

CCA Director's Meeting May 18, 2007

Gayle Dittmer and Kory Halter-Kochera opened the meeting and welcomed CCA Directors.

Gayle Dittmer announced that the OCPOA website is now up. There is a section on the website for CCA Directors which includes minutes from past meetings, CCA Standards and other items. Please forward any suggestions for resource items that can be added to Gayle or Kory.

State Budget Testimony

Gayle Dittmer reported that Director Collins provided testimony for ODRC on April 3, 2007. CCA, OCCA, OJACC and CorJus also provided testimony. Director Collins' testimony was very supportive of community corrections and the finance committee seemed very receptive. The testimony of CCA, OCCA, OJACC and CorJus all mentioned the overall support of community corrections. Director Collins is testifying today before the Senate Finance Committee. The associations are scheduled to provide Senate testimony on June 1, 2007. Please forward any suggestions on the CCA testimony that was distributed.

FY08-09 Budget

Butch Hunyadi reported that the State Budget passed the House with the 1.5% increase as stated in the Governor's recommended budget. This amounts to approximately \$380,000 for 407 programs and \$180,000 for 408 programs statewide. Members of the OJACC Community Corrections Collaborative, which include representative from CCA, CBCFs and halfway houses, were asked to help identify the needs of the state-funded programs. Gayle Dittmer responded that the CCA representatives - Vince Polito, Gary Yates, Dan Peterca and Gayle Dittmer - recommended that the 1.5% increase be applied to salary expenses for CCA programs across the board. This recommendation was made based on the results of the survey of CCA programs, which stressed the need for cost of living increases to recruit and retain qualified staff. A letter was sent to ODRC that included the recommendations for CCA programs, CBCFs and halfway houses. Once Linda Janes has a chance to respond, a meeting will be scheduled between ODRC and the Community Corrections Collaborative. The recommendations submitted were based on the current anticipated 1.5% increase. If the amount changes, the recommendations may be reconsidered.

Grant Agreements

Butch Hunyadi reported that the FY08 Grant Agreements would be sent via e-mail next week. They are to be submitted at the same level of funding as 2007 until final determination is made on the 2008 funding level.

408 Focus group

Butch Hunyadi reported that the first meeting of the 408 Focus Group in April went well. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2007 at the Crown Plaza North Hotel.

Some of the issues discussed were:

- Should there be a risk/needs tool for 408 programs?
- What should be the mission/purpose of 408 programs? (Reduce jail beds or is it about reducing recidivism?)
- Should agreements be a grant application or contract?
- Which evidence-based practices make sense for 408 programs?
- How should cost savings for diversions be determined?

Ohio Risk/Needs Tool

Research into the development of the Ohio Risk/Needs Tool is still in progress. Data is still being collected. Current projections estimate completion of the tool in 16-18 months.

Emergency Funding

ODRC has requested monthly status reports from agencies that received emergency funding. Reports thus far show that money for jail diversion should be used by the end of June and the results of jail beds saved look favorable. Results have not been as favorable for the non-support funding. Additionally, treatment funds are not on track to be spent before the end of the fiscal year. Unspent funds from FY2007 cannot be carried over. Funds must be encumbered by the end of the fiscal year. We need to see results from funding.

STOP- Short-Term Offender Programming

Vince Polito reported on the Short-Term Offender Programming project through ODRC. ODRC is attempting to provide programming for some of the 63% of offenders who serve 12 months or less in Ohio's prisons. ODRC asked for community representatives to assist with the planning of this program. The committee is looking at housing placement and programming. The plan is that offenders with 90 days or less would not go to a parent institution. Instead, a specific prison would be designated for short-term prisoners.

Pilot programs are planned for Cuyahoga, Franklin Pre-Release and Trumbull for males and females. It has been difficult trying to develop a model to fit everyone and there is no new funding for any of these programs

New Business

- A question was asked about the purpose of BCS staff sitting in during groups and/or office visits. Butch responded that is done to ensure the person delivering services has the required qualifications and that evidence-based practices such as motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral interventions are being used.

- It was suggested that some regionalized meetings be held for some program directors that have a difficult time coming to meetings in Columbus.

- Butch Hunyadi announced that BCS would like to improve the CCA section of the ODRC website as they have done for the CBCF section. Butch asked program directors to submit a paragraph describing their program. Please contact Butch if you are interested in assisting with this project.

- The 2007 Cliff Skeen Award meeting may be moved to CTA. Due to new state requirements, ODRC cannot provide lunch as in the past. Three nominees each for CCA 407, CCA 408, CBCF and halfway house programs will be submitted by the first week of August. Criteria are based on CCIS data and implementation of evidence-based practices.

Contact Kory or Gayle if you would like issues added to the CCA Director's Meeting Agenda.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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