



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Huntsville, Alabama – October 11, 2016 - In an attempt to take aggressive action toward dealing with Madison County's portion of the state's mental health crisis, Commissioner Robert "Bob" Harrison is orchestrating a community conversation and vision meeting. The Jail Diversion Initiative is an ardent effort to meet the growing needs of law enforcement officers, emergency responders, hospital staff and mental health care advocates who are committed to offering more adequate treatment and care for those with mental illness.

There will be a special meeting of Madison County Commissioners for an open discussion and information session on:

**October 18, 2016 | 10am - Noon**  
**Robert "Bob" Harrison Wellness and Advocacy Center**  
**6156 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, AL 35810**

The guest presenter for this meeting will be Mr. Leon Evans, President and CEO of The Center for Health Care Services of Bexar County, Texas. Mr. Evans will share insights and outcomes of his nationally acclaimed program.

Many state and local leaders as well as other major stakeholders have confirmed their attendance for this ground-breaking meeting. The call-to-action that will follow is aimed at creating a task force to synergize government efforts with those of mental health agencies to best address the short and long term care needs of Madison County residents coping with mental illness and substance abuse.