Reimagining Public Safety

Update on Reimagining Public Safety Efforts
March 10, 2021
Decoupled

- Support Services – Fall 2020
  - APD HR moved to Corporate Human Resources Department
  - APD PIO shifted to the Communications and Public Information Office
- Special Events – Fall 2020
  - Administrative personnel shifted to DSD
  - Sworn personnel reassigned to emergency management functions, but expected to be tagged for permit/event review as events emerge
- Forensic Science Bureau – Feb. 4th
  - Creation of a separate Forensic Science Department
  - Aligns with Quattrone Report recommendation to establish independent DNA lab

Under Review

- Communications / 9-1-1 Call Center
- Support Services
  - APD Finance
  - APD Building Services
- Strategic Support
  - Technology, Research and Planning
- Community Partnerships
  - Office of Community Liaisons
- Victim Services
- Internal Affairs
- Special Investigations Unit
Reimagining Public Safety Task Force Updates

• Upcoming Meetings
  ▪ Wednesday, March 10th, 5:30-8:30pm – RPS Task Force Meeting
  ▪ Monday, March 29th, 5:30-8:30pm – RPS Task Force Meeting
  ▪ Saturday, April 3rd – Community Listening Session
  ▪ Wednesday, April 14th (tentative) – RPS Task Force Meeting

• RPS Working Groups Established
  ▪ Combined Work Group: Reimagining 911 and Non-Police Crisis Response
  ▪ Police Staffing: Patrol and Criminal Investigations
  ▪ Public Health Reinvestment
  ▪ Uprooting Punitive and Harm Culture in Intersecting Systems
  ▪ Patrol and Surveillance
  ▪ Business and Economic Development
  ▪ Equity Re-investment in Community
  ▪ Meaningful Community Engagement
  ▪ Violence Survivor Services and Prevention
• **Family Violence Shelter and Protection Services** – RFA released and contracted services expected to start May 2021, potential to fund two new pilot programs and increase existing program capacity

• **Permanent Supportive Housing and Services** – support for hotel strategy and mainstream voucher program

• **Office of Violence Prevention** – planning with national partners and key stakeholders

• **Substance Use Continuum of Care** – three agencies to provide services pending Council approval on March 25th

• **Food Access** – Equidad ATX to provide mobile resources to community, up for Council approval on March 25th

• **Abortion Access** – logistical services provided through Jane's Due Process, passed on March 4th
• APH mental health services – increasing existing contracts for mental health services

• Immigrant legal services – increasing existing contracts with American Gateway and Catholic Charities, up for Council approval on March 25th

• Epidemiology and disease surveillance programs – added four epidemiologist positions to increase capacity for COVID-19 and other reportable conditions
  • Improved per capita epidemiology response capacity to optimal levels (1 epidemiologist/100,000 pop.)

• Early Childhood Program Coordinator – focus on creating equitable access to and availability of high-quality Early Childhood Education (ECE) and encouraging living wages for ECE providers

• WorkForce First – Increase of $223,000, for a total of $1.2M, to support four work crews/five days per week in coordination with Parks, Watershed Protection and ARR
Re-Entry Services for Formerly Incarcerated Populations

• Performed engagement process in December 2020 to understand needs of both people formerly incarcerated and their families or support systems

• Goal is to provide multifaceted approach to re-entry services, including housing, job training, and mental health support, among other services

• Plan to build on the Equity Mini-Grant Model to expand capacity within smaller organizations and for grassroots community organizations to test new solutions

• Projected RFGA launch in May 2021
APD Reinvestment Activities
• Increased resources for Victim Services
• Targeted training for trauma-informed response, unconscious bias, and racial and cultural sensitivity, as well as training to safely administer Naloxone to someone experiencing a drug overdose

COVID-19 Resources
• Ambulance added on October 26, 2020
• Ambulance added on March 9, 2021
Mental Health Response and Community Health Paramedics (CHPs)

- CHPs assigned to mental health response have completed training and clinical rotations with Integral Care
- Deploying two (2) CHP units per shift (24/7), primary role will be responding to mental health incidents
- New CHP team members have been identified and will be moved based on overall staffing levels

Emergency, Triage, Treatment, Transport (ET3)

- Program began January 1, 2021
- Partner Agreements
- Participation Agreement Completed
- CMS approved EMS Implementation Plan
- TeleHealth
Mental Health Resources

HOST
• HOST has worked with new team to identify appropriate cases for referral
  ▪ 5 clients have already been referred to Integral Care team
• Integral Care has hired three team members, actively recruiting to fill other positions
• HOST is helping to train new Integral Care team and establish a set schedule to partner with Integral Care team

EMCOT
• Expansion of the Integral Care-EMCOT to align with all recommendation of the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, May 2019 report:
  ▪ Deploy iPads to first responders for Telehealth services
  ▪ 24/7 availability and staffing at the 911 Call Center
  ▪ Full-time medical provider to support expansion of service array
Recommendation #1  
*Advisory Function Developed Within the Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (BHCJAC)*  
- **Current status: Complete**  
  - Approved by the BHCJAC on February 12, 2021

Recommendation #2  
*Mental Health Training for Call Takers*  
- **Current status: In Progress**  
  - Identifying best practices to inform curriculum development specific to Austin needs

Recommendation #3  
*Mental Health Integrated Dispatch*  
- **Current status: In Progress**  
  - “4th Option” launched on February 8, 2021  
  - Integral Care clinician available in APD dispatch
Recommendation #4

Sustainability of EMCOT, Including Telehealth Expansion

• Current status: In Progress
  • iPads currently being distributed
  • Anticipated launch by end of March 2021

Recommendation #5

Develop a formal collaboration with APD Crisis Intervention Team and Community Health Paramedic Program

• Current status: In Progress
  • Developing criteria & procedure

Recommendation #6

Community Outreach in Collaboration with NAMI Central Texas

• Current status: In Progress
  • Reviewing material
  • Identifying target populations, media outlets (e.g. social media, etc.)