

Marion County Community Advisory Committee
April 17, 2012

Present – Gary, Sylvia, Cindy, Shelley, Cari, Vanessa, Jose, Blake, Levi, Hugo Sheriff Myers, Cmdr. Schultz, Lt. Larson, Dep. Kevin Rau, Sara Zavala, Cmdr. Eric Hlad, Ann Marie Banfield.

- 1) **Welcome** – Vice-Chair Rychard welcomed the group at 6:36. Gary reviewed the agenda and minutes from past two meetings. Cindy moved to accept with correction. Vanessa seconded.
- 2) **Committee Member Reports** – **Jose:** Shared a story about his son being pulled over, and the experience that he had. Overall, a good learning experience and was a respectful, positive interaction. **Cindy:** Shared information about the sale of drugs. Cindy asked how these are going to be handled, and is concerned that they will be handled like citations. Cmdr. Schultz asked if there has been dialogue between Silverton PD and the school. **Vanessa:** Some discussions about combat veterans who are returning for war. She says there has been a lot of dialogue in the public safety community regarding this topic. Sheriff Myers said that this may be discussed tonight by the CORT team. **Sylvia:** Gervais hired an officer this month. Gang activity, tagging continues to be a concern. There is a health and safety fair coming up next month. **Shelley:** Multnomah County DA brought forward proposed legislation for mandatory treatment for mentally ill offenders to be held for up to one year. She asked about the issue here in Marion County. She also asked about the issue of heroin use here in Marion County. Sheriff responded that we do see it here in Marion County. **Levi:** Levi thanked Sheriff Myers for participation in a recent community meeting. The conversation is ongoing, but Levi said it was a productive meeting. **Gary:** One year ago, Sublimity went out for a new contract for LE services. They have been doing a review and have renewed the contract for another year. Dep. Bangs has been an excellent fit for the community. There has also been an improved relationship and better communication with Marion County Public Works. Gary thanked the SO for their work. Stayton High School has seen a reduction in incidents. Santiam Memorial is doing a health fair with the school district at Stayton Middle School. This is in conjunction with a new after school program. Other similar fairs are planned in other locations. **Cari:** Working on interventions in the middle schools. Issues with drugs (marijuana). Drug-free Stayton is working on scenario presentations. Kids are creating a logo for this group and there is a t-shirt design contest. Cari is also doing some parent coaching at Coffee Creek to help offenders understand how to maintain a relationship with their kids while incarcerated. Daughter went to outdoor school. **Blake:** Recently organized an event around racial profiling issues, which took place in Portland. There was a lot of fear around this issue and we should entertain these types of conversations so that we can help work through fears. Blake resigned from the committee. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to be part of this group. Gary thanked Blake for his participation.

3) **Crisis Outreach Response Team** – Cmdr. Schultz briefly discussed the creation of the Crisis Outreach Response Team. Lt. Larson introduced himself, Deputy Kevin Rau and Health Department supervisor Ann Marie Banfield. Undersheriff Clausen led the effort to review the issue of mentally ill offenders who are caught up in the criminal justice system. Deputy Rau was working in the MCSO Civil Unit, and when a COPS Grant became available, Dep. Rau’s position was changed to focus on mentally ill persons. An MOU was signed between Health and the Sheriff’s Office. Marion County is the only county that has mental health services in the Jail seven days per week. The Health Department has seen MI people go through the jail in cycles. We have a 24 hour crisis center to help those in MH crisis access services before they come into contact with law enforcement. Deputy Rau shared that in 2006, we started a mental health court in Marion County and began a 40-hour crisis intervention training (Memphis model). They just wrapped up their 10th session (open to other agencies from this region). One of the goals as we examined what we do with mentally ill persons, was to launch a team to help fill the gap between MH services and the public safety system. Dep. Rau was able to begin this team on a part time basis. In December 2011, Ann Marie hired a Mental Health Professional to help with this team as well. They are still working to discover just how large this issue is. They also wanted to address those people who were having frequent contact with law enforcement. In 2011, received 1,300 reports from all Marion County agencies. 147 contacts identified. The team expected to have doors slammed in their faces, but there has been a lot of positive reception. Began with 20 hours of LE time and 30 hours of MH. Now have 60 hours LE and 40 hours MH time. The Psychiatric Crisis Center has adjusted to having a law enforcement presence at the office. Shelley asked if this team is called to a scene where a person in crisis has committed a crime or before a crime. Kevin said they could respond in both situations. Cindy asked how the team measures their progress. Ann Marie said that they can look at reduced contact with LE, but they are working toward a usable database. Blake asked about the incidents that are criminal in nature, but may not have even occurred if the person wasn’t in crisis. Dep. Rau agreed that that is the point in time where the CORT team wants to be engaged. They seek to intervene to get that person the resources they might need to prevent such issues from ever occurring. This is voluntary, so the person involved must be willing for this team to really be of assistance. Blake asked about the number of MI people served, but he is also concerned with the quality of services. Shelley asked if the people are ever connected with peer services. Ann Marie said that they are very connected – Project Able is one that they are very connected to. Sylvia asked about any victims who might be involved in these situations. Sheriff Myers responded and said that if it is a very serious crime, the person will go to jail. People will be held accountable, but if a person is in crisis, we need to address and work through that too. Cindy asked if only adults are served. Lt. Larson reported that at this time, we are only serving adults. Gary asked about veterans and PTSD and the team’s interaction with them. Dep. Rau said that they are watching this. Gary asked if

there is opportunity for others to attend CIT. The training is geared toward law enforcement. Gary thought it might be helpful for School District safety and security as well. Hugo asked about access to medications. Cari asked if the team works with POs who may have MI clients. Cari also commented about location of available services – this is an issue with Stayton area. Access to free clinic is also an issue. Gary commended the CORT team program and thanked them for their work.

- 4) **Budget Update** – The SO Budget has been completed and submitted to the County Budget Officer. We were requested to complete a “status quo” budget – no increases. However, community corrections funding has been decreased by 20% over the past two biennia. We have been using contingency to maintain services, but we are at the point where we must cut vacant positions. 6.5 POs (deputies), 1 Case Aid, 1 Enforcement Deputy, 1 Jail Deputy, 1 Records Clerk: TOTAL 10.5. Shelley asked if this means that the caseloads will be higher. Sheriff said yes, but they will be reassessing everyone to determine risk and will evaluate other forms of supervision (mail). If we get above 60 cases per deputy, it is an unhealthy balance. Gary asked about any jail beds that may be held for specific purposes. Sheriff said we do not hold certain beds now – we assess for risk and offenders are lodged/released on those criteria.
- 5) **Next Meeting** – Cmdr. Schultz sent around a signup for the next meeting (July 17th). We will be having an opportunity for Committee members to “ride along” with deputies in Enforcement, Jail and Parole & Probation Divisions. Gary reminded the group about the opportunity of the Citizens Academy. Vacant Position: Applicants have been interviewed. Cmdr. Schultz said that the committee members can email Sara with any agenda items. Lt. Larson handed out some community event information and welcomed any committee members. Cmdr. Schultz thanked everyone for their time on this committee.
- 6) **Closing** – Gary made motion to adjourn at 8:06. Blake seconded. Next meeting is July 17th.