



Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Realignment Planning Workgroup

Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2021

Zoom

CCP Realignment Planning Workgroup Members in Attendance:

Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer – Santa Barbara County Probation Department, Chair

Ethan Bertrand, 2nd District Representative

Pam Fisher, Ph.D., Acting Director – Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness

Tracy Macuga, Public Defender – Santa Barbara County Public Defender's Office

Julie Smedley for **Ray McDonald**, Executive Director – Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board

Paul Clementi, Principal Analyst – County of Santa Barbara County Executive Office

Mag Nicola, Chief Deputy District Attorney – Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office

Angela Braun for **Darrel Parker**, Court Executive Officer – Santa Barbara County Superior Court

Members Absent:

Michael Cash, Chief of Police – Guadalupe Police Department

Vincent Wasilewski, Chief Custody Deputy – Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office (SBSO)

Staff and Other Attendees:

Albers, Kimberlee, Community Services

Baldueza, Julius – Probation Department

Burns, Shana – Behavioral Wellness

Callahan, Kenneth – SBSO

Cross, Spencer – Probation Department

Ellsworth, Judge Sherrill – Consultant

Gibbs, Lynne – National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Grossi, Dana – Probation Department

Grossini, Jason – SBSO

Huddle, Kevin – SBSO

Lipman, Rachel – County Executive Office

Meza, Ben – Probation Department

Milligan, Karyn – Probation Department

Saafir, Emir – Probation Department

Savrnock, John – District Attorney's Office

Spevak, Noah – Probation Department

Wilson, Mike – Consultant

Zeitz, Laura – Behavioral Wellness

I. **Call to Order** – Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) Holly Benton

- The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. attendees provided self-introductions and roll call was taken.

II. **Approval of Minutes** – All

- A motion was made by Paul Clementi and seconded by Shana Burns to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2021, Community Corrections Partnership Realignment Planning Workgroup (CCP Workgroup) meeting as submitted.
 - A roll call vote was taken of the CCP Workgroup members present.
Ayes: 8
(Holly Benton, Ethan Bertrand, Pam Fisher, Tracy Macuga, Julie Smedley, Paul Clementi, Mag Nicola, Angela Braun)

Nays: 0
Abstention: 0

III. **Comments from the Chair** – DCPO Holly Benton

- No comments at this time.

IV. **COVID-Related Jail Release Data** – Research Manager Karyn Milligan

- An opportunity was provided for the group to ask additional questions before the proposed partnership with California Policy Lab (CPL) is taken to the CCP meeting in August for approval. Angela Braun commented that the data-sharing agreement is still being reviewed but believes there is still interest in the partnership. This will be a voting item on the CCP agenda in August to ensure the group agrees to move the partnership forward. Ethan Bertrand discussed the plan with Supervisor Hart, who mentioned the importance of interim data. Ethan then commended the Probation Department for their work on creating a Data Dashboard; DCPO Benton gave kudos to Karyn Milligan and John Kuo for their creation and implementation of the Dashboard.

V. **Felony Diversion** – Chief Deputy DA John Savrnoch

- John Savrnoch will be meeting with the Center for Court Innovation (CCI) on Thursday to define the parameters of the diversion program and to estimate the scope of work and timeline for CCI's participation.

VI. **Supportive Housing** – Probation Manager Spencer Cross

- June 2021 completed the second year of a two-year pilot program. The pilot targeted justice-involved individuals under community supervision by the Probation Department assessed at medium or high risk to recidivate and presented vulnerabilities such as health concerns and substance use challenges.
- In February of 2021, the Executive Committee of the CCP approved an ongoing allocation of \$400,000 to fund Supportive Housing to continue services for the targeted pilot population. The Good Samaritan Shelter (GSS) and The Salvation Army (SA) were selected as service providers. GSS in North County provides 14 beds, and SA in South County provides nine.
- Kimberlee Albers reported statistics for the housing program. 263 individuals were referred, with 154 total participants entering the program. Demographics such as age, race, self-reported conditions, and length of stay were also shared.
 - Tracy Macuga asked what conditions are used to determine non-compliance and what the referral process is. Spencer Cross replied continued drug use or relapse and fighting would be considered non-compliance. For referrals, anyone identified as housing insecure or transient is sent to SPO Malesich, who works directly with Miriam Moreno of Housing and Community Development (HCD). They coordinate availability and client location. Once approved, providers are notified of new clients.
 - Tracy also asked if the Hispanic population shown in race data is exclusively Spanish-speaking or just of Hispanic descent. Kimberlee replied that data is not available at the moment, but she can look into it.
 - Judge Ellsworth suggested brainstorming ideas for providing bed availability numbers to the sitting judges.

VII. **Crestwood MHRC Pilot Program** – Behavioral Wellness Acting Director Dr. Pam Fisher, Housing Services Manager Laura Zeitz, and Forensic Services Manager Shana Burns

- CCP agreed to provide funding for two forensic beds contracted between Behavioral Wellness and Crestwood. Referral protocol has been developed and was shared with the group for review before distribution to the courts. The primary goal for use of these forensic beds is to serve clients at the lowest level of care. Historically, the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) has been the only facility available but is designed for the most acute clients. The two contracted beds at Crestwood allow an additional option in a therapeutic, secured facility but do not require an acute level of care for restoration.
- DCPO Benton asked about the focus on ISTs as it was believed funding was approved for justice-involved individuals which included, but was not limited to ISTs. Laura Zeitz replied that frequently for misdemeanor ISTs judges have wanted or required these clients to be placed into a secure facility. With the PHF previously being the only option, many beds were occupied by misdemeanor ISTs and prevented PHF bed use for clients who required an acute level of care. The goal is to diminish the number of administrative stay days at the PHF for clients who are there solely because there is no other option for placement.

VIII. **New/Expanded Program Updates**

- **Neighborhood Court Pilot Program** – Chief Deputy District Attorney John Savrnoch
 - The Program Coordinator is busy training facilitators and working on provider agreements for classes. Dates need to be secured for training, and a notice is to be posted on the DA’s office website for volunteer peer counselors. Location and program time need to be finalized.
- **Mental Health Rehabilitation Center** – Department of Behavioral Wellness Dr. Fisher
 - Funding has been identified at the state level but at this time there are no details on how to apply for funding.
- **Holistic Defense** – Public Defender Tracy Macuga
 - Tabled to the next meeting.
- **Edovo Tablet Program** – Chief Custody Deputy Vincent Wasilewski
 - Tabled to the next meeting.

IX. **Criminal Justice Funding Opportunity Submissions**

- **Prison to Employment (P2E) Initiative** – Workforce Development Board Julie Smedley
 - There is approximately one year left, and the program is halfway to the overall enrollment goal of 38 clients, with 18 currently enrolled. Seven clients have completed Paid Work Experience (PWE), and seven have been placed into permanent employment. A benefit of contracting with Goodwill is they have many stores in which to employ participants. There will be additional funding allocated to P2E, but no further information about timelines yet.
 - In partnership with SBSO and local community colleges, the WDB applied for, and received a Pathway Home Grant. This was one of two grants awarded in California for \$2.5 million to serve 250 people transitioning out of jail by providing career-training opportunities while incarcerated and securing permanent employment while transitioning out of custody. The grant allows for a six-month start-up period with services anticipated to begin in January of 2022. The program will run for three years with one full year of follow-up to ensure those that have been through the program are still employed.
- **BJA Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Responses** – CEO’s Office Fiscal and Policy Analyst Rachel Lipman
 - SBSO, BeWell, and the CEO’s office discussed and decided not to apply, as this grant would not fund a full additional co-response team. Additionally, the deadline was quick; more time would have been needed to create a competitive proposal. Dr. Lee is actively looking for

grant opportunities that could bolster co-response. Unfortunately, the BJA opportunity was not the right one at the right time.

- **DSH Diversion (AB1810)** – Department of Behavioral Wellness Dr. Caitlin Lepore
 - Tabled to the next meeting.
- **CREDO 47** – Public Defender Tracy Macuga
 - Tabled to the next meeting.
- **COVID Relief Grant** – Department of Behavioral Wellness/Sheriff's Office
 - All contracts are set up and all funds must be spent by January 2022.

X. **Public Comment** – All

- No public comments.

XI. **Confirm Next Meeting for August 25, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. and Adjourn** – DCPO Holly Benton

Respectfully submitted by Lesley Stewart, Administrative Office Professional Senior