

## **Meeting Minutes**

### January 20, 2023

Date	Time	Location	Preparer of Minutes
01/20/23	8:30 am – 11:30 am	PHSS Conference Room 107B & ZOOM	Chelyn Sowers

Attendance				
Committe	e Members	PHSS Staff	Others	
Present Robert Almada Sarah DeStasio Bob Jones Tonia McClanahan Wendy Tanner Priscilla Terry Gina Thompson	<b>Absent</b> None	David Bayne Kurt Hardin Carrie Hennen Chelyn Sowers		

Agenda Item	Notes	
Welcome & Introductions	TST Advisory Committee members and PHSS staff introduced themselves.  The July, November, and December 2022 minutes were approved.	
	<ul> <li>Carrie Hennen provided the following budget updates:         <ul> <li>Safe Babies Court: Thurston County Superior Court started Safe Babies</li> <li>Court to serve children in dependencies ages 0-3 years old. This program was created out of external grant funding that was expected to expire after 12 months, and thus in the last budget cycle, they requested funding from TST to sustain the program. The external grant has been extended to five years, so TST will not need to provide funds for Safe Babies Court in the 2022 nor 2023 budget.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
TST 2022 Year End Updates	<ul> <li>The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) adopted a midterm budget amendment for 2023, which entailed moving TST funding for re-entry services from the Thurston County Sheriff's Office to the Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (TMBHASO). The Olympic Health and Recovery Services (OHRS) team is now providing re-entry services in addition to clinical mental health professional work at the Thurston County Jail.</li> <li>Another budget amendment was to add approximately \$340,000 in TST funds to the TMBHASO budget for clinical mental health services to</li> </ul>	



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	backfill the TrueBlood funding to maintain current service levels in the Thurston County Jail.
	<ul> <li>The BoCC adopted into the 2022 budget an allocation of \$500,000 to the TMBHASO to acquire a house in which to place people with serious mental illness. This funding did not get spent due to challenges buying property in 2022, so the BoCC moved the funding into the 2023 budget.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The youth program Multisystem Therapy (MST) was underspent in 2022.</li> <li>There were some increased costs with another youth program,</li> <li>Wraparound with Intensive Services (WiSE), so TST is in the process of amending the agreement with the TMBHASO to move funds from MST to WiSE.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) was launched in 2021. There was TST funding set aside for LEAD in 2021 but it was not spent due to state grant funding. The program has continued into 2022 and it is likely that we will not be spending TST funds on LEAD in 2022. We are discussing 2023 funding with staff as the state grant was scheduled to end in 2023, but it may be extended.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The 2022 TST Budget will be underspent as it has been for several years.         The revenue for 2022 will be over 8 million dollars. The 2022 Year-End fiscal process has not yet been completed, but there will be more fund balance going into the next budget process.     </li> </ul>
	Carrie also provided the following other updates:
	<ul> <li>Family Recovery Court had come to present to the committee in July 2022 and at that time they had a low census of about 3-4 participants enrolled. They now have 12 participants enrolled, likely due to increased outreach and referrals.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Two members have left the TST Advisory Committee. Members whose term is up must apply to be re-appointed. <u>Applications</u> are due February 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>
	Leah Landon, Thurston County Criminal Justice Regional Program Manager, presented on the Stepping Up Initiative (see accompanying slides):
Stepping Up Initiative	The Stepping Up Initiative was created in 2015 by the Council of State Governments Justice Center, the National Association of Counties, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation. It provides counties with resources



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	to address mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local justice systems. The initiative recommends that counties focus on Jail Bookings, Jail Length of Stay, Connections to Treatment, and Recidivism. On December 13 <sup>th</sup> , the BoCC officially signed the resolution to join the Stepping Up Initiative.
	The Jail Resource Team (JRT) will act as the county's stakeholder group for the Initiative, and they will begin the process of strategic planning in early 2023. Their goal is to have a strategic plan in place by June 2023.
	The Initiative provides framework to new members that has been successful in other counties. They also have "Innovator Counties" that have shown with their data an improvement in their mental health population. Island County is considered an Innovator County, and they have presented to the JRT about their approach to Stepping Up. A challenge they faced was just starting to measure and look at their data, which allowed them to look into why they have people staying in jail that should not be in jail, and how they can begin to work on that.
	The JRT team currently consists of the Thurston County Criminal Justice Regional Program Manager, County Manager, County Commissioner, Racial Equity Program Manager, District Court, Superior Court, the Clerk's Office, TST Program Manager, Public Health, Pretrial Services, Public Defense, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Jail staff, and TMBHASO staff. JRT membership will be discussed at the next meeting as one recommendation from the Stepping Up Initiative is to include community involvement.
	The JRT will continue to discuss the use of the beds in the triage center adjacent to the Thurston County Jail. One of the issues is those beds do not typically go to just Thurston County residents.
	Thurston County Law and Justice Data is currently separate and siloed. There is a separate Data Subcommittee which will work to address this with the goal of creating a Data Warehouse for all Thurston County Law and Justice Data. This would allow all the partners to upload their data to one place and be linked by person so that long-term outcomes could be tracked. This is a long-term project that will be helpful moving forward, but the Stepping Up Initiative will initially depend on jail-based data.
Chair and Co-Chair Discussion	The group debriefed the December 2022 meeting, finalized group agreements, and reviewed recommendations from the Equity Institute. The group agreed to review one to three statements from the Thurston County Resolution 15995 at each monthly meeting.
	The group agreed that the committee should have a Chair and/or Co-Chairs. Gina Thompson moved to nominate Robert Almada and Wendy Tanner to be Co-
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	Chair the TST Advisory Committee for 2023. The group voted in favor with no opposition.		
2023 Meeting Schedule and Topics	Carrie presented the meeting schedule and topics for 2023. The group agreed to cancel the March meeting. Meeting schedule for the second half of the year will be finalized when new members are onboarded.		
	The meeting was adjourned at 11:24am.		

#### **Next Meeting:**

February 17, 2023 8:30 am – 11:30 am

Public Health & Social Services Building (Lilly Road) in Conference Room 107B and/or by ZOOM