

Diversity Roundtable
Achieving a Culture that Values Diversity
Greater Lafayette Commerce
Thursday, July 2, 2026
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
The Arts Federation (TAF) and Zoom

Minutes
Impacting Change in Issues of Diversity and Inclusion
DiversityTippecanoe.org

1. Welcome/Introductions – Sana Booker, Adelia Sorge, Tetia Lee, Judy Gainey, Jos Holman, Sheila Rosenthal, Devon Moore, Patience Smith, Amanda Ferguson, Christina Poynter, Frank Rosenthal, and Cheryl Kaldahl were present.
2. Program – Social Service and Outreach Teams from Law Enforcement agencies in Lafayette, W. Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County. Devon Moore, MSW, LCSW, Social Service & Crisis Response Specialist will coordinate.

Devon introduced her fellow presenters and began with the history of the organization. Social work is a specific career and licensure. The collaboration between mental health professionals and law enforcement started in the 1970s with two social service organizations working in tandem with law enforcement in Illinois.

1975 – Association of Police Social Workers; 19 social workers and MSW interns in IL. CAHOOTS was created in Eugene Oregon (mental health, homelessness, and substance abuse).

March 2021 – WLPD hired Social Service and Crisis Response Specialist

October 2021 – 1st ever National Police Social Work Conference in Bloomington, IN which had representatives from 19 states.

Current models include embedded social workers, departments contacted with local mental health agencies, co-responder models, mental health units within departments.

Bloomington PD, LaPorte PD, St. Joseph Co, Lake County Sheriffs, Griffith, Highland, Franklin Carmel, Fort Wayne, Valparaiso, Porter County Sheriff, Stark County, Terre Haute, etc.

Basic Information

- LPD Unit #800 and #801/TSCO #7988/WLPD unit #200 and #201
- Varying Daily Schedules – on call

- Business Casual Attire
- Access to CAD/RMS systems
- Separate data tracking
- Have radio and an unmarked car
- Notify dispatch of location every time they are at someone's home

Specific to LPD:

- LPD and Adam carry body cameras so that dispatch can track them.
- LPD has a permanent supportive housing program (28 – unit). Only program in the state. HSMI.
 - 12 months of homelessness
- Outreach walks

Referral Types:

- Mental illness concerns
- Aging/elderly concerns
- Suicidal ideation
- Concerns with utilities, being evicted, bills, etc.
- Domestic violence/sexual assault
- Juvenile behavioral concerns
- Substance use disorders
- Grief (death notifications)

Interim Support

- Crisis intervention/de-escalation
- Brief therapy point of contact
- Case Management
- Identify what services they already have
- Get in contact with any prior resources/connections
- Send referral information to any new resources
- Follow up with both the individual and the resources to ensure timely response and follow through
- Keep connected with individual through the beginning of re-establishment of resources to ensure a good transition
- Assist with any paperwork or processes.

Homelessness Outreach

- Locate new and old homeless encampments to keep an idea of who is where
- Ensure individuals are on the coordinated entry list with Valley Oak's Outreach Team
- Ensure individuals know about food resources, shelters, etc.
- Assist with getting emergency supplies as needed

- Weekly trail checks
- Backpack program
- Warehouse to store items from individuals that are incarcerated and also furniture for rehousing individuals. They have a U-Haul and will pick up items when notified to make available for individuals that have been displaced and need rehomed.

Community Collaboration and Engagement

- Community Meetings
- Local 988 Collaborative, Health Active Tippecanoe Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), Indiana Care Circle, Diversity Routable, Drug Free Coalition, Homeless Prevention and Intervention Network
- Bi-monthly meetings with outreach teams from all three departments
- Community Engagement Events
- Speaking at classes/events, tabling

Outreach activities

- Department Specific Duties
- Handle w/ care notifications
 - Training for law enforcement
 - Training for school staff
 - Daily notifications
 - LSC, TCSC, WLCS
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Committee
 - 40 hour training for first responders
 - Annual trainings in April and September
- Can be a resource for Officers/dispatch and families
- Bring in outside trainings/presentation for officers regarding community resources

3. Hot Topics – Tetia Lee - What are your thoughts on the Secretary of State race in Indiana?

4. Announcements – Sana Booker

- Summer Festivals: Joan Marshall
- Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BA9AE2AABF5C16-64369695-drtfestival>
 - OUTFest – August 15th, 4 – 9 pm, Main St & Fifth St
 - Latino Festival – September 12th, noon – 5 pm, Columbian Park
 - Global Fest – September 19th, 3 – 10 pm, WL City Hall
- Other announcements?

5. Future Topics – Sana Booker

- August 6 – Solar Energy Ordinance, Ben Davis (Sheila Rosenthal)

- b. Sept 3 – hold for possibly No Kings (Christopher Munt)
- c. Oct 1 – Purdue CDF Freedom School, Tammy Conard-Salvo (Sheila Rosenthal)
- d. Nov 5 – Food Finders, Kier Crites (Tetia Lee)
- e. Dec 3 -