

Jefferson Area Community Criminal Justice Board

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Albemarle • Charlottesville • Fluvanna • Goochland • Greene • Louisa • Madison • Nelson • Orange

CCJB Meeting Notes: 10-13-21

Present: Amy Morris, Sherri Stader, Ross Carew, Jeff Haislip, Sena Magill, Avnel Coates, Susan Morrow, Hon. Richard Moore, Martin Kumer, Clarissa Berry, Hosea Mitchell, Ted Voorhees, Neal Goodloe

Guests: UVa Systems Engineering Capstone Team (Nora Dale, Addy Deshpande, Katie) Korngiebel, Paige Krablin, and Emma Wilt) with academic support from Pres White and Michael Smith

UVa Capstone Presentation:

Members of the 2021-22 UVa Capstone team gave a presentation outlining the research goals of this year's project.

Effects of Dosage and Type of Mental Health Services Received by Individuals Suffering from Severe Mental Illness Following Release from Custody

Research Questions:

1. What are the characteristics of individuals who access (and continue to utilize) mental health services upon release from custody?
 - Are members of certain race, gender, or economic class more likely to go to and stay in treatment services?
 - How do provider characteristics affect retention rates?
 - How do these characteristics differ from those who were not linked?
2. What treatment factors impact the likelihood of re-incarceration?
 - Potential factors:
 - Type (medication, therapy) and dosage of treatment (duration, frequency)
 - Mode of treatment (in-person vs virtual)
 - Type of illness (schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, addiction)

Data Sources/Areas of Interest:

- Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail (ACRJ) & Brief Jail Mental Health Screener (BJMHS)
 - Bookings into ACRJ, cause of returns to custody for those previously there
 - Race, gender, age, crime severity (felony or misdemeanor)
 - Results of mental health screener, and who conducted screener
 - Referred to Region Ten (yes or no)

- Region Ten:
 - Linkage timeline (match IDs to see if those referred attended Region Ten for the first time AFTER referral)
 - Type of treatment received, dosage of treatment, type of illness diagnosed
 - Patient proximity to Region Ten facilities
 - COVID (March 2020 - July 2021) & Non-COVID Data (past 5 years March 2015 - March 2020):
 - Compare both datasets for similar rates of screening and composition of ACRJ data
 - Use this data to compare impacts of virtual vs. in-person services from Region Ten

Key Findings of the Virginia Pretrial Data Project:

Ross Carew provided a summary of a recently published study completed by the Virginia State Crime Commission.

- This report represents a statewide descriptive analysis for the 11,487 defendants in the Virginia Pre-Trial Data Project dataset whose contact event included a new criminal offense punishable by incarceration where the bail determination was made by a judicial officer.
- The majority of defendants (9,503) were ultimately released from custody during the pre-trial period. Most defendants were released within 3 days of their contact event.
- The majority of defendants were male, White, between the ages of 18 to 35, indigent, and residents of Virginia; however, defendants who were male, Black, or between the ages of 18 to

35 were significantly overrepresented as compared to their overall representation within Virginia's population.

- A large majority of released defendants were not charged with failure to appear and were not arrested for a new in-state offense punishable by incarceration during the pre-trial period; however, a higher proportion of indigent defendants were charged with failure to appear or a new in-state offense punishable by incarceration during the pre-trial period as compared to defendants who were not indigent.
- The proportion of released defendants charged with failure to appear or a new in-state offense punishable by incarceration during the pre-trial period increased as the defendants' assigned Public Safety Assessment (PSA) risk level of failure to appear or new criminal activity increased.
- Median secured bond amounts were \$2,500 for felony contact events and \$2,000 for misdemeanor contact events.
- Secured bond amounts at the time of release generally did not vary widely across sex, race, indigency status, residency status, or whether the defendant received pretrial services agency supervision.
- Conviction rates were similar across sex, race, and indigency and residency status.
- Defendants who remained detained the entire pre-trial period had higher conviction rates as compared to defendants who were released during the pre-trial period.
- Defendants represented by a retained attorney at case closure were released at a higher rate during the pre-trial period as compared to defendants represented by a public defender or court appointed attorney at case closure; however, the conviction rates of defendants were nearly identical across all three of these attorney types.

Key Findings of the OAR Recidivism Study:

Ross also summarized the results of a recent recidivism study of OAR's local probation population: The purpose of this study was to examine and expand a FY12 statewide recidivism study of local probation clients. Recidivism was defined as any conviction for a jailable offense. The study examined 2,486 OAR probation completers for FY15-18. The study involved data from the Agency client database and Virginia State Police criminal records. The study examined client demographics, offense characteristics, supervision activity and recidivism. Race was a variable that was examined related to program success and recidivism.

- Across OAR-Jefferson Community Corrections, 77.0% of the cases in the study cohort were closed with a case status of "successful". Reasons for an "unsuccessful" closure include technical violations (55.7%), a new misdemeanor charge/conviction (19.6%), capias issues (18.8%), or a new felony charge/ conviction (5.9%).
- The three year recidivism rate was 26.7%
- Those with closure types designated "unsuccessful" were more than twice as likely to reoffend than were those with "successful" case closures (49.6% compared to 20.2%)
- There was no statistically significant difference in unsuccessful technical program closures by race
- Certain demographic characteristics were associated with higher successful probation completion and lower recidivism rates (Gender, race, marital status, age, employment status and technical violation placement offense were all predictive).

- The odds of successful probation completion for a female probationer were 41% higher than the odds of male probationer.
- The odds of successful probation completion for a black probationer were 40% lower than the odds of the participant whose race is white.
- The odds of successful probation completion for a married participant were 60% higher than the odds of the participant who was not married.
- The odds of successful probation completion for a probationer who was employed at entry was 35% higher than the odds of probationer who was unemployed at entry.
- The odds of successful completion for a probationer who was placed on supervision for a technical violation was 50% lower than the odds of the probation who was placed on supervision for a person crime.
- The odds of recidivism for a local probationer who completed supervision successfully were 69% lower than the odds of a probationer who unsuccessfully completed probation.
- The odds of recidivism for a female local probationer were 33% lower than the odds of male probationer.
- The odds of recidivism for a black probationer were 47% higher than the odds of a probationer whose race was white.
- The odds of recidivism for a married probationer were 35% lower than the odds of a probationer who was not married recidivating.

ACRJ Renovation/Expansion:

Martin Kumer provided an update of the ACRJ renovation planning process:

The ACRJ Authority Board has contracted with Moseley Architects to undertake a needs assessment to determine how best to carry out a renovation of the jail to best serve the needs of inmates from member jurisdictions (Albemarle, Charlottesville and Nelson) over the next twenty years. This is the first step in a multi-year process of determining the scale and form of the renovation, whether additional capacity may be needed, how funding will be secured, and how the design will be executed.

The process is guided by The Virginia Board of Corrections, with input from the Virginia Department of Corrections, Board of Local and Regional Jails, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Planning and Budget, Senate Finance Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and the Treasury Board.

The oldest part of the jail was constructed nearly 50 years ago, and has undergone no significant renovation since then. This includes housing units for female inmates.

ACRJ is seeking community input into the renovation needs assessment. Three public meetings have already been held to solicit input.

Department of Corrections Good Time Calculations:

A new law providing up to a 50% time credit to eligible Virginia DOC inmates will go into effect July 1, 2022, impacting both ACRJ and CVRJ, as well as all CCJB member jurisdictions. The largest time credits

will be awarded to inmates who have had exemplary institutional conduct records and have fully complied with prison programming, as judged by DOC. Some inmates will be ineligible for a time credit due to the violent nature of their crimes. Jail inmates serving a state-responsible sentence will also be eligible for time credits of up to 50%. No guidance has so far been received as to how jails will determine eligibility.

For ACRJ and CVRJ, this will likely result in fewer long-term inmate stays, which will serve to drive down average length of stay and bed day expenditures. For local communities, the time credits will result in an increase in the number of newly-released inmates, beginning in July 2022, who may need a variety of reentry services. How many are released, and how quickly, remains to be determined. DOC is currently re-coding their time computation software to re-calculate sentence lengths for over 14,000 inmates who are eligible for a time credit.

The challenge for CCJB member jurisdictions is to gear up for what may be a significant number of additional prison and jail inmates returning to their communities, with little reentry planning, and a lack of housing, employment, supervision and treatment resources to meet an increasing volume of released inmates. It remains to be seen how much the reentry volume will increase during the summer and fall of 2022, but both supervision and treatment resources across the CCJB service area are already stretched thin and are not staffed to absorb an increase in volume.

Key Findings of the CCJB Reported Crime Study:

The purpose of this study was to put crime rates of CCJB member jurisdictions into context, by comparing them to other Virginia jurisdictions of similar population size. Counties were compared to other counties of comparable size, while Charlottesville was compared to independent cities of comparable size. Crime rates per 1000 residents, year-over-year, were recorded for each of the three ACRJ member jurisdictions (Albemarle, Charlottesville and Nelson) and the five CVRJ member jurisdictions (Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Madison and Orange). Nine comparable Virginia jurisdictions were identified as a comparison group for each CCJB member jurisdiction. Crime rates per 1000 residents were recorded and averaged for each member of the comparison group. Ten year trend lines were then calculated for CCJB member jurisdictions, as were rates for comparison jurisdictions. The trends were then charted to determine how closely the crime rates matched over time. This method was employed for all three Group A crime categories.

- Overall, CCJB member jurisdictions from 2011 to 2020 experienced a reduction in the rate of both Crimes Against Person and Crimes Against Property, offset by an increase in the rate of Crimes Against Society.
- Only one of the eight CCJB jurisdictions (Charlottesville) observed a decrease in Crimes Against Society.
- Half of the CCJB member jurisdictions had lower Crimes Against Person rates in 2020 than did their peer jurisdictions, while six of eight had lower Crimes Against Property rates and all eight had Crimes Against Society rates that were lower than their comparison group.
- The COVID epidemic does not appear to have had a significant impact on these trends, most of which are long-standing and relatively durable.
- In 2020, Albemarle's Crimes Against Person rate was close to the average of the comparison group (9.6 per 1000 vs. 9.2 per 1000). However, Albemarle's rate fell 19% during the past ten years, almost twice the average reduction of 10% for other counties of comparable size.

- Albemarle’s Crimes Against Property rate remained slightly higher than peer counties throughout the decade. Decrease observed in Crimes Against Property were significant in both Albemarle (down 32%) and comparable counties (down 30%). In 2020, the rate for Albemarle was 22.23, compared to 17.41 for peer counties.
- Albemarle’s Crimes Against Society rate was lower than peer counties throughout the decade. While the Albemarle rate increased 28%, the rate among comparable counties increased nearly three times that (80%). Albemarle’s rate of 4.74 was the lowest of all comparable jurisdictions in 2020, which had an average of 10.05.
- Charlottesville’s Crimes Against Person rate fell below the average of the comparison group every year but 2011, ending in 2020 at 14.62 vs. 20.51 for peer cities.. Charlottesville’s rate decreased 40% during the decade, compared to an average 14% reduction for other cities of comparable size.
- Charlottesville’s Crimes Against Property rate began the decade above that of peer cities but ended slightly below the comparison group average (33.92 vs. 38.95). The decrease in crimes against property from 2011 to 2020 were significant for both Charlottesville (down 41%) and comparable cities (down 28%).
- Charlottesville’s Crimes Against Society rate was lower than peer cities throughout the decade, and that gap continued to widen over time. While comparable cities experienced an average 20% increase in Crimes Against Society, Charlottesville’s rate dropped 52%. Charlottesville’s rate of 4.71 was the lowest of all comparable cities in 2020 (averaging 15.87).

Key Findings of the Statewide Reported Crime Study by Jurisdiction Size:

Each of Virginia’s 133 counties and independent cities were categorized by population size into one of six groups. Reported Group A crime rates per 1000 residents were recorded for each jurisdiction from 2011 to 2020, in each of the three primary crime categories (person, property and society). These rates were averaged for each population size group, and trend lines were established for each group average, for each crime type, from 2011 to 2020. Percent change in crime rate from 2011 to 2020 was then calculated for each population size group, in each of the three primary crime categories.

- Once population size was controlled for, utilizing a rate per 1000 residents, there were few notable distinctions between large and small jurisdiction crime rates in the Commonwealth.
- Smaller jurisdictions did have slightly smaller rates of person and property crime than their larger neighbors, offset by higher rates of crimes against society (mostly drug and weapons offenses).
- The factors that are driving changes in crime rates over time in Virginia (reductions in person and property crime and increases in crimes against society) appear to be impacting large and small jurisdictions in a similar way.

Next Meeting: January 12, 2022