

ALAMEDA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP FISCAL/PROCUREMENT WORKGROUP

February 2, 2021 from 3:00p.m. to 5:14 p.m.
Online – Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Chief Still, Wendy (Chair)	Chen, Howard	Grigsby, Janene	Oddie, Sarah
Dawal, Marcus (Designee)	Cheng, Mike	Hee, Ho	Qiu, Fengyi
von Geldern, Eric (Designee)	Conner, Shauna	Henzi, Christy	Rivera, Jenilee
Adams, Lisa	Cruz, Ayana	Hopkins, Felix	Smith, Tim
Baker, Karen	Dickey, Scott	Ibalio, Fidencio	Spooner, Kamarlo
Banks, Raymond	Eddie, Charlie	Kay, Alexandra	Stewart, Darryl
Bituin, Maria Eleonor	Figueroa, Chris	Lai, Sophia	Torres, A'nise
Blake, Mona	Frazier, Donald	Lim, Diane	Tuck, Lonnie
Bonner, Taqwaa	Geddes, Jodie	Mason, Joey	Turner, Charles
Brooks, Rodney	Geddes, Latoya	Miley, Christopher	Uriarte, Monica
Butler, Douglas	Gipson, Sylvia	Mitchell, Kelly	Woods, Minel
Cao, Binh	Gonzalez, Rezsín	Ocampo, Allison	Additional Guests: 3

I. Call to Order and Introductions

A. Meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM

II. Public Comment

A. No public comment

III. Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting minutes from January 5, 2021 were reviewed and approved as written

IV. CORE Status Update – Mona Blake

A. CORE served 92 clients in January; 18 clients were served at CORE and 74 clients via the phone

1. 12 clients received grocery support
2. Helped 5 clients sign-up for or reclaim Medi-Cal
3. 24 clients received social services: assistance getting birth certificate, social security card, ID, etc.
4. Assisted 15 clients with housing
5. Linked 6 clients to educational programs
6. 11 clients were referred to employment programs: referral to Success Center, CEO and *70 million jobs*
7. Clinical case management staff supported 38 clients through either an initial assessment or weekly one-on-one follow-up sessions
8. 16 clients received hygiene bags
9. 4 clients received Trac phones – phones are activated at CORE, service generally last 30-days, after that service cost \$25/30 days (clients can get assistance paying for service)
10. Two new staff members hired: A Case Manager and a Peer Support Specialist; looking to hire a new administrative support staff member
11. Discussion:

- a) Does CORE follow-up with clients after referrals to find out if clients engaged in services? Yes, CORE does follow-up with clients and the DPO's are updated through Tyler
- b) The two new hires (Case Manager & Peer Support Specialist) both have prior justice involvement

V. Behavioral Health Update – Sophia Lai

- A. **Mild-to-Moderate Program run by Felton:** This program serves central, south and east Alameda County; the program moved into their Hayward location, which is almost fully staffed; program depends on referrals from CORE, 2 referrals received in January; currently there are 19 active clients all of whom are in the stabilization phase (first phase in a multi-phase program); 6 clients are linked to outside services
- B. **Mild-to-Moderate Program run by Roots (Nia Care):** This program serves the north County, Oakland area; there are currently two navigators and one clinician on the team; the program received 1 referral from CORE in the last month; the program currently has 6 clients; 3 clients from Safe Landing are scheduled for intakes; the program's Behavioral Health Program Administrator presented to the DPO's this week to clarify the program and its parameters; treatment teams with Probation staff are being set-up (2x/month)
- C. **Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Program run by Felton:** Program currently has 16 clients enrolled; just hired a peer staff member and a clinician and they are working on hiring a psychiatric nurse practitioner
- D. Alameda County Behavioral Health (ACBH) is planning to hire a Forensic and Diversion System of Care Director, a provisional appointment will be made soon and formal recruitment will open up later this year
- E. Discussion:
 - 1. All programs are currently receiving referrals primarily from CORE; they are open to receiving referrals from other sources, but clients must be AB109 eligible

ACTION ITEM: Sophia will send the Program Managers' contact information to those who requested it

VI. Community Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation: De-Escalation Response Team Pilot Program – Kamarlo Spooner, Raymond Banks and Alexandra Kay

- A. This is a pilot project to address the needs of hard-to-reach populations; program participants will receive various forms of violence prevention, conflict resolution, and other types of psycho-social support and care; the De-Escalation Response Team (Team) can be understood as a way to reduce harm or the spread of recidivism by rapidly deescalating situations in the Re-entry and Realignment communities – the initial proposal of 5 county assets has been increased to 14, to allow for more intensive and comprehensive wrap around service delivery
- B. Cost: \$1,106,000 (AB-109 funds): \$980,000 + \$126,000 (12% administrative overhead, paid to the fiscal agent; the previous recommendation was for \$50,000) = \$1,106,000 in total
 - 1. According to January's CCPEC AB-109 Reconciliation Summary there is \$1,028,064 unallocated for this fiscal year; the remaining \$77,936 may be pulled from the approved \$1,000,000 allocation for Restorative Justice Circles as CBO's like Community Works West and BOSS provide it for free
- C. The authority to hire/fire will be a collaboration between the De-Escalation Response Team Committee and the CAB; preference given to candidates that have served at least a 30-days in local jail, state prison or Federal facility within the state of California; the Team member does not have to live in the District they represent; the Team member will be hired based upon their knowledge of the supervisory district in which they're applying to work; the prerequisite baseline is knowledge of current and emerging services and providers within the area, its specific neighborhoods, history, existing cultural complexities, and the greater Alameda County Reentry system and networks
- D. At will employment – contract will allow for either party to petition to sever the agreement (30-day notice required); the petition to sever the contract will be reviewed and granted or denied by the CAB and appealed to the CCPEC

- E. The Team will be made up of 14 independent contractors contracted with the Public Defender's Office, Alameda County Health Department, or Alameda County Behavioral Health who will act as the Team's fiscal agent; to ensure service expediency, fidelity and continuity, staff will be provided an email at acgov.org, Alameda County work badges, and business cards
- F. Alameda County's Board of Supervisor's Public Safety Committee and their staffers assigned to support the CAB would ensure the mentors are doing their job; the Team should report progress and challenges minimally every two months
- G. The sub-contracted staff will be responsible for furnishing their own insurance; the Behavioral Health Department or the Public Defenders Department will provide the Team access to Alameda County's current liability insurance carrier
- H. The Team's work schedule: There will be 5 Team members working from 7am to 3pm; the 1st shift will forward all relevant information pertaining to Reentry participants and matters within their respective district to the 2nd shift; the 2nd shift of 5 Team members will work from 3pm to 11pm across all 5 Districts; the 3rd shift will work from 11pm to 7am are utilized in Districts 2, 4 and 5; there are considerably fewer Reentry crisis response needs in Supervisorial Districts 1 and 3 respectively; in light of those facts this body is only requesting 11:00pm to 7:00am shifts for Districts 2, 4 and 5 which holds close to 90% of this pilot programs targeted population; the final two Team members will serve on the weekend along with 4 other Team members from various districts (on-call/rovers)
- I. The mentors will work throughout the County: The (Team) will be assigned to a specific supervisorial district for cross county continuity but not restricted to it; reentry and violence prevention challenges are fluid and will require the Team member to provide hands-on client service coordination throughout all 14 cities and the 6 unincorporated areas of Alameda County
- J. The maximum number of hours each asset can work each week is 40 to 60 or 8 to 10 per day; if times are slow, the downtime would allow for the county assets to complete the technical (program administrative and development) aspects of their work – pay is not based on the number of hours worked
- K. The mentor does not receive benefits nor vacation time, but he/she will be compensated for days missed due to medical, family, personal challenges and obligations (however, any days away from work must be approved by the pilot projects acting coordinators)
- L. The rotations and schedule will be static (set in stone), created by the CAB and presented to the CCPEC for review and approval preceding implementation; any subsequent change of schedule will require the same flow of process and chain from their coordinator to the CAB for review and recommendation, then to the CCPEC for decision
- M. The Team is responsible for identifying and coordinating client services
- N. Deliverables: Probationers enrolled in services; point of contact; create self-validating networks; proven de-escalation actions; homelessness program; referral to housing; reunification program and assessments; referrals to family reunification; needs and completion assessments; expungement programs; statistics and analysis of programs and comparison of various analytics; credible messengers engaged in intensive case management along with credible messengers
- O. Primary Distinctions: 24/7 service designed for those who feel uncomfortable working with organizations; clients can self-refer; autonomy; better defined comprehensive wrap around resources
- P. DISCUSSION:
 1. Vacation time, an increase in pay from the original \$75,000 and possibly more consultants should be considered to keep the team from being burned out and ensure they are fairly compensated
 2. This recommendation dramatically differs from CAB's original recommendation and no notice of these changes were given to this Workgroup: new name; request for funds increased from \$425,000

to \$1,106,000; and the proposal no longer emphasizes peer support nor building working relationships between County entities listed in the original proposal

3. This pilot program is duplicative of services that are already funded; if there are gaps in those services (hours served, services offered, etc.), the CCPEC can look into filling those gaps
 - a) This program is duplicative of the intent of FUBU (For Us By Us); may need to look at rewriting/rescoping FUBU
4. There are questions as to whether or not the CCPEC has the legal authority to implement the program as presented
5. How would the consultant know if the person they are serving qualifies to receive AB-109 funding?
6. The overnight shift will be focused on Districts 2, 4 and 5, but other Districts will have access to the Team overnight as needed; are there services available to refer clients to overnight?
7. The Board of Supervisor's staff does not supervise staff and the CAB can't supervise staff
 - a) There are only two Supervisors on the Public Protection Committee and each Supervisor has only one staff member, how will the Board of Supervisors staff be able to supervise 14 consultants?
8. There is a need for a de-escalation program in East Oakland – to build trust, CBO's must have a personal relationship with members of the community (credible messengers)
9. It is important to separate opinion from fact; is there data showing the number of people who will not work with a CBO?
10. The money must go to CBO's, it cannot pass through another County agency to charge a 12% overhead to be given out to someone else; there must be a contracting entity
11. All Probation does is put the money/contract out, Probation does not control the services; CBO's are separate from government
12. There is a lot of funding already going towards programs that do this work; this is a wonderful idea, but many of the things this recommendation is proposing are already funded; having the document in hand to review can help participants strengthen the recommendation

ACTION ITEM: The CAB will share the document they presented with the Probation Department so that it can be added to the website along with the other meeting materials

ACTION ITEM: Chief Still and the District Attorney think that providing 24-hour urgent response support is very much needed and they are both willing to work with the CAB and other violence prevention stakeholders to figure out how to fill these gaps in a responsible and accountable way (Behavioral Health, CAB and violence prevention programs)

VII. Assembly Bill No. 1950: The Early Termination of Probation – Chief Still

- A. AB-1950 amends the California State Penal Code to limit adult probation terms to a maximum of one year for misdemeanor offenses and two years for felony offenses with the exception of 667.5 offenses
- B. Over 1,800 individuals are in the process of having their supervision terminated: approximately 1100 have been terminated to date and the Court is taking action on the rest via mass motion
- C. The District Attorney sent over a list of 1,921 individuals that will be taken off of Probation immediately on the Court's motion – the District Attorney was thanked for all their work
- D. Chief Still was the expert that testified in support of this reduction in Probation terms
- E. Extending access to AB-109 services for one year after termination of Probation so that no one immediately loses their services (housing, employment, etc.) will be on next month's agenda
- F. Discussion:

1. Do not terminate any clients from services; if you have questions about a client, please send an email to ProbationCommunityPrograms@acgov.org
2. Letters will be sent to all clients being terminated to let them know about the termination and service availability
3. Individuals do not need to request their termination, terminations will automatically continue on an ongoing basis

VIII. Grants Update – Monica Uriarte

- A. Probation will be applying for grants in FY 21/22 – grant due dates have been extended due to a new Federal system, Just Grants
- B. CBO Letters of Support for our populations should be submitted as soon as possible; to expedite the process, please include a synopsis of the application with your request

ACTION ITEM: A grants handout will be prepared and distributed at a later time

IX. Probation RFP and Contracts Update – Monica Uriarte

- A. Housing Vendor Pool RFPQ (Pool) has been posted – an announcement was shared via the listserv
 1. Bids are due on March 9
 2. Non-mandatory bidders conference is scheduled for February 8th – if you have questions you may submit them prior to or at the conference (details in the RFPQ)
 3. The Pool will allow for multiple housing options and providers
 4. There is no funding attached to the Pool yet
- B. BOSS's new housing project includes housing for 290 registrants

X. AB-109 Designation Account Update – Chief Wendy Still and Karen Baker

- A. In the interest of time, please refer to the handout for current balance and updates from the last meeting

XI. Next Meeting – March 2, 2021 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

XII. Public Comment

- A. The DA introduced a new, innovative plan to help clients fulfill their restitution requirement by participating in a restorative justice program
- B. Article 1 Section 28 of the Constitution makes the payment of restitution to victims a non-waivable barrier
- C. A restorative justice system can resolve the restitution issue by satisfying the obligation through (1) quantifying volunteer work; (2) having a supplemental fund to assist clients with paying their restitution
- D. The trust that has been held in reserve can be used to fund the plan
- E. Even if the victim has no interest in participating, a surrogate can fulfill the role so the individual may qualify for the restorative justice process
- F. This will allow clients to start with a clean slate and avoid the burden of having their restitution hanging over their head or turning into a civil judgement against them
- G. Discussion:
 1. BOSS engages in restorative justice work with *Survivors for Safety and Justice* and *Californians for Safety and Justice* and offered to work with the District Attorney's office to build out this program
 2. Chief Still and the District Attorney's office both acknowledged the best practice is to ensure the voice of the community is at the table – if you are trying to do something to help the community, community members and subject matter experts must be at the table from the very beginning

XIII. Adjournment – at 5:14 PM