WIBOSCOC

Discharge Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 5, 2021; 12 – 1:30 pm

Teams Meeting

Attended: Kristina Bechtel, Cassandra Carlson, Duana Bremer, Nichole Strom, Kristen Brusky, Joseph VanRoy, Katelyn Voorhees, LeAnn Ring, Rachel Thomas, Alfred Johnson, Nathan Dougherty, Sarah Hoth, Ryan Graham, Daniella Fohr, Jessica Neumann, Scott La Combe

1. Introductions for new attendees
2. Speaker – Nichole Storm, Probation Supervisor, Polk County
	1. Polk County has a DOC agent specifically assigned to working with individuals approaching release from Division of Adult Institutions (DA) facilities. Nichole served in this position prior to becoming Supervisor.
		1. The DOC Agent gets notified about client’s upcoming release 6 months in advance. DOC Agent starts collaborating with institution Social Worker and client on developing a release plan (housing, BadgerCare, FoodShare, support network, etc.).
		2. DOC has moved toward Evidence-Based Practice involving identifying and addressing criminogenic needs – housing may be one of these needs
	2. Nichole and the group discussed challenges and opportunities for growth:
		1. Challenges: Housing plans may fall through last minute (friend/family changes their mind on having the client stay with them, etc.), DOC Agents in other counties may have caseloads comprised of a mix of clients in the community and clients who are approaching release, clients may reach their maximum release date while incarcerated and will not have a DOC Agent to help them with release planning, there is currently no DOC policy for how to make release plans with clients in jails, only for clients leaving DAI facilities.
		2. Opportunities for Growth: Polk County Jail now has a program coordinator to track cases/clients approaching release - this has improved collaboration with DOC Agents and may be a model for other county jails.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 1, 2021 – Joseph motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Kristen seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.
4. Update on Discharge Planning Toolkit
	1. Review Discharge Planning Toolkit
		1. Updates and added documents
			1. WIBOSCOC suggested changes
			2. Group reviewed the Instructions Document
				1. Alfred will send Jessica the facilities directories to add to document.
				2. Toolkit will be available on the Balance of State website when completed.
			3. HMIS Release of Information
		2. Jessica motioned to approve the Discharge Planning Toolkit as presented, Duana seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.
		3. Group will form a committee to draft a Community Discharge Planning Policy
			1. Kristen and Cassandra will work on developing a policy to present to the Committee and will share an update at September’s meeting.
5. Other Business
	* 1. Potential future speakers
			1. Jessica will follow up with Katelyn to see if she has a speaker for September or October meeting.
			2. Duana will follow up with potential speaker.
	1. Sarah discussed release planning work at Wood County Jail – she meets with clients at the jail prior to develop a release plan and collaborates with DOC if individual has an agent.
	2. Group discussed potential future issues for committee to address including evictions and housing needs of individuals with sex offense histories.
6. Next Meeting – September 2, 2021; 12 – 1 pm

Future Speakers:

Katelyn Voorhees Speaker?

Tribal Discharge Planning Speaker

Future Populations of Focus:

Jail

MH/SUD Recover houses

Foster Care