

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**March 1, 2019**

**3:30 pm**

**Conference Room A**

**Fourth Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Shelley Grant

Phyllis Hall

Darcel Harris-Absent

Preston Harris

Carolyn Herman

Vicki Waytowich

Joe Peppers, Subject Matter Expert

**Topic:** Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction – Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee

**Attendance:** Colleen Hampsey- Council Research; Chiquita Moore- Mayor’s Office; Carol Owens, Crystal Shemwell and Ladayija Nichols- Legislative Services

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 3:30 pm

Chairperson Grant convened the meeting and welcomed the members. This was the first meeting of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee, so the members introduced themselves and shared a bit about their backgrounds. Ms. Grant talked briefly about developing a framework for the subcommittee to focus on, to include issues pertaining to mental health and substance abuse, causes and an inventory of services and programs. The group also discussed other factors which affect mental health, particularly trauma, and the interaction between mental health issues and the criminal justice system (treatment in jails, standard procedures for law enforcement).

The members discussed the cultural differences associated with mental health issues, and Ms. Hall commented on the stigma related to seeking help which is sometimes seen in the black community. Ms. Hall also mentioned the effects of intergenerational trauma, race and one’s physical environment on mental health. The group agreed that part of the mission of the subcommittee should be to identify barriers to accessing help for mental health concerns or substance abuse. Other components of the subcommittee’s mission will be to identify mental health and substance abuse risk and protective factors, as well as a community education campaign to better inform the public on mental health/substance abuse issues and services.

Mr. Peppers said that the subcommittee should begin with data analysis and look at mental health issues by local demographics (race, gender, zip code) and also consider the impact of health insurance on mental health care. The data analysis should include a baseline definition of the adult and juvenile populations, with an estimated percentage of those who need mental health/substance abuse treatment compared with the percentage of those who actually receive that treatment. National and state data will be included in the comparison. Mr. Peppers noted the importance of including special populations, such as incarcerated individuals, children in foster care, families living below the poverty line etc. Additionally the subcommittee will examine available programs in Jacksonville to assess any gaps in the access to mental health and substance abuse care. Prior to the next meeting, the aforementioned data will be gathered and disseminated, as well as an inventory of juvenile and adult human services programs in the city.

With no further business, Chairperson Grant adjourned the meeting. The next Mental Health and Substance Abuse subcommittee meeting will be on March 15, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:37 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

CHampsey @coj.net (904) 630-1498

Posted 3.6.19 5:00 pm

Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 3.1.19