



Report on Jail Services Project

March 9, 2006

The North Sound Mental Health Administration decided to sub-contract the Jail Services Program to its member counties since the Jails operate on a county-by-county basis. Significant progress has occurred and a tremendous amount of work has gone into initiating this new program by each county. A memorandum of understanding was signed on a regional basis with DSHS's regional Economic Services Division to coordinate public assistance and Medicaid applications. The county mental health coordinators from the five counties are meeting with data service providers to arrange the inputting of jail services data into the mental health information system.

Island and San Juan Counties

Island and San Juan Counties have chosen to combine their efforts on this new jail mental health initiative for San Juan County sub-contracts with Island County for jail services. Island County has interviewed and will be offering the job to someone next week who will serve both Island and San Juan Counties. The Island County Mental Health Coordinator is meeting with the manager of the DSHS office here, in fact she was on the interview panel. The DSHS staff are on board, excited about the project. They will do whatever they can to help. The local community treatment team is willing to serve as kind of an advisory board for the project and they were all excited about doing that.

Skagit County

Skagit County is the furthest along in implement this project and has already begun directly serving consumers in the jail. See attached spreadsheet for the initial data on this project. Skagit County has staff working on the project now.

Snohomish County

1. An Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between the Human Services Department and the County Jail covering several issues including identification of clients and referral process, cross referencing daily bookings report with MH database, confidentiality and disclosure of client information, DSHS benefits application process, notification/planning for release, and service planning.

2. An MOU is being signed by Community Service Offices, Snohomish County Jail, and Snohomish County Human Services Department outlining roles and responsibilities for the DSHS benefits application/reinstatement process.
3. Vendor agreements for transition services are being written.
4. Staff members are being hired at the County for Resource Management positions and should begin within the next month.
5. County staff members continue to work with Sound Data and NSMHA on issues of data entry, cross referencing the databases, and reporting requirements of this project.
6. County staff continues to participate in the DSHS workgroup formed to coordinate the local implementation of this legislation. This includes cross training and coordination for DSHS staff, jail staff, provider staff, and County staff.

Whatcom County

Whatcom County has completed its bidder's conference and the Jail Services RFP 06-29 is due March 14th. We have scheduled a RFP review team made up of Lt. Wendy Jones Whatcom County Department of Corrections, Bruce Van Glubt District Court Administrator and Tom Richardson Chair WC Mental health Advisory Board.

If you have further questions regarding this project contact Greg Long at the North Sound Mental Health Administration.