



# Prearrest Diversion Task Force |

## MEETING SUMMARY

---

**Meeting date | time** *Wednesday, October 22, 2025, | 3:00 pm |*

**Meeting location** *Microsoft Teams*

### ATTENDEES

---

**Meeting Facilitator:** Chairperson Kelly O’Meara, MPD, Adam Schutzman, CJCC

**Attendees:**

**CJCC:** Adam Schutzman, Niloufer Taber, Dante’ Daniel, Bailey Maryfield

**PSA:** -

**MPD:** Kelly O’Meara

**DBH:** Dr. Chad Tillbrook

**USAO:** Katie Sessa

**DMHHS:** Sakina Thompson

**OAG:** Brian Kim

**DC Council:** Anaiah Mitchell

**DCSC:** Linda Castro

**DMPSJ:** --

**DHS:** Jerod Lee

**Community Connections:** Mary Costello, David Freeman

**Unity Health Care:** Dr. Richard Bebout

**Community Bridges:** John Hogeboom

---

### MEETING DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Prearrest Diversion Task Force is to review and assess best practices around prearrest diversion and to make recommendations for implementing prearrest diversion of certain misdemeanor crimes in the District of Columbia.

***Roll Call and Approval of Meeting Minutes***

The chair conducted a roll call vote and determined that a quorum was present. Next, the meeting minutes were considered and approved by the task force.



---

### ***Site Visit – November 17***

The Prearrest Diversion Task Force will have the opportunity to visit the Baltimore, MD Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program office on Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The site visit will provide members with the opportunity to see the physical structure and format of an active program and to ask current practitioners about the policies, processes, and challenges of running a prearrest diversion program. Interested participants should reach out to the CJCC within the next two weeks if they would like to attend.

### ***Prearrest Diversion – Service Side Structure***

The task force discussed the structure of a prearrest diversion program from the prospective of the service side. One concern of the task force is the transportation of participants to any program. There are limited current practices that allow for the voluntary transportation of participants by law enforcement or the Department of Behavioral Health. Community organizations noted that multiple programs outside the District, including CRT programs and a San Antonio detox program, have found ways to safely evaluate and transport individuals with behavioral health or substance use disorders. The task force will continue to consider potential options.

Members highlighted the importance of identifying a central location where participants can go upon referral. In the 2018 pilot program, participants had multiple locations, including a police district station, where referrals and intakes would be conducted. In an ideal scenario, any location selected will serve as a one stop shop, so that individuals can have access to health care support, but also other human service supports (IDs, benefits, etc.). DHS emphasized that they will be able to support any location in the city selected.

When a participant arrives to the site, they will receive an initial screening to evaluate their social needs, mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and criminal justice involvement. After an initial evaluation, participants will be connected to case managers who will help assess the best treatment plan going forward. Case managers will rely on the existing network of treatment providers in the District to support participants.

### ***Lived Experiences Forum***

CJCC is planning to hold a forum to engage individuals who have lived experiences with behavioral health disorders and/or substance use disorders as well as family members who have seen the impact of these illnesses on their loved ones. The forum will also be open to those with mental health and/or substance use disorders who experienced homelessness, especially unsheltered or “street” homelessness. CJCC proposed three potential formats: a private focus group; a private roundtable; or a



public town hall. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, the task force agreed the event should be private. CJCC will prepare a comprehensive plan for the format of a private roundtable.

### Closing

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next pretrial diversion task force meeting has been moved up a week and will take place in person at 441 4<sup>th</sup> St. NW on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 3 pm. Task force members will need to inform CJCC by Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> if they will be able to attend the Baltimore LEAD program site visit on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

**Decisions:** CJCC will plan a private roundtable for individuals with lived experiences and their families to speak to their preferences in a prearrest diversion program.

**Actions:**

Item	Agency
Prepare a private meeting for those with lived experiences and their families to express their preferences and thoughts about a prearrest diversion program	CJCC
Inform CJCC if they will attend the November 17 site visit of the Baltimore LEAD program (Deadline: Friday, November 7)	ALL
Consider preferences for transportation options for prearrest diversion program participants	ALL