

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2024

Date	Time	Location	Preparer of Minutes
2/16/24	8:30 am – 11:30 am	PHSS Conference Room 107B & ZOOM	Joel Brehmer

	Attendance					
Committee Members		PHSS Staff	Others			
Present Ali Abid Bob Jones Priscilla Terry Rachel Dreon Sarah DeStasio Jennifer Creighton Diana Cockrell	Absent Garrett Cady Tonia McClanahan	Chelyn Sowers Joel Brehmer Jennifer Freiheit	Leah Landon Commissioner Carolina Mejia			

Agenda Item	Notes		
Welcome & Introductions	The January 19th, 2024 meeting minutes were approved.		
Election of Committee Co-Chairs	Rachel Dreon and Bob Jones accepted their nominations as Co-Chairs. The Committee voted unanimously to elect Rachel and Bob as the 2024 Co-Chairs for the TST Advisory Committee.		
Thurston County Court Alternative Program (T-CAP) Update	Leah Landon and Commissioner Carolina Mejia presented an update on the Thurston County Court Alternative Program (TC-CAP), see attached TC-CAP Proposal. Questions and discussion topics included the following:		
	 At this time, the eligibility for TC-CAP are individuals that are indigent per <u>RCW 10.101.010 (3)</u> and have an outstanding warrant, misdemeanor, or gross misdemeanor Simple Possession charges, or outstanding legal financial obligations in District Court. 		
	- The TC-CAP pilot program will be coordinated by Resource Hub staff, who will determine which community-based provider(s) meets the participant's needs and best address the root cause of their criminal behavior. There is currently no maximum time that a participant can be in the program.		
	- The pilot will gradually phase in 10 participants over the course of 6 months. Data on who is successful and who is returning to the program will be collected. Performance measures and definition of success will be refined after the first round of participants.		
	- TC-CAP is modeled off San Diego's Homeless Court. Participation in the program is voluntary. After a participant completes the program, their charges will be dropped. If a participant is not considered successful in the		



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	program, they will consider referral to other suitable program options (e.g. DUI/Drug Court). Community-based providers during the pilot program will be selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, funded through \$50K from TST, \$20K from the Home Fund, and \$20K from the Veterans Fund. The TC-CAP Implementation Committee will be responsible for reviewing RFP applications and selecting providers.		
	TST staff presented 2021-2023 Community Grant Program Performance. Questions and discussion topics included the following:		
	 The Committee offered suggestions for enhancing the evaluation of Community Grant Program Performance, including: 		
	 Asking the agency whether they have applied for other funding opportunities. Were they awarded or denied, and why? 		
Community Grant Program Performance Presentation	 Collecting data on administrative infrastructure. Did staff receive Cost of Living Adjustments or raises? Was there staff turnover? Did they hire any staff? 		
	 Inviting Community Grant awardees to present on their programs. TST Staff will coordinate these presentations for the recently awarded programs in 2024. 		
	The Committee also suggested that the Request for Proposals (RFP) be launched after the adoption of the biennium budget, so that the funding amount available is known and less likely to change.		
Community Grant Policies and Procedure Development	 The Committee discussed the development of Community Grant Policies and Procedures. Questions and discussion topics included the following: Chapter 5.49.040 of the Thurston County Code outlines policy goals for programs funded by Treatment Sales Tax. The Committee provided feedback that some of the verbiage needs updating (e.g. "mental illness" to "mental health", "chemical dependency" to "substance use"). Chapter 5.49.040 outlines the use of a Board approved strategic plan by the Committee to make funding recommendations. The Committee has historically used Thurston Thrives and Thurston County Public Health & Social Services (PHSS) strategic plans but supports the creation of a TST-specific strategic plan. 		
	 Increase the number of Advisory Committee meetings during the budget cycle. Schedule program presentations throughout the year. 		
	 Establish a work group to help develop a TST strategic plan. 		
	The Committee supported the creation of an annual quality assurance or		



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	auditing process to enhance monitoring of expenditures and program performance.
Opportunity for the Public to Address the Committee	There were no public comments.
	Interfaith Works inquired about TST funding Motivational Interviewing training for the Mental Health Engagement Specialist and Guest Support Navigator, totaling approximately \$1200. The motion passed with 3 votes in favor and 1 against.
Wrap Up & Adjourn	TST Staff will inquire about strategic plan development and will schedule a special, optional meeting in March to discuss.
	Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.

Next Meeting:

Special, Optional Meeting: March 15, 2024 8:30 am-11:30 am

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