

Judicial and Law Enforcement Task Force Meeting
October 5, 2016 4:30 p.m.
Roger B. Wilson Government Center, Chambers

Present: Rusty Antel (chair), David Thomas, Jacob Clifford, Kelly Wallis, Jill Schlude, Steve Hollis, Janet Schisser, Lorenzo Lawson, Kay Evans, Bob Aulgur, Mary Epping, Tom Fleharty, Meckenzie Hayes, Megan Steen, Sterling Williams, Kelli Canada, Jean Sax, Chimene Schwach, Lisa Thomas, John Esterly, Heather Jacobson, Janet Thompson, Debbie Daniels

Rusty Antel opened the meeting at 4:30 and asked if everyone had received the SIM report and had had an opportunity to review it. Kelly suggested that the reference to SOAR should be moved from an asset to an opportunity. Rusty told the group that the next steps will include the creation of a working leadership group to lead the process forward, probably dividing into sub-groups with areas of expertise to bring programs and potential process changes back to the larger group.

Janet told the group that Boone County has joined the White House Data-Driven Justice Initiative, which now has over 100 entities on board. Jill noted that CPD has joined the Law Enforcement Initiative and stated that she is the liaison to that program. Note--the opportunities for collaboration through these initiatives are enormous, since we will be able to gain knowledge of best practices and emerging trends across the country through contacts with other agencies and jurisdictions.

Rusty noted a recent incident in Audrain County that had been brought to his attention and further noted that mental health issues were seemingly the connecting issue for many of the recent police/citizen shootings.

Steve spoke to the group about the upcoming Homelessness Summit, co-hosted by the City of Columbia, Boone County and United Way, which is intended to serve as a sort of "book-end" to the Affordable Housing Workshop held in 2015. It will be held on November 17-18, 2016. He said there will be a regional, national and local focus to the programming offered, with the conference ending with a planning workshop on Friday morning with goals of establishing three year goals.

The group then began to talk about mental health first aid, CIT training, and other ways in which people could be connected to services. Many agencies have created such training, including Burrell and Extension, and it was noted that Commissioner Clevenger had had training on mental health issues for her staff. Jean asked how the average citizen would know how to access the training. Much discussion was had about our failures to create a clearing house method of training and services. The real question seemed to be how to publicize the availability of training AND how to make it accessible--for

instance, having a 40-80 hour training for law enforcement may be too cumbersome for small law enforcement agencies.

Kelly then told the group about an RFP that she is putting out to fund a SOAR specialist here in Boone County, as well as a Peer Specialist that would be dedicated to addressing issues with this population.