



UPDATE

**Mental Health / Point of Contact
Through Jail Release Task Force**

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

June 14, 2019

Mental Health/Jails Task Force

MEMBERS

Joe Pelle, Chair /[CCJJ](#)

Chris Bachmeyer/[CCJJ](#)

John Cooke /[CCJJ](#)

Megan Ring/[CCJJ](#)

Abigail Tucker/[CCJJ](#)

Nancy Jackson/[CCJJ](#)

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Frank Cornelia

Patrick Costigan

Tina Gonzales

Cynthia Grant

Ben Harris

Joe Morales

Norm Mueller

Jagruti Shah

Charles Smith

Boulder County Sheriff

1st Judicial District

State Senator, District 13

State Public Defender

Community Reach Centers

Arapahoe County Commissioner

Colorado Jail Association

Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council

17th JD District Attorney's Office

Colorado Health Partnerships

AllHealth Network

Healthcare Policy and Financing

Parole Board

Private Defense Attorney

Officer of Behavioral Health

SAMHSA*



* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Mental Health/Jails Task Force

TASK FORCE MISSION

The Task Force was seated by the Commission in June 2016.

Redirect individuals with mental and behavioral health problems out of the criminal justice system while recognizing that some individuals with acute mental/behavioral health problems will need to be incarcerated and so effective response options should be available.

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Identified Areas of Focus

Completed: ✓

Explore opportunities to divert individuals from the criminal justice system

(Addressed by CCJJ Recommendations FY17-MH #01-04 and Senate Bill 17-207)

Completed: ✓

Explore opportunities to divert individuals in the criminal justice system from jail

(Addressed by CCJJ Recommendation FY18-MH#01 and Senate Bill 18-249)



Completed: ✓

Provide critical mental health services to individuals who cannot be diverted
(Addressed by CCJJ Recommendation FY19-MH#01)



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Study Area #1:

Explore opportunities to divert individuals from the criminal justice system

The first study area resulted in **four recommendations** approved by the CCJJ in December 2016 and collaborative efforts with the Mental Health Hold Task Force which resulted in **successful legislation**.

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- **FY17 - MH #01:** Strengthening a Community-Based Crisis Response
- **FY17 - MH #02:** Changes to Emergency Mental Health Commitment Statute
- **FY17 - MH #03:** Review and include the Mental Health First Aid® curriculum for Peace Officer In-service Training through POST
- **FY17 - MH #04:** Introduce Mental Health First Aid® curriculum for inclusion in the POST Basic Academy
- ❖ **Senate Bill 17-207:** Strengthen Colorado's Statewide Response to Behavioral Health Crises
[NOTE: At this point in the meeting, an update on SB17-207 implementation progress was provided by Jagruti Shah, Office of Behavioral Health/CDHS.]

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Study Area #2:

Explore opportunities to divert individuals in the criminal justice system from jail

This study area resulted in a recommendation approved by CCJJ in January 2018 and legislation consistent with CCJJ recommendation was introduced in 2018 Legislation session:

- **FY18 - MH #01:** Pre-File Mental Health Diversion Program
- ❖ **Senate Bill 18-249:** Establish alternative programs to divert individuals with mental health condition to community treatment

[NOTE: At this point in the meeting, an update on SB18-249 implementation progress was provided by Kara Martin, CO State Court Administrator's Office/ Judicial Branch.]

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Related legislation consistent with the efforts of the Task Force and Commission:

❖ **Senate Bill 18-250:** Provide Jail-based Behavioral Health Services

[NOTE: At this point in the meeting, an update on SB18-250 implementation progress was provided by Kerry Krause, Office of Behavioral Health/CDHS.]

❖ **Senate Bill 18-251:** Establish Statewide Behavioral Health Court Liaison Program

[NOTE: At this point in the meeting, an update on SB18-251 implementation progress was provided by Jennifer Turner, CO State Court Administrator's Office/ Judicial Branch.]

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Study Area #3:

**The provision of mental health services in Jail:
Alternative placement options for individuals in custody
with severe mental illness**

This study area resulted in a recommendation approved by CCJJ in January 2018

- **FY19-MH #01.** Develop Collaborative Pilot Programs to Provide Care for Jail Detainees with Acute Behavioral Health Needs.



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Questions?

