will respond to behavioral health cases, protective custody, PTSD, homelessness and other issues. In the future, the plan is for the deputies to operate parish wide as a full time CIT, in plain clothes and unmarked cars, with a focus on behavioral health cases.

4. Major Muller added that the CIT intends to outreach to hospitals, first responders, schools, etc., to educate professionals as well as the general public on the service that they have to offer. In addition, they hope to identify frequent callers and provide preventative care management that may result in a reduction of calls to 911 and visits to the hospital ED. Approximately 60 healthcare professionals from hospital ED’s, in and out patient psych facilities, nonprofits and other mental healthcare agencies attended the event. The committee recommended that the CIT follow up and outreach to judges in the 22nd, STPSB, FPHSA, FQHC as well as smaller outpatient BH clinics.

5. A 16 hour BH Training for law enforcement will be held at the STPSO Pearl River facility on June 20 and 21 from 8-4:30. STPSO has extended invitations to law enforcement in STP municipalities as well as Washington and Tangipahoa Parish. NAMI St Tammany will present the training.

6. MHFA Training. STPH will offer 8 hour MHFA on July 13th.

Nurses will be able to earn 7.5 CE’s. Cost of class will be $95. NAMI is seeking another location in East St Tammany to offer MHFA. SMH may be an option.

4. 911 crisis training manual and training for dispatch. Athena Walker is still working on the verbiage.

Dr. Charles Preston on behalf of the HealthCare committee

1. Dr. Preston informed us that the RFP was released by the end of May and advertised for a month. The RFP responses will be then be reviewed in July and a Safe Haven operator will be selected by the board no later than August 2017.

2. Dr. C Preston also informed us that until an operator has been selected the healthcare committee meetings will be suspended.

3. The Colombia Suicide Scale is a good assessment tool for suicide however it is unable to detect other mental illnesses.

4. Ochsner is using the EPIC software as is STPH. SMH is expected to this soon.

Other matters:

Judge Garcia bought to our attention that the group homes at NAMI were closing at the end of June due to funding. HUD had changed their criteria. He urged all at the meeting to please help in any way by spreading the word or donating funds. He reminded us all at the meeting that Nick Richard of NAMI has always helped nearly every organization or business in this community that has reached out to him.

Dr. Chuck Preston reminded us that due to the lack of participation in the recent election that two tax renewals that were desperately needed were not passed. He strongly urged us to reach out to our elected officials and ask them to support the funding for mental health in our parish.