

## Criminal Justice Health Advisory Committee

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Meeting Minutes  
July 15, 2009

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Present Supervisor Adams, Bobbe Rockoff, Julie Lenhardt, Bruce Gurganus, DJ Pierce, Heather Ravani, Eric Engelbart, Joseph Spaeth, Kim Turner, Larry Meredith, Mike Daly, Teresa Torrence-Tillman, Paula Glodowski, Roberta English (NAMI), Marc Levine (San Rafael City Council), Michael Mesmer (Building Better Families), Jose Luis Gomez & Laura Kantorowski (Bay Area Community Resources), Donna Garske & Graciela Rodriguez (MAWS), Don Carney (Youth Court), Lynne Wasley (Matrix Parent Network), Kathleen Russell and Jean Taylor.

Next Meeting October 21 - 9:30-11:00 - Rug Room #324

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9:35 Meeting called to order by Chair Supervisor Susan L. Adams

### I. Welcome And Introduction

### II. Updates as needed

**Family Violence Court**, Kim Turner – The Family Violence Court program has been active for 16 months now. There are currently 28 active defendants in this court. This program has been very time consuming even with the help from Probation but a new volunteer is expected to join the program soon.

**Jail Treatment and Continuity of Care Post Jail**, James Hickey & Patricia Seyler, Sheriff's Department – We are in the process of beginning a re-entry program and are working closely with BACR and Probation to transition inmates from jail back into the community. One deputy (Corey Monge) will be assigned to work with inmates starting on July 27. One of the biggest challenges is to find resources for inmates who have mental health issues but are not seriously mentally ill. Julie Van Winkle (HHS) offered to help via the new task force/re-entry program. Sergeant Hickey reported that San Mateo has a very successful re-entry program in place which will be looked into. Supervisor Adams asked if and how criteria are being measured. Lieutenant Seyler answered that specific tracking criteria already exist in San Mateo County and will be set up similarly in Marin with data from Probation, the Courts, and also housing and employment services.

Michael Mesmer (Building Better Families) mentioned that, often, he doesn't know what happens to his clients after they graduate from the program but would like to have access to such data, i.e. recidivism rate.

Dr. Meredith asked how the Sheriff's Department will run this program considering the decrease in State funding. Sergeant Hickey explained that budget resources had to be re-allocated and that jail staffing had been cut. The goal of the new program is to decrease the inmate population and the number of people coming in by helping them be successful on the outside, which should ultimately decrease the level of staffing needed in jail.

Supervisor Adams expressed interest to get an update on the program at the next CJBH meeting.

**Domestic Violence Awareness month**, Donna Garske (MAWS) – Donna reported that the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) coordinates activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month every year in October. The council has 3 co-chairs: Community Violence Solutions, MAWS and members from the criminal justice system (DA, Probation, and Police). Members from the Health Department, Kaiser and local non profit organizations also attend meetings. The DVCC meets twice a year and also holds 2 teleconferences per year. DVCC meetings are open to the public. Kim Turner suggested adding representatives from the Batterers' Prevention Program and from the Public Defender's office. Michael Mesmer said it seemed unfair that for-profit organizations cannot join DVCC and would like to see more leadership or participation from the County. Kim Turner offered to look into the exclusion of for-profit organizations. Michael Mesmer also reported that 20% of the arrests for domestic violence are women, and that it would be nice to see male victims get more attention. Donna Garske pointed out that MAWS services are open to men and women. The Domestic Violence Awareness activities in October will include an art display at the Civic Center, distribution of ribbons, a march with speakers, a press conference, a resolution at the Board of Supervisors, a silent witness display, and a candlelight vigil. Supervisor Adams acknowledged Donna for her 30 years of devoted services at MAWS and offered to post their information on her website.

**Youth Court**, Don Carney – Don presented an update on Marin County Youth Court (attached). Both Joe Spaeth and Lynne Wasley (<http://www.matrixparents.org/>) praised Don and the Youth Court for their great accomplishments, their resources and collaboration with the school system. For more information about Matrix Parents Network, please visit their website listed above or contact Kim Turner at [kturner@co.marin.ca.us](mailto:kturner@co.marin.ca.us).

**Homelessness**, Bobbe Rockoff – Bobbe announced the recruitment of a Coordinator who will work on various homelessness issues and projects (winter shelter, housing, Project Connect, Safety Net Survey, studies), develop existing resources, and serve as the main contact for all departments. Since last year, the Policy Coordinating Council has seen an increase in county leadership and in partnership with faith-based communities and homeless providers. The efforts will continue next year to build stronger support and to increase the participation of cities, neighbors and FBOs. For more information about how to volunteer and/or participate to any homeless-related event, please contact Bobbe Rockoff at [brockoff@co.marin.ca.us](mailto:brockoff@co.marin.ca.us).

**Adult Drug Court / Prop 36**, DJ Pierce – Prop. 36 funding has been eliminated by the Governor, which represents \$300,000 or one third of the treatments. With the help of the Criminal Justice Department Heads and the CAO's office, the Alcohol & Drug Court is looking at the number of people who are currently served through this system and trying to find/build after care services. An RFP recently went out for substance abuse treatment services and the court is waiting for the State budget.

**Mental Health**, Bruce Gurganus – Community Mental Health Services system is facing a worse case scenario of a \$2.5 million budget reduction this fiscal year. We have been in discussions about combining the specialty courts into one therapeutic or behavioral health court as a cost savings strategy.

**Budget update/HHS, Dr. Meredith** – We are looking at \$9 to 15 million in State budget cuts which leads us to look at the way we do things and see if they can be done differently. Our current service delivery system is based on revenue, with over 320 different sources of revenue - all with audit requirements - and we also need to balance our budget. At the same time, we are experiencing an increase in requests for Public Assistance and Employment Services, and we see more people who are under-insured or in need of psychiatric interventions. We will need to help our CBOs and the community realize what is happening. Conference committees seem to be the best case scenario for this.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Next meeting will be on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30-11:00 AM in the Rug Room #324.