

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

Attendees

No meeting due to ATSA president's meeting. Updates via email.

Absent

Agenda

Agency Updates (DOC, SCC, DCYF)

Eastern WA

DOH Advisory Committee

Treasury

Membership

Program Committee

SOPB/ legislative updates

Tech person/website maintenance/email issues

By laws and work group formation

Elections and onboarding

In-person meeting dates- March 17th and November 17th

[DOH Advisory Committee](#)): No new updates.

[DOC Update \(C. McNally, D. Winter\)](#):

- A workgroup formed with the Pierce County Prosecutors office to update and modernize the language of conditions of supervision entered into judgement and sentences.
- We provided written testimony for the HB 1394 and the Senate Companion bill supporting the expanded definition of the SOTP Affiliate to include the "Associate" in the underlying credential and asked that the expanded definition not be applied to the fully licensed SOTP. The Substitute house bill 1394 adopted those suggestions. I watched the executive session hearing and the NASW submitted a similar concern about the definition. The companion Senate bill has not had an executive session as of yet.
- Our prison groups are finally moving from their reduced hours of 4hrs/week due to covid restrictions and are not moving back to their normal pre-covid levels of 6hrs/week. This process is moving slowing but moving. We are also on track to re-introduce specialty groups which were put on hold during covid. Those are scheduled to be fully implemented in May. This will put our prison programming back at pre-pandemic operations which is exciting.
- The outcome study of our treatment program is done and the report is being finalized. We have very good outcomes for treatment participants compared to the previous treatment program, which is exciting to hear. When we implemented the new treatment program we immediately set up working with our research department to have an outcome study done once the first groups of the new treatment program were released and wait 3yrs for recidivism data to make sure we are not making matters worse. Turns out we are not, and in fact we have a significant difference between the new program and the old. When the report is approved by the Secretary it will be posted on the public DOC website if anyone was interested. I could also send it out when I am allowed to do so.

- One of our Everett clinicians has accepted the Spokane position and will begin there on the 16th leaving a vacancy in the Everett office. That is the only vacancy in the community currently. We have several vacancies in the prison programs.
- Some new research has come out for women's programming and we are in the initial stages of planning for our women's program to improve with the times.

SCC Update (M.Reese): Staff are still (as of this evening) conducting community meetings related to the public outcry of LRA residents being in their county. The conversations are slowly becoming less combative and more geared toward understanding the process. With that, some people are opting to ask their legislators to change the process and include more people in the community notification process (we'll see if anything comes of that)

We are still working on updating our WACs. While most of the feedback was accepted and we had meeting with attorneys and came to a consensus on all but 1 topic (if people who return should have to talk about why they returned), it will still have to go back through the whole process again to see if there is any more public input. While some of the person-first language was accepted, others were still opposed. However, after the meeting it seems to have more to do with how things are defined in other codes, and there is hope when we get the the next WAC that includes the evaluation and determination of SVP status we will be able to change it there and then go back and change it on this current one related to the senior clinical team.

We are continuing to work on updating our contract for community providers and are hoping to get that to headquarters for approval next month

Also next month, we are having members of the DRW panel come to evaluate our progress toward the law suit that initiated our high acuity program. If all goes well, they will come out for a full evaluation later this year. One hold up is that one of the original panel members no longer works for DDA and the suggested replacements all turned us down. We are still on the hunt for a psychologist who is knowledgeable of the DDA population, token economies, and therapeutic milieus.

Finally, last month started the first time since Covid that groups are running twice a week instead of once per week and we started our work groups for updating several of our ancillary groups (DBT, Healthy Relationships, and Healthy Sexuality this go round) and our department onboarding (because no where is it actually written what people are supposed to do or how to do it)

Juvenile Rehabilitation Update (J. Pelander): DCYF/JR has hired a Program Specialist 5, Damon Vaden, to provide development/implementation of Sex offense specific treatment in our residential facilities. Damon will also overseeing treatment, sexual education development, and CSEC screening and resource development. Damon was previously the JR Sex offense treatment coordinator in the JR regional office in Tacoma for the past 5 years.

2. JR's new risk needs assessment for all juveniles in JR is almost complete and will be in use in the next few months.
3. JR has hired Jennifer Redman to serve as the Director of Operations, Safety & Security. Jennifer was previously the Superintendent of Green Hill School the past 5 years.

Program Committee: No new updates.

Eastern Washington Update (P. Hannon): No new updates.

Membership Update (M. Reese): No new updates.

Meetings

April- Michael Seto CPORT training.

May- MAPS

Business Items

Program Committee–No new updates.

Additional upcoming training opportunities: N/A

Sex Offender Policy Board – (Dr. O’Connell)- No new updates.

Treasurer Report – Balance is \$42,768.92 no major expenditures this month.

Legislative Updates –Bill 1394 juvenile registration introduced.

Agenda items for future meetings

1. Update chapter bylaws
 - a. Training for new board members
2. Resource list on website for families of youth with sexual behavior problems
3. Board member qualifications and expectations/ clarify when election should be sent out
4. WATSA could benefit from an IT person. Would WATSA be comfortable spending on this position?