

Portland's Committee on Community-Engaged Policing Subcommittee for People with Mental Illness

Co Chairs - Robert Dye Robert.Dye@portlandoregon.gov
 Patrick Nolen Patrick.Nolen@portlandoregon.gov

Staff TBD

Subcommittee for People with Mental Illness is a subcommittee of Portland's Committee on Community-Engaged Policing (PCCEP), approved by unanimous vote of the PCCEP in January 2019. The PCCEP was chartered by the Portland City Council in November 2018.

The primary purpose of the subcommittee is to make recommendations to the City of Portland and the Portland Police Bureau about how to reduce use of force against people with mental illness.

A secondary purpose of the subcommittee will be to hear the experience of people with mental illness with officers of the Portland Police Bureau. These experiences may be heard at meetings of the subcommittee, or by letter or email message, or by telephone voice mail. The subcommittee may take action based on reports, or refer people to other agencies and individuals. Referrals will be reviewed for action.

The subcommittee will use the term "mental illness" as a shorthand to describe all persons with diagnosable illness or injuries which impair or impede thought and thereby actions. These illnesses and injuries include severe and persistent mental illnesses, such as bipolar disorder, anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, and disorders, including borderline and dissociative personality disorders. The subcommittee also represents the interests of people with alcoholism and addiction, autism and Asperger's, with brain injuries, with intellectual disorders.

The subcommittee will have seven members and use a consensus model of agreement. Responsibilities for subcommittee members include one two hour meeting per month, three hours of reading per month, prompt correspondence by email and telephone. Initial subcommittee members will be selected by subcommittee co-chairs for two year terms. Recruitment for subcommittee members will begin in February 2019.

The subcommittee will meet monthly at the Mid-County Branch of the Multnomah County Library. All are welcome to attend and participate. For privacy, meetings will not be recorded, but roster of subcommittee members, an agenda, minutes, recommended reading, an online application for subcommittee membership, and recommendations to the City and police bureau will be posted on the PCCEP website.