

Criminal Justice Health Advisory Committee

DRAFT

Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2010

Present Supervisor Adams, Bruce Gurganus, Eric Engelbart, Heather Ravani, James Sellers (Bay Area Community Resources), Bobbe Rockoff, Julie Van Winkle, Larry Meredith, Mike Daly, Michael Mesmer (Building Better Families), Paula Glodowski, Laura Kantorowski, Kathryn Mitchell, Marsha Grant, Joe Spaeth, Jean Taylor, Jim Hickey, Corey Monge, S. Campbell, Susannah Clark

Next Meeting April 28, 2010 - 9:30-11:00 - Rug Room #324
Note: the CJBH committee meets quarterly on the 4th Wednesday.

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

- I. **Welcome And Introduction**
- II. **Minutes of October 21, 2009 meeting approved**
- III. **Updates**

Jail/Prison Issues – Jim Hickey from the Sheriff's Office reported on the developing jail re-entry program. Corey Monge, Trish Silas and Dave Augustus are handling the every day implementation of the program, which was started in August-September 2009. The program is designed to touch everyone in the jail who gets sentenced, and hopefully this will reduce the revolving door of people who are released only to return. Everyone in the jail sees a questionnaire (available in Spanish), meaning this program would touch 300 inmates. Program staff deals more closely with the people who respond to the questionnaire. The focus of the program is: the Probation Department takes over post release, but how can the Sheriff's Office prepare the inmates and increase the opportunities for a more productive outcome? Of the 100 packets given out, 39 responded to the questionnaire. The questionnaire asked 10 questions that help to identify needs and resources available to the inmate immediately upon release. Those people received tangible help in the form of rides, bus fare, and referrals to programs, treatment or shelter. Out of the 39, only 5 have come back in 6 months. The key to success is that the inmates get out right into some kind of support system, whether it is work, programs or shelter. Getting positively connected the first week is the biggest

indicator of a person's success in staying out of jail. The greatest challenges face those with mental health issues. The Sheriff's Office is working with STAR and the County Mental Health staff. BACR is also involved in the jail with everyone, except those in lock-down, around substance abuse issues. One of the purposes of this program was to address the "frequent flyers", the most notorious of whom is "JJ", "the Million Dollar Man". JJ is a local guy, a graduate of Terra Linda High in the 70's, and who at 52 has been incarcerated over 144 times for alcohol related offenses. In 2009 alone he spent 305 days in Marin County Jail. Working with the Public Defender here and in San Francisco, and BACR, they were successful in developing a discharge plan involving placement at Lytton Springs, a Salvation Army program in Healdsburg. As of this meeting, he has been sober 13 days, a record for him. Larry Meredith asked how HHS could be helpful, possibly through developing an integrated case management approach to those participating in the program. Would like to join at the back door of the jail. Marsha, will be the point person in the transition phase for the inmates. Heather Ravani asked if she could connect her eligibility staff as a resource. Susan Adams said this was a great example of working smarter in an interdepartmental way to address costly and avoidable impacts. Someone mentioned that Swords to Ploughshares is a program administered by the VA, working with people with dishonorable discharges from the military, however, sometimes there is a lapse in when a person can get into the program. Hopefully this program can help the inmates prepare for such a lapse and have other options plugged in for that crucial first week. Applause all around for this program, and its future. The Sheriff's Office would like to assign a full time deputy to administer the program on an ongoing basis, but given the budget challenges, that may not be possible. Alameda County has paid lobbyists advocating in DC for programs like this. We all need alternatives to just locking people up. If anyone wants to discuss this program further, Jim Hickey's direct line is 473-5115. (see attached packet)

Family Violence Court – Kit Mitchell reported that there was a graduation last week. There are successes and failures that everyone can learn from. The bottom line is the commitment of the DA, PD and PO Departments working together. Joe Spaeth mentioned that in the 4th phase of FVC, there will hopefully be more family treatment involved, although that has not yet been fully laid out. Michael Mesmer said that one problem he sees in the system is that the DA's office doesn't track from crime to care, so that it is hard to know what the success rate is for people who go through treatment as opposed to people who don't. In treatment they do track motivation and impulse control, but it would be important if anyone wants to go out for grant funding to have the data showing the success of the program. Mike Daly said that tracking is an issue with the technology available to the department; they are working on a software program that doesn't allow for this and it would be necessary to hand enter the data.

There was discussion following up on what was discussed at the October meeting of the seats on DVCC and whether there has been any movement to include additional members such as a representative from the batterers program. While it seems that the

County feels the Council needs to be more inclusive, there may be governance issues that would require a change in MAWS' bylaws.

Homelessness, Bobbe Rockoff reported on the rotating shelter program. No neighborhood problems have been reported since it started up 6-7 weeks ago. It is slated to run through March. They are turning away men every night due to the limited number of beds available, while the capacity for women seems to be underutilized. The issues that have been reported are that the number and intensity of the medical issues has increased over last year. There are only 4 medical respite beds in the shelters offered through Homeward Bound and they have had success in moving people into more stable settings. The cases involved in the rotating shelter are too complicated and disruptive for what was intended for the rotating shelters and what can be safely and effectively managed by on-site staff.

Lisa Sepahi is now in the Homelessness Analyst position and has someone helping with data management. Julie Van Winkle is writing a CMSP grant for single adults not covered by MediCal - focus will be linkages to benefits and SSI. A report on a housing framework has been completed, identifying the most feasible approaches to housing, challenges and opportunities, and will be reviewed with the Housing Authority and Community Development in the next 4-6 weeks. Regarding "the way forward" on a permanent shelter, a couple of large properties have been identified in Central San Rafael, (SB2 required zoned for a shelter). The San Rafael Planning Commission spoke to the need for a permanent shelter and was remarkably positive. Will San Rafael City Council approve the idea in concept? If so, the next challenge will be finding funding. Current thinking is that in some manner, Homeward Bound's Mill Street will be the basis of a new shelter. There has been a major shift in foundation funding support for Homeward Bound requiring the County to fill in. This creates significant barriers now for the County to fund a permanent shelter.

STAR / Prop 36 / Drug Court/Mental Health – Paula Glodowski and Bruce Gurganus of H&HS - Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Programs and Mental Health Division spoke about the collaborative justice programs. Paula Glodowski oversees Prop 36 cases and Adult Drug Court, which are currently managed in Judge Sweet and Commissioner Chernus' courtrooms respectively. It was announced by Dr. Larry Meredith that there is a plan to move the programs to Commissioner Chernus' Court in the near future. Judge Haakensen is handling STAR program related matters. There are a lot of moving parts due to the state furlough program and other budget issues, and consideration is being given to consolidate all of these cases to one day. Funding the substance abuse treatment behind the courts continues to be challenging given the state budget cuts and local budget cuts. For the STAR program, Marin Treatment Center was awarded a grant through a joint effort between Alcohol and Drug and The Division of Mental Health through a federal grant, but it is one time funding, making the

future uncertain. There are 52 people in the STAR program (75 before the budget cuts) and of those enrolled, 18 are in court proceedings. Drug & Alcohol is writing Federal grants due 2/11 and 2/23 for funding for substance abuse treatment in the collaborative courts. Prop 36/PC1210 State allocation is due in March-April. However, of this benefit will be short-term as it is one-time money which is set to expire in March, 2011.

Budget impacts in each department- State funding of Drug Court should remain. We will lose state funding for rehabilitation programs. This is why we are applying for federal funding through a grant. Bruce Gurganus: Officer Joel Fay has been assigned to beat duty and we will miss him. We hope to keep Deputy Josh Todt. Having a uniformed officer there when we make home visits is most useful. Susan Adams announced that she is visiting Sacramento soon to lobby legislators for additional funding. The Governor blew it when he promptly reduced the auto license fee as one of his first acts as the new governor. Schwarzenegger's ill planned reduction has had a serious financial impact on CA counties. Dr. Meredith presented some good news: the Sutter Foundation will allocate ten million dollars to the Marin Community Foundation to assist health clinics. The funding will be released to Marin's clinics at two million dollars a year. This money will allow Marin Community Clinic to pick up additional people in need. Also, this will provide leverage as the clinics seek federal funding.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:40 AM

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