



Virtual Health and Hospitals Committee Meeting

Quarterly Report Period-Board Item No. 22-1177

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Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender

Behavioral Health Services Quarterly Report



Our Mission

The Public Defender protects the fundamental rights, liberties, and dignity of each person whose case has been entrusted to us by providing the finest legal representation.

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Key Features

- Supports the office's mission towards providing a holistic defense.
- Internal Resource designed to assist attorneys and clients.
- We are not treatment providers—consultation, assessment, and case management.
- Members of the defense team.
- Uniquely positioned to reach into the jail and out into the community.
- Able to support our clients throughout their legal case.
- Work collaboratively with justice partners and service providers within the community.

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Roles

- Clinical Psychologist: 1
- Mental Health Clinicians: 2
 - 2 vacancies

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Services Provided

- Consultative Services

Assist attorneys by providing them with education and resources to be able to provide a quality defense.

- Clinical Services

Evaluation and assessment of clients' mental health needs/psychiatric presentation to provide treatment plans, recommendations, and mitigating information.

- Case Management Services

Provide direct linkage to service providers and other social services to support clients' functioning within the community and reduce recidivism.

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Updates

- Continue to establish collaborative relationships with justice partners, service providers, etc.
 - Work with civil rights attorneys to address housing for clients with sex crimes
- Waiting to fill current vacancies.
 - Expansion (Community Defense Centers)
- Seeking grant funding.
- MHRU engagement in policy work.



Thank you!!

Questions?