

Example: Ramsey County, Minnesota, Record of EBDM Policy Team Meeting

Evidence-Based Decision Making Policy Team Meeting Record

Agenda item: Policy Team Membership Update

Discussion: Carol will be meeting soon with the sheriff and the St. Paul police department chief. There is good indication that both are on board to join the policy team; the hope is that they attend the next policy team meeting. There was a discussion on bringing in a policy team member from the St. Paul city council and a suggestion that another city-elected official be drawn from the Ramsey County League of Local Governments.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Reach out to St. Paul city council and Ramsey County League of Local Governments	Chris Crutchfield	Feb. 5, 2011

Agenda item: Education/Building Skills Committee

Discussion: Patrick gave an update on the Education/Building Skills Committee meeting. The Committee has defined the audience, discussed the meeting mechanics, and developed a rough draft of the agenda for a March 9 event. Speakers are still being sought. The meeting should give people an understanding of evidence-based decision making and what it means for Ramsey County. Judge Gearin suggested that media be brought in. There will be a panel with the key players from each agency. Becki reminded the group that we are in Phase 2, the planning phase, of the Initiative. This event should be thought of as an awareness-building event instead of training/education.

The editorial board from both newspapers should be invited to the March 9 event. Community media should be considered as well. The Coalition to Preserve Minnesota's Justice System does media/public outreach. They would be interested in this. Members include justices and chiefs of police, and they have monthly meetings.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Supply Connie or Chris with numbers of attendees from each agency.	Policy team members	1/25/11
✓ Draft letter for Judge Gearin to send out to other chief judges.	Chris Crutchfield	1/25/11
✓ Prepare a "Save the Date" message and mail it to Ramsey County criminal justice organizations.	Chris Crutchfield	1/21/11

- ✓ Prepare a press strategy: includes preparing press releases, identifying a contact person for the press, determining who will be contacted (both newspapers, community media, Coalition to Preserve Minnesota’s Justice System), etc. Chris Crutchfield 2/5/11
- ✓ Prepare an Awareness Survey to distribute to event participants. Becki Ney and Education/Building Skills Committee 2/20/11

Agenda item: System Map Review

Discussion:

The system map was reviewed. It was suggested that a large map with numbers and time frames be on display at the March 9 event. The team needs to look at how “evidence-based” we are at each decision point and what should be done to make the process better. Once the maps are somewhat finalized, the original mapping group members should be brought back together to go over them. The Data Committee will be given the task of filling the data needs determined by going over the map. Areas that are starting to look like priority decision points are Court Case Processing, Pleas, Diversion, and Warrants. Outside technical assistance could be brought in to help with the Court Case Processing decision point.

The group also discussed diversion. Is diversion linked only to Project Remand? Are there programs attached to this? These questions should also be asked of the suburbs and employers. What is our potential in this area? We should look at diversion criteria, arresting criteria, and charging criteria.

Other areas to look into include the number of people charged with livability crimes, trespassing crimes, and disorderly conduct.

The chart below reflects issues and information needs that were brought up at this meeting.

System Map Review: Issues/Information Needs (Adult Offenders Only)	
Police	Guidelines on who or who not to arrest; how are these decisions made (type of offense, behavior, etc.)?
	Guidelines for establishing probable cause
	Guidelines for issuing citations
Pretrial (Project Remand)	Return to court rate for each category and demographic
	Appearance rates of detainees v. non-detainees (first appearance in court)
	Diversion (no plea of guilty for Project Remand diversion) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it risk based? • How many people are diverted? • What are the criteria for diversion?
Warrants	When are warrants issued and for what reason? What are the number of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • felonies; • misdemeanors; • no shows; • no reappearance; and • revocations of conditional release?
	How long have warrants been outstanding?

	Average number of warrants per person
	Number of warrants v. number of people issued warrants
Charging	Need the payables list
	What are the criteria for payables?
First Appearance	Number of guilty v. not guilty
	% of offenders who plea at each point
	What do early resolution cases look like compared to ones that go further?
Court	Number of pleas at each stage
	Number of dismissed at each stage
	Number of continuances and reasons; who requested continuance?
	Length of time from start to resolution
Correctional Facility	How many people are at RCCF on livability crimes?

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: February 14, 2011, Noon–4:30, Room 41, Courthouse