



Washington State Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards

MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2022 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

1.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-chair Devon Schrum welcomed Task Force members to the fifth meeting of the Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards.• Devon Schrum reviewed and made note of changes to the agenda that had been previously sent out. The task force adopted the new agenda for the December 14 meeting.• Devon Schrum reviewed the previous meeting’s minutes. The task force approved the November meeting minutes.• Establishment of quorum. See list below.
2	Yakima County Jail, Behavioral Health Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Samantha Martinez, LICSW from Yakima County Behavioral Health Services presented on the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Behavioral health services provided at the Yakima County Jail, including frequency and how individuals access care;○ Program improvements being made at the jail; and○ Challenges and barriers to providing behavioral health services in correctional settings. See slides on page 4.• Samantha noted that Yakima County Behavioral Health Services provides a wide range of services to incarcerated individuals, which begins during the booking process. The screening tool was developed internally. There are forty hours of provider time per week and daily checks for symptomatic clients. Incarcerated individuals are able to access care by making a request or through referrals from jail staff, community mental health providers, family and friends of the incarcerated individual, and designated crisis responders.• Samantha highlighted the following program improvements: creating an expanded 8-week program for those with mental illness, providing incentives for individuals in programming, increasing training for behavioral health staff, and providing cross-training between behavioral health and custody staff .• Samantha concluded that despite these improvements, there are still many barriers and challenges to providing comprehensive and high-quality behavioral health services in correctional facilities, including<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ increased delays in people receiving competency restoration services (averaging about 3-5 months),

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the physical environment is not conducive for those with neurocognitive disorders and developmental delays, ○ limited funding, and ○ difficulties coordinating and continuing care in the community.
3.	<p>Spokane County Tour Debrief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-chair Devon Schrum facilitated a discussion among task force members, staff from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, and custody staff from Spokane County Corrections. ● Task force members who toured the downtown Spokane County Jail offered their reactions to the facility and its operations. Those who were unable to tour asked custody staff about the jail’s general size, age, operations, as well as how specific areas of the jail are used, such as restrictive housing.
4.	<p>Task Force Survey Results & Trajectory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair Senator Saldaña facilitated a discussion on members’ initial impressions of proposed recommendations. ● Based on survey responses and commentary, most members are supportive of establishing statewide standards and oversight, several members have concerns about funding for localities to meet the standards and questions about who would be establishing and enforcing the standards, and several members have not yet expressed their views. ● Some members expressed interest in additional data on those in jails and the services provided and others expressed that the Task Force should act quickly to improve jail conditions within the window available now, especially given that most members are support of statewide authority. ● Members expressed interest in potentially recommending the creation of more regional facilities, establishing a Commission to set standards and have the authority to meaningfully enforce them, and launching a central clearinghouse for jail data.
5.	<p>Public Comment Period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No members of the public in attendance submitted a comment.
6.	<p>Next Steps and Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next meeting will be on Thursday, January 19.


Name	Task Force Affiliation	Organization	Present
Rep. Jesse Young	House of Representatives	Washington State Legislature	No
Rep. Kirsten Harris-Talley	House of Representatives	Washington State Legislature	Yes
Sen. Perry Dozier	Senate	Washington State Legislature	No

Sen. Rebecca Saldaña	Senate	Washington State Legislature	Yes
Chanel Rhymes	Entities involved with or interested in the operation of local jails	Northwest Community Bail Fund	Yes
Christopher Swaby	Defense attorneys	The Swaby Law Firm	Yes
Devon Schrum	Jail administrators	Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs	Yes
Eliana Macias	Cities	Yakima City Councilmember	No
Ethan Frenchman	State designated protection and advocacy agency	Disability Rights Washington	Yes
Hailey Ockinga	Persons with lived experience	Beyond These Walls	Yes
Judge Jeffrey Smith	District and municipal courts	Spokane County District Court	Yes
Jordan Landry	Persons with lived experience	Community Representative	Yes
Laurel Jones	Statewide civil legal aid organization	Columbia Legal Services	Yes
Lisa Janicki	Counties	Skagit County Commissioner	Yes
Dr. Marc Stern	Medical and mental health providers	University of Washington, School of Public Health	Yes
Norma Tillotson	Prosecutors	Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys	Yes
Judge Sharonda Amamilo	Superior courts	Thurston County Superior Court	Yes
Chief Wendy Jones	Law enforcement	Whatcom County Sheriff's Office	Yes

YAKIMA COUNTY JAIL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

**SAMANTHA MARTINEZ LICSW
DIRECTOR OF ACUTE CARE OPERATIONS**

OBJECTIVES

- Learn what services YCC behavioral health provides.
 - The frequency of services provided.
 - How individuals are able to access care?
 - Discuss challenges and barriers to providing quality behavioral health services in correctional setting.
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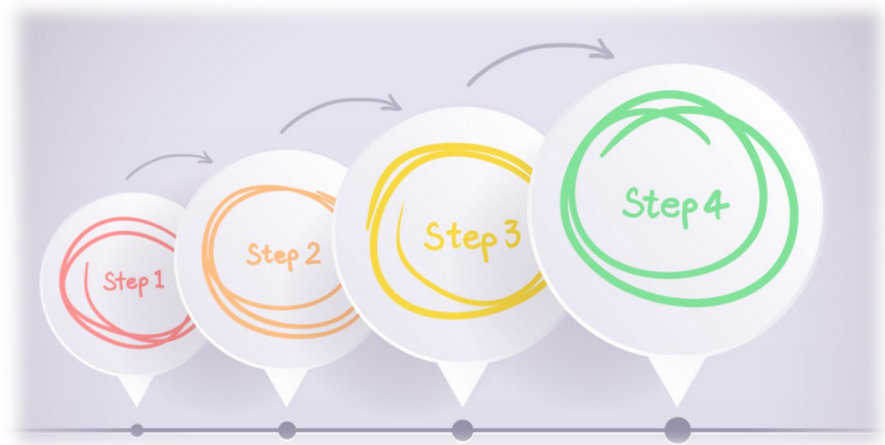
The Frequency of Each Service

- Daily checks for highly symptomatic clients
- Every 2-4 weeks depending on need
- Medication Management Primary



Accessing Care

- Kites
- Referrals by:
 - Jail staff
 - Community Mental Health Providers
 - Family/Friends
 - DCR's



Program Improvements

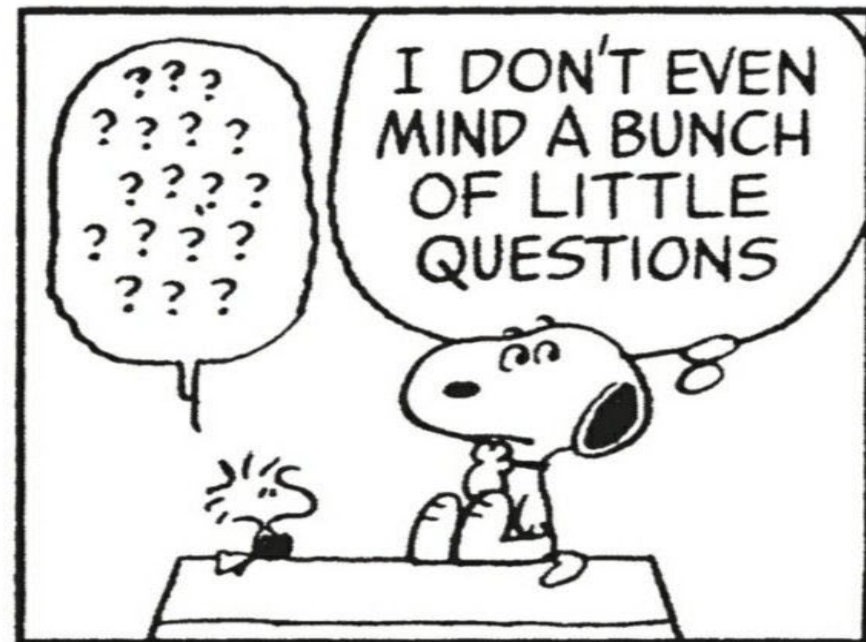
- Mental Health Unit
- Changing Lives Changing Outcomes
- Increased Staffing Levels
- Support from Jail Administration
- Increased Training



Challenges & Barriers

- Competency Restoration delays
- Neurocognitive Disorders/Developmental Delays
- Funding
- Coordinating Care
- Recidivism/Community Challenges
- ITA process and E&T's





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