



Monroe Law Enforcement Community Outreach Program

Embedded Social Worker



Why Mesh Law Enforcement with Social Services?

- ▶ This concept started with Snohomish County and the Sheriff's Department and Everett Police Department
 - ▶ The thought was: Law Enforcement continues to book the same people for misdemeanor charges and they continue to end up back on the streets and committing the same crimes. Something needs to change, but what?
 - ▶ Law enforcement knows the legal side, but they don't know the resources. Social service workers know resources, but sitting behind a desk doesn't always reach those who are homeless. Why not work together?
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What Does This Look Like?

- ▶ Embedded social workers ride along with law enforcement and go out to encampments
- ▶ Locate homeless “clients” who are using and/or have mental health concerns that are causing a barrier to being self sufficient
 - ▶ They are unable to function and their sole focus is survival
- ▶ Law enforcement makes sure it is safe and then social workers step in and educate the potential clients about services that can be provided. If they are willing to talk more, an appointment is made. If they are not ready, a rapport is started and a relationship starts



What Does This Look Like? Continued

- ▶ Once social services are offered, law enforcement then steps in with the enforcement piece. Business cards are given.
 - ▶ This is private property and you cannot stay here
 - ▶ The Diversion Center is offered when appropriate
- ▶ Initial Meeting
 - ▶ Sit down, buy them a meal and talk about their situation and educate about the program.
 - ▶ Schedule a Substance Use Disorder assessment and/or a mental health assessment
 - ▶ Transport them to the appointment
 - ▶ Embedded Social Workers obtain a copy of the assessments and work on locating inpatient treatment
 - ▶ Once a bed is secured, detox is scheduled to ensure there are no gaps
 - ▶ Upon successful completion of treatment, embedded social workers are able to secure clean and sober housing that is paid for with a voucher through Snohomish County Human Services for approximately 6 months



What Does This Look Like? Continued

- ▶ One of the crucial pieces of this team is continual engagement and re-engagement
 - ▶ It can take a couple of years before someone is ready, but by having the relationship established, it is easier for them to reach out and take the step
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Successes and Failures

- ▶ Failures:
 - ▶ Sometimes people aren't ready for help
 - ▶ Sometimes people slip back into old habits
- ▶ Success Stories
 - ▶ Some of our client's have done very well and continue to do well



What Is The Impact?

▶ **Accomplishments in 2017**

- ▶ 84 total clients
- ▶ 30 chemical dependency assessments scheduled, 23 completed
- ▶ 9 entered detox, 6 completed
- ▶ 9 entered inpatient treatment, 7 graduated (78% Success Rate)
- ▶ 7 housed in Clean and Sober housing
- ▶ 7 referrals to the YWCA housing program 4 housed
- ▶ 2 received assistance with out of state transportation to families



What Is The Impact?

- ▶ Accomplishments 2018

- ▶ 55 new clients
- ▶ 21 completed chemical dependency evaluations
- ▶ 22 entered inpatient treatment, 13 graduated (59% success)
- ▶ 6 have started medication assisted treatment
- ▶ 13 entered detox, 9 completed
- ▶ 24 housed, one referred to YWCA
- ▶ Diversion Center Intakes: 33



What Is The Impact?

- ▶ Accomplishments January 2019 – April 2019
 - ▶ 15 new clients
 - ▶ 6 completed chemical dependency evaluations
 - ▶ 3 entered inpatient treatment, 2 graduated (66% success)
 - ▶ 1 have started medication assisted treatment
 - ▶ 2 entered detox, 1 completed
 - ▶ 2 housed
 - ▶ Diversion Center Intakes: 4



What Is The Impact?

- ▶ The City of Monroe believes a **by-product** of the Community Outreach Program has been a **remarkable** reduction in crime statistics that are often associated with homelessness when comparing 2016 to 2017
 - ▶ Burglaries were reduced by **52%**, from **63** in 2016 to **30** in 2017.
 - ▶ Vehicle prowls were reduced by **69%**, from **148** in 2016 to **46** in 2017



Resources



- ▶ If you have a friend or loved one in need of Substance Use Disorder services, you can contact the Washington State Recovery Helpline: 866-789-1511
- ▶ For those in a mental health crisis, you can reach the Suicide Prevention Hotline at: 800-273-talk (8255) or the crisis line at: 800-584-3578
You can also reach the crisis chat line at: www.imhurting.org
- ▶ For community resources: North Sound 2-1-1 at: 2-1-1 or 800-223-8145
- ▶ Other resources are listed on the City of Monroe website at: <http://monroewa.gov/655/Homelessness>