

***Re-entry Task Force***  
***Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice***  
**Minutes**

June 8, 2016, 1:30PM-4:30PM  
700 Kipling, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference room

**ATTENDEES:**

**CHAIR**

Stan Hilkey, Dept. of Public Safety

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Tom Giacinti, Representing Community Corrections

Mark Evans, Public Defender's Office

Monica Chambers, Department of Corrections (phone)

Erin Crites for Sherri Hufford, Division of Probation Services

Jennifer Bradford, Metro State University of Denver

Hassan Latif, Second Chance Center

Anne Carter, Parole Board (phone)

Jessica Jones, Criminal Defense Attorney

Rose Rodriguez, Community Corrections

Gary Darling, Larimer County Criminal Justice Services

Adrienne Russman, Governor's Office

Steve Hager for Rick Raemisch, Dept. of Corrections

**STAFF**

Paul Herman/CCJJ consultant

Kim English/Division of Criminal Justice

Germaine Miera/Division of Criminal Justice

**ADDITIONAL**

Lisa Tibbetts, U.S. Department of Justice

Joyce Alms-Ransford, Archway Housing and Services

**ABSENT**

Alfredo Pena, Parole Board

Dave Young, District Attorney 17<sup>th</sup> JD

Pat Steadman, State Senator

Beth McCann, State Representative

Regi Huerter, Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission

Christie Donner, Colo. Criminal Justice Reform Coalition

<b>Issue/Topic:</b>	<b>Discussion:</b>
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Stan Hilkey welcomed the task force members and reviewed the agenda and asked everyone in attendance (both in person and on the phone) to introduce themselves. Stan noted that Joyce Alms-Ransford from Archway Housing and Services would provide a presentation on the work of her organization. He thanked Lisa Tibbetts for arranging the presentation.</p> <p>Stan welcomed Rose Rodriguez and Jessica Jones as the newest commissioner members to the task force. He noted that Rose is a commissioner representing community corrections. Jessica Jones is a criminal defense attorney and fills one of the at-large positions on the CCJJ. Stan also welcomed Gary Darling from Larimer County Criminal Justice Services as another new member to the task force.</p>

<b>Issue/Topic:</b>	<b>Discussion:</b>
<p>Housing Issues</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p>Stan noted that Melissa Roberts was in Chicago for the CSH Supportive Housing Summit. Melissa will be able to provide a report back about the summit at the July Re-entry meeting.</p> <p>Stan introduced Paul Herman who provided a synopsis of the housing presentation provided by Jenn Lopez and Kristin Toombs at the May meeting.</p> <p><b>Debrief of May presentation</b>  <b>DISCUSSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul directed task force members to a one-page handout in their packets that summarized the outcomes from the housing presentation in May.</li> <li>• He noted the goal for today is to identify next steps as far as the housing work.</li> <li>• Jenn Lopez and Kristin Toombs provided an environmental scan of homeless initiatives in Colorado during the May meeting.</li> <li>• Both Jenn and Kristin are in Chicago with and Melissa, and they would be key people to roll into this task force going forward.</li> <li>• The summit in Chicago is focused around supportive housing. At the next Re-entry meeting they will be invited to report back and talk a little bit about what they learned at the summit and provide some additional information.</li> <li>• During Jenn and Kristin's original presentation they provided a wide variety of information ranging from things like programs to funding mechanisms.</li> <li>• Paul laid out information from that presentation as follows:  <u>Interest Areas</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Action Lab: Colorado Veterans Action Lab</li> <li>-Housing consultant to develop strategic plan</li> <li>-Dedicated FTEs to focus on housing</li> <li>-Budget: Providing greater flexibility to agencies regarding line item funds for housing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Housing Issues</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p>-Landlord recruitment and partnerships</p> <p>-Rapid re-housing</p> <p>-Zoning</p> <p>-Working with churches (working with faith based organizations where churches have an interest and have the land for facilities to be constructed)</p> <p><u>Potential Program Presentations</u></p> <p>-Housing First</p> <p>-Mental Health Center of Denver/ Supportive Housing</p> <p>-Ready to Work Boulder</p> <p>-C-SCHARP (The Colorado Second Chance Housing and Reentry Program)</p> <p>-Ft. Lyon</p> <p><u>Initial Agreements</u></p> <p>-Ask Ms. Lopez and Ms. Toombs to join the task force</p> <p>-Follow-up with a more in depth discussion about rapid re-housing for our clientele</p> <p>-Engage in further discussion regarding contracting with a housing consultant to develop a strategic plan</p> <p><i>DISCUSSION</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the presentation the group talked about the Mental Health Center in Denver and supportive housing.</li> <li>• The program 'Ready to Work Boulder' sounds like it's all about work but it's not, it's also very much about housing as well.</li> <li>• The C-SCHARP partnership between DOLA and the Dept. of Corrections is intriguing.</li> <li>• Paul asked the group if more information about one or more of those initiatives would add value to this conversation.</li> <li>• Hassan shared that he sat with Ms. Lopez last Friday morning during a housing event and talked about supporting rapid supportive housing particularly at St. Francis. He said that St. John's donated the property. Hassan had a conversation with the developer of that project (\$10M project) from blue line and he said he left there thinking it was probably something worth looking into further.</li> </ul> <p><b>Alternative Housing Models</b></p> <p><i>DISCUSSION</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stan introduced Joyce Alms-Ransford from Archway Housing and Services and asked her to share her experiences regarding Archway's affordable housing efforts.</li> <li>• Joyce explained that Archway started in Lakewood originally.</li> <li>• Archway is a faith-based nonprofit that is affiliated with the United Church of Christ and is designated as a Community Housing Development.</li> <li>• There are five housing communities under the Archway umbrella and another one under construction.</li> <li>• All of Archway's housing is affordable housing and is tiered to people at different income levels.</li> <li>• Each site offers housing based on different tiered income levels ranging from a low of 30% of area median income upward to as high as 60% of</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Housing Issues</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p>area median income.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More properties were developed when land was more readily available. Currently nothing much is available anymore.</li> <li>• St. Francis was lucky to get a piece of land in front of St. Johns.</li> <li>• Joyce noted that Denver Housing Authority partners with Archway to provide vouchers.</li> <li>• Without the money (vouchers) to support someone's rent, both homeless people and people coming out of DOC won't have a sustained way to pay to rent.</li> <li>• Voucher assistance also tiers down to people with zero income. Park Avenue West and Curtis in Denver both tier to zero income.</li> <li>• The Sheridan Ridge Community in Arvada offers 1 - 4 bedroom units, but income tiers higher on this site because it was developed by a 'for profit' company.</li> <li>• The only way for low income people to live on these sites are from vouchers provided by Jefferson County Housing Authority and the Arvada Housing Authority.</li> <li>• Another big component of Archway Housing and Services is that of providing family and child services.</li> <li>• Services include after school programming and developmental programming for both adults and youth.</li> <li>• The newest Archway development site is called 40 West Residences and it is located in Lakewood at Colfax and Gray.</li> <li>• This site is a permanent supportive housing project.</li> <li>• Archway has been doing this work for 20 years.</li> <li>• The largest chunk of money comes from federal sources and federal tax credits.</li> <li>• It's a wonderful resource but very limited. Less than 10 projects are funded a year.</li> <li>• The 40 West Residences will have 60 units. Housing will be provided for 25 individuals who are currently homeless and veterans. The incoming folks will be selected by the VA and many will have backgrounds that you wouldn't see allowed in other housing developments.</li> <li>• VA housing is funded through the VASH programs. VASH is a voucher program completely funded by the VA.</li> <li>• Jefferson county and every other county has chunks of money that can go toward this kind of housing.</li> <li>• There's a good amount of money available but the money usually has to be tied to services.</li> <li>• Any permanent supportive housing program needs to have services tied to the money. At the new development there will be a services coordinator onsite who will coordinate with JCMH, Rocky Mountain Human Services and/or the VA.</li> <li>• To qualify for these housing facilities it is difficult for someone to have criminal or financial background problems. And the housing is usually geared toward families only.</li> <li>• The Denver Housing Authority is the one who is very strict on credit, background and criminal history checks before approving anyone. DHA throws people out who have any sort of background problem. Someone</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Housing Issues</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p>looking for housing has to jump to the tune of whatever the funder says.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funders have to agree to the criteria and will outline income levels and a plan on how people will be selected.</li> <li>• Joyce noted that she's worked for 40 years with affordable housing groups.</li> <li>• Communities are reluctant to provide shelter type housing. It's hard to get citizens to agree to that type of housing.</li> <li>• STRIVE is a family service program that helps families who are homeless.</li> <li>• The state has a golden piece of money, but without support from a local jurisdiction there's nowhere to go.</li> <li>• It's hard to find land zoned for multi-family that isn't extremely expensive.</li> <li>• Only 5 to 10 projects ordered a year.</li> <li>• CHFA (Colorado Housing and Finance Authority) has to represent projects all over the state.</li> <li>• With housing models there's a tax credit program, but that's blended with many other sources. A permanent loan is usually saddled in the mix as well.</li> <li>• Sheridan Ridge is a classic example of a 6 million dollar project. Archway makes a \$45,000/month payment on that mortgage.</li> <li>• It's really difficult when your properties have a serious debt load.</li> <li>• You're talking about groups who have to be willing to stick their neck out and have the credibility to do it, and not shy away. It takes years to build one site.</li> <li>• Whatever you do don't divert money away from hotel housing vouchers.</li> <li>• Churches are interested in working with you but you need to have technical expertise on development as well.</li> <li>• Blue Line is one of 15 groups, but it's a small shop.</li> <li>• Archway is in a neighborhood development collaborative.</li> <li>• Non-profit and for profit are trying to combine efforts to make housing happen.</li> <li>• Fort Lyon is operated by the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless.</li> <li>• There's a facility in Arvada that could offer an opportunity to be a collaborative. Ridge Homes closed down a long time ago; it was a facility for the chronically mentally ill. A portion of it is sitting empty. Jefferson County Housing Authority tried to get in there to unmask the problems.</li> <li>• This is housing that already exists. It could be a stepping stone for someone to get in and get their feet underneath them on housing.</li> <li>• This task force should have a strategic plan about where to put money. That would be extremely helpful.</li> <li>• Every jurisdiction has a comprehensive plan where they identify their housing goals. The plan will either highlight the desire to serve families, or veterans or seniors. You can ask any jurisdiction for a copy of their comprehensive plan. It's created through citizen advisory councils. Essentially you could take that and apply it to what you want to do.</li> <li>• Denver, Aapahoe County and Jefferson County - every large jurisdiction has a comprehensive plan.</li> <li>• Mental Health Corporation of Denver is building their own housing plan and acts as their own developer.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Housing Issues</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal teams alone are expensive re attorneys, tax attorneys.</li> <li>• Stan asked what it would take for people getting out of the Department of Corrections to be recognized as needing housing along with veterans and other homeless folks. There are such big barriers with this population.</li> <li>• Joyce replied that the CCJJ and the Governor's Office will have to be the lever to get permanent supportive housing for people getting out of prison and jail communities.</li> <li>• She recommended getting someone involved from Housing Colorado, which is a collaborative of people building affordable housing. They have their own legislative action team. There are several hundred organizations involved in Housing Colorado.</li> <li>• Housing Colorado not only has monthly informational sessions but a huge conference in October as well.</li> <li>• Housing Colorado includes bankers, people like Joyce, investors, etc. All of these people go to that conference. It's one of the best in the country and it's held in Breckenridge or Vail</li> <li>• Jen asked if the origin of funding were to be different than typical funding sources, would there be different criteria. Joyce replied that yes, if typical funding is replaced with funding sources that are less stringent, then organizations could take ex-offender populations.</li> <li>• HUD currently says nobody who has done meth in public housing can get housing help. Joyce follows the HUD models unless they're told there's another model.</li> <li>• Another consistent threshold with HUD is that no sex offenders are allowed.</li> <li>• Archway Housing is typically one of the most liberal organizations.</li> <li>• The criterion states that if someone doesn't have a voucher, they have to have some income.</li> <li>• Criteria are usually employment, income 20 – 60k, mostly children and families.</li> <li>• Joyce noted that for the new site when it comes to services they are required to offer budgeting as an option for the veterans, and required to furnish have case management.</li> <li>• The Veterans property will be done next summer.</li> <li>• One other organization working to focus on temporary housing for re-entry is JAG (?), which has one house. That house is filled all the time and it's just rooms. All people coming out of prison. Can stay just long enough to get some stability and then move on.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p>
<p>Collateral Consequences</p>	<p>Mark Evans provided a PowerPoint presentation about consequences of a criminal conviction in preparation for the task force's work on collateral consequences.</p> <p><i>DISCUSSION</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Evans explained that he works for the Public Defender's Office in the Appellate Division, and that due to his position he has many clients in prison.</li> <li>• He explained that of the many of people convicted of a felony, a slim majority are out on supervision where they're expected to maintain a job and support themselves.</li> <li>• Mark meets people up to a year or more after they have been sentenced and for many people, the biggest problem was NOT the actual conviction, but the consequences of losing a job, the inability to secure a new job, issues around facing deportation and the like.</li> <li>• Mark said that if someone screws up they should pay the price for their mistake, but that they should also have the ability to be able to start anew. However, it just doesn't seem to work that way.</li> <li>• Mark explained that his presentation on consequences of a criminal conviction would cover the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Direct, collateral, and other consequences</li> <li>-Why collateral consequences matter</li> <li>-What we can do</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mark started by explaining the typical flow of a case, starting with someone's arrest followed by them being herded through the system.</li> <li>• A case flow usually includes arrest, pretrial, first advisement, preliminary hearing, possible bond hearing, information filing, arraignment, disposition and finally sentencing.</li> <li>• Someone's concerns following an arrest include worries about their job, their family, their social stigma, their public benefits and their future.</li> <li>• At the end of the process the disposition includes either a guilty plea or a trial. Either way the person will face a sentence.</li> <li>• Direct sentencing consequences include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prison or jail</li> <li>-Probation</li> <li>-Community corrections</li> <li>-Restitution</li> <li>-Fines, fees and costs, and</li> <li>-Community service</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mark pointed out that while the direct consequences listed above are all things that will end one day, collateral consequences can continue on for an indefinite period of time.</li> <li>• Collateral sanctions impact many areas of a person's life, and most especially work.</li> <li>• One example is the fact that if someone has a prior felony, it is illegal for them to work as a car salesman.</li> <li>• A criminal history also affects someone's ability to acquire state-issued</li> </ul>

<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Collateral Consequences</p>	<p>licenses, registrations, and certificates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There's overlap with criminal history and public housing.</li> <li>• Also, a criminal act by one member of a household can impact an entire family and can result in them having to leave or move. An act by one family member can result in a whole family not having a place to stay.</li> <li>• Public benefits that are affected include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Public housing</li> <li>-Food stamps</li> <li>-Worker's comp.</li> <li>-Unemployment</li> <li>-TANF</li> <li>-Veteran's benefits</li> <li>-Social security</li> <li>-Student loans</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Getting fired for cause means someone is fired, and therefore can't get unemployment.</li> <li>• Family concerns include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Allocation of parenting responsibility</li> <li>-Adoption</li> <li>-Emergency placement</li> <li>-Name change</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Immigration consequences include possible deportation, ineligibility for admission, or loss of ability to become a citizen.</li> <li>• Other areas impacted include the right to bear firearms, along with driving and voting privileges, school issues and property forfeiture.</li> <li>• Impacts on the future can affect the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hunting and fishing</li> <li>-Gambling</li> <li>-Medical marijuana</li> <li>-Taxes</li> <li>-Greater penalties for repeat offenses</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mark noted that the Public Defender's Office has produced two guides entitled 'The Consequences of Conviction' and 'The Consequences of Adjudication' (for juveniles).</li> <li>• Direct consequences of a crime are generally established by the legislature and imposed by judges. Collateral consequences of a conviction are generally established by the legislature and imposed by executive agencies.</li> <li>• Direct consequences are predictable, definite and generally expire.</li> <li>• Collateral consequences are difficult to anticipate, potentially unknown at sentencing and may apply indefinitely.</li> <li>• What they both have in common is that they both are operations of law.</li> <li>• There are other consequences as well. For example, there's a website called mugshots.com that puts people's mugshots on the web and then charges people to remove them.</li> <li>• Paul asked how much conversation is had between an attorney and a client about collateral consequences during the time of sentencing. Mark replied that there is often little conversation about collateral consequences if the main issue at hand is a decision between someone</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Collateral Consequences</p>	<p>spending 10 or 20 years in prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Jones added that a lot of the conversation is driven case by case and the client. She said it is often hard to predict what is going to be important to a client down the road in 10 years.</li> <li>• Mark noted that sometimes if issues are brought up in the plea stage, the DA will often help.</li> <li>• Once someone is in jail waiting on bond the clock is ticking toward losing their houses and their jobs.</li> <li>• Mark noted that historically nobody has paid much attention to collateral consequences, but that the tide is changing because one thing everyone (Prosecutors and Law Enforcement) agree on is that nobody likes to see repeat customers.</li> <li>• Representative from all branches of criminal justice including judges, social scientists and law professors all agree that without stable housing and gainful employment someone's chances for success are greatly diminished.</li> <li>• The American Bar Association, the National District Attorney's Association and the US Department of Justice all have standards that call for collateral consequences to be considered during charging and sentencing decision making.</li> <li>• Defense attorneys also have a legal and professional obligation to address these issues with their clients.</li> <li>• Current mitigation mechanisms include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Creative plea bargaining</li> <li>-Pretrial diversion</li> <li>-Orders of collateral relief</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Most consequences triggered by any plea, but pretrial diversion doesn't require a plea and therefore can aid in avoiding collateral consequences.</li> <li>• Orders of collateral relief can help but they're only available at the time of sentencing when someone may not know about the consequence, and that's the time when the individual looks worst to the judge.</li> <li>• Mark noted there is plenty work to be done around collateral consequences and that it was one of the founding goals of this task force and one of the desires by the Governor's Office. He said he hopes this group can now start working on this project in earnest.</li> <li>• He added that at this point there is no specific plan but that a working group should be formed to chew on the issues and come back with more specific recommendations.</li> <li>• Sherri, Melissa and Christie have all previously said they are interested in participating. Mark said he will welcome all input and help from anybody else who is interested.</li> <li>• He noted that identifying the need is the biggest part of the struggle during the processes.</li> <li>• This group will also need an elective rep at some point.</li> <li>• Paul asked for any other volunteers. Someone mentioned that Maureen Cain would be of great assistance.</li> <li>• Jessica Jones agreed to participate as well.</li> <li>• Mark implored the group to think about what the issues are and where the issues lay; this will be an initial hurdle to figure out what this group</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Collateral Consequences</p>	<p>wants to work on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jes said she would like to hear success stories from those who were able to manage and do well and that the hopelessness is difficult for clients to overcome.</li> <li>• Hassan mentioned that it's like grief counseling, it's very hard to really put yourself in someone else's shoes if it hasn't been your own personal experience.</li> <li>• Hassan noted that voting rights is a very critical issue.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Commission Consultant</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p>At this point in the meeting Stan informed task force members that long-time CCJJ consultant, Paul Herman, was retiring and that this would be his last month with the task force and the Commission. Stan noted that Paul has been with the Commission since it was established in the summer of 2007, and that he has brought a wealth of knowledge to the group.</p> <p>Paul told task force members that his replacement as CCJJ consultant will be Richard Stroker, who works for the Center for Effective Public Policy. Richard has worked on criminal justice issues and initiatives in all 50 states and he has a strong focus on re-entry. Paul added that Richard has a lot of experience working with jurisdictions and that he will be an asset to the group.</p>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Next Steps and Adjourn</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p>Stan introduced Gary Darling, the director of Larimer County Criminal Justice Services. He said that Gary has been asked to serve on this task force because Larimer has been on the forefront of housing solutions for people in the criminal justice system. Stan asked Gary to share some background and information about the work being done in Larimer.</p> <p><i>DISCUSSION</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gary thanked Stan and said that in Larimer the focus is on a supportive housing model.</li> <li>• Larimer has a long term relationship with the housing authority and a couple of the courts.</li> <li>• In last year and a half his office has been working with the housing authority in Larimer, especially as it pertains to the criminal justice system.</li> <li>• The housing authority gave one of their facilities (15 beds) to Larimer Co. Criminal Justice Services and is allowing people in Gary's shop to decide who goes into it.</li> <li>• There's another 60 unit facility in south Larimer coming soon and the housing authority said they will give 20 beds in that facility to criminal justice services.</li> <li>• One of the strategic goals for Larimer County is around safety and well-</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Next Steps and Adjourn</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p>	<p>being. There are four objectives including a 24/7 behavioral health facility. That includes building a detox center, an acute treatment unit, residential substance abuse treatment and an intensive outpatient facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They're working on this now with the housing authority.</li> <li>• Larimer can get money for the building but what they need is money for staff, which is why there is now a ballot issue pending.</li> <li>• There is a bipartisan group raising a lot of money in Larimer to make this happen. The ballot will go to the voters in August and so far there has been no resistance.</li> <li>• A small increase in taxes (.25%?) will result in 16 million dollars a year for an operating budget.</li> <li>• There has also been some concern about the cost of hiring people to supply the treatment. To address that issue work is underway to contract with CSU and use the facility as training facility for students.</li> <li>• There will be more information in November about how that will play out.</li> <li>• Gary noted that when Larimer started the AIIM program (Alternatives to Incarceration for Individuals with Mental health needs) 8 years ago, it took a very long time to get the program established.</li> <li>• It might be beneficial for the CCJJ to hear about what's happening in Larimer around housing so commissioners know how things work on a local level.</li> </ul> <p>Next steps: Paul will get with staff to coordinate a plan for moving forward.</p>
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### Next Meeting

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 1:30pm – 4:30pm 700 Kipling, 4<sup>th</sup> floor training room