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Jail Programming Workgroup
A Workgroup of the CJCC Jail and Jail Alternatives Committee
Monday 2/25/24 Noon-1pm
ZOOM

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Attendance: Ron Ganrude, Kelsie Horst, Trish Chandler, Katie Schild, Carin Hyter, Tara Brown, Mark Jacobson, Kallie Baker, Chris Dahlke, Rachel Stoll

Summary of Workgroup context and purpose:
Assist in providing a broad array of programming in the Winona County jail by engaging community organizations and inviting their participation.

Roles in this Workgroup:
- **Facilitator: Rachel Stoll** this person will facilitate the meetings which includes leading the discussion during the meetings, sending out zoom invitations and agendas
- **Note Taker**: **Eileen Hanson** this person will take notes during the meeting and send them to the group or Facilitator to be sent out
- **Jail Program Volunteer Outreach: Justin Green** (we will keep the idea of an intern for this position in summer or fall)
- **Jail staff representative:**   Sgt. Kelsie Horst

Agenda:
Introductions - Name, organization

Current Programs update:
- approx. 30 volunteers: Programs began 19th of February
- approx. 15 different programs being offered.
- still need more women volunteers for AA, NA, bible study and really any female volunteers to serve female inmates (currently no AA female volunteers).
  - There are point people for NA and AA so if someone wants to participate, folks need to go through those channels to sign up.
  - Mid-March new applications will be processed
  - **If interested, contact Sgt. Horst and she can connect you.**

Weekend expansion would be welcome- could be once per month or bi-weekly on weekends, those times are pretty stark right now, only one bible study and one peer support during weekends at this time.
- During the week there are often meetings with attorneys or court.

Work Release: Huber has not been started yet because of GPS logistics. Some folks are waiting to start their time in jail until that program is up and running.

On-Call Programs: reach out to Kelsie if you have an idea for on-call programming
- GED and adult education: there are been a handful of folks reaching out to start this program. Has been popular and is up and running
- Financial literacy with Kathy Sublet: there have been 5+ folks interested in these classes

- Meeting with SE Tech for 3 week program for 1 college credit and 2 certificates and would include a job fair- need a certain number of inmates who want to participate and all in the facility for the time period (need at least a month to set up plus the 3 week program)
- Teen challenge starting tomorrow with two inmates

Things Jail is need of:
- book donations for our library carts
- Hygiene supplies to make kits to send out with people that are homeless or indigent. (Toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, bars of soap, etc.). Can contact jail staff for these donations

Training:
- Sgt. Horst will be processing and training new volunteers quarterly. She will review the applicants she has in mid March, complete criminal history checks, and schedule training for beginning of April
- Sgt Horst will reach out to individuals who apply to do a group training of about 3 hours.

Feedback from folks who have volunteered:
- Two people who have volunteered shared there experiences. There is a feeling of safety and security with programming for volunteers. Volunteers can have a bin with their supplies so it is easy to come and go. There was one WiFi issue, but it has been addressed and there shouldn't be a problem going forward.

Peer Run Respite Facilities: (Mark J)
- an alternative to emergency rooms and provide a short term place for people to go when going through a difficult period in their lives.
- No facilities like this in our area. There is one in La Crosse called Lighthouse
    - https://www.lacrosselighthouse.org/
    - Funded via grants
    - Mark has talked to the director and the director would be very supportive and excited to have a similar facility in MN
    - Fridays from 10-1pm Mark could talk to folks who may be interested in discussing possibilities
- Is something like this feasible in Winona?