

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

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

**March 28, 2019**

**3:00 pm**

**Don Davis Room**

**First Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Shelley Grant

Phyllis Hall

Darcel Harris

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:** Chiquita Moore – Mayor’s Office; Colleen Hampsey **–** Council Research; Crystal Shemwell – Legislative Services

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 3:03 pm

Chairperson Grant convened the meeting and welcomed the members. This was the third meeting of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee. There were guest speakers in attendance from Baptist Health - Melanie Patz, Jennifer Donahoo and Terrie Andrews – to provide information about the Jacksonville Hospital Partnership, trauma response training, mental health first aid and other mental health care issues. The Jacksonville Hospital Partnership, which includes Baptist Health, Brooks Rehabilitation, Mayo Clinic, St. Vincent’s and UF Health Jacksonville, conducts a community health needs assessment every three years which most recently indicated that mental health care is an issue for all providers. In Jacksonville, there are gaps in mental health care services, with a lower care giver ratio than is needed for the population, as well as a shortage of psychiatrists and authorized prescribers particularly in rural areas. Additionally, Medicaid does not reimburse for psychologists at all for mental health care services. In collaboration with other hospitals, Baptist Health is conducting free adult mental health first aid trainings with the goal of reaching 10,000 participants this year. All of the Jacksonville Sheriff’s officers will complete the training, in addition to other organizations.

The Baptist Health guest speakers also talked about the effects of trauma and “calm classroom” techniques which are being implemented in several Duval County Schools. Trauma (from neighborhood violence, abuse, neglect, grief, poverty, incarceration of a parent) alters the development of a child’s brain and impacts memory, learning and behavior. “Calm Classroom” is a trauma informed mindfulness intervention using meditation to manage anxiety and stress. This intervention has been found to reduce fighting and disruptive classroom behavior and increase student focus and engagement. There was a discussion about stigma and methods by which it may be reduced. There is evidence based research which indicates that while public relations campaigns might decrease social stigma associated with mental health issues, real change is correlated with proximity and relations with those who are actually experiencing mental health issues.

Mary Tobin and Mary Nash, Kids Hope Alliance, were in attendance to speak about various children’s mental health care concerns. A trauma informed community crises response plan is being crafted, with the intent to intervene within 60 minutes of a violent neighborhood incident. KHA will also be creating a family engagement specialist staff position. Ms. Nash mentioned that there needs to be more coordination between faith-based groups and mental health providers to meet the mental health care needs of the community.

With no further business, Chairperson Grant adjourned the meeting. The next Mental Health and Substance Abuse subcommittee meeting date has yet to be announced.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 5:02 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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Posted 4.2.19 5:00 pm

Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Mental Health and Substance Abuse Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 3.28.19