

MINUTES

Santa Barbara Criminal Justice Quality Assurance Committee

July 20, 2017

Santa Barbara County Probation Department
117 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, California

and via video at:

Santa Barbara County Probation Department
2121 S. Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria, California

In Attendance:

Kim Shean, Probation

Karyn Milligan, Probation

Carolyn Diaz, Probation

Katie Ward, Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office

Amy Lopez, Department of Behavioral Wellness

Meagan Edwards, Community Solutions, Inc.

Danielle Spain, Community Solutions, Inc.

Diane Esparza, Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Bret Reynolds, Good Samaritan

Christina Grabowsky, Sanctuary Centers

Rubayi Estes, Santa Barbara Foundation

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

I. Introductions – All

- Attendees provided self-introductions.

II. Updates from the Chair – Kim Shean

- Attendees were welcomed and appreciation for their ongoing commitment to the Criminal Justice Quality Assurance Committee (QA Committee) was extended by the Chair.

III. Review of May 18, 2017, Minutes – All

- The minutes of the May 18, 2017, QA Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

IV. Update Regarding Brown Bag Sessions with Facilitators – Karyn Milligan

- An initial brown bag brainstorming meeting was held in April, during which the following general areas of interest were identified:
 - Retain an open-house type of meeting structure within the County's system of treatment providers, which would allow for rotational hosting, opportunities for facility tours, and sharing of information regarding programming/curriculum, etc.

- Stage training and educational events on various topics, such as on evidence-based practices.
- Engage in activities that will promote enhanced partnerships and a stronger continuum of care; for example, host a reentry-focused resource fair for inmates.
- On June 15th Katie Ward hosted tours of the jail for 20 individuals and she provided them with an overview of the services offered to inmates.
- The next brown bag session will occur on August 24th at the Probation Report and Resource Center (PRRC) in Santa Maria and will be facilitated by Carolyn Diaz, who will share information about the services available to individuals who are transitioning from custody to the community.
- Announcements regarding training opportunities will be electronically disseminated.

V. **Jail Reentry; Continuum of Care** – Katie Ward

- Discussion was held regarding the following endeavors that are expected to compliment local reentry efforts:
 - Stepping Up Initiative: Santa Barbara County was designated as a participant in a national initiative focused on reducing the numbers of mentally ill individuals who are incarcerated. Related webinars will be recorded and offered for viewing as they become available.
 - Behavioral Sciences group in the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office: The group is collaborating with the Department of Behavioral Wellness to provide a more robust continuum of services. This effort is taking place in conjunction with the County's new contract with California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG).

VI. **Account of the Criminogenic Risk Assessment Training** – Karyn Milligan

- Sylvia Talaugon and Karyn Milligan presented on Criminogenic Risk Assessments to 20 participants on June 22nd. The training covered eight (8) evidence-based principles, with a focus on criminogenic risk assessment.
- Another session will be arranged for fall of 2017.

VII. **Overview of Process and Outcome Evaluation Efforts FY16-17** – Kim Shean and Karyn Milligan

- A synopsis was provided of the following process and outcome evaluation efforts anticipated for fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018:
 - Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) Engagement Study – UCSB will evaluate factors related to engagement in and benefit from MRT at the PRRCs in Santa Barbara County. It was noted that MRT has a high unsuccessful completion rate; therefore, the goal will be to identify and recommend ways to address potential barriers to treatment.
 - Mental Health Treatment Court (MHTC) Process Evaluation – a process evaluation of MHTC to be conducted by the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), which will be inclusive of feedback from clients and MHTC team members, and observations from evaluators.
 - Outcome Evaluation of the Substance Abuse Treatment Court (SATC) – analysis to include UCSB's observations of SATC team meetings and court sessions and review of data and surveys.

- Global Positioning System (GPS) Trial – Probation will partner with BetaGov to conduct a randomized control trial to determine the extent to which GPS impacts recidivism. This study builds upon the UCSB finding that there appears to be a reduction of recidivism for individuals receiving GPS immediately upon release from incarceration versus those that receive GPS as part of an intervention.

VIII. **Self-Assessment and Peer Review Update** – All

- Attendees shared updates and arranged for future peer reviews; Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA) will conduct a peer review of jail programs, and Sanctuary will perform a peer review on the delivery of Thinking for a Change (T4C) in the jail.
- The overall feedback regarding the self-assessment/peer review exercise was positive and there was agreement for the QA Committee to create a summary of the process and associated findings for use as a reference and learning tool.

IX. **Roundtable** – All

- Rubayi Estes: Thanked the QA Committee for their work.
- Christina Grabowsky: Conveyed enthusiasm for peer reviews and for Sanctuary Centers' collaboration with the jail, in which they work with medium- to high-risk inmates with co-occurring substance abuse/mental health issues towards the goal of building relationships prior to release; thus, paving the way for continued therapy and vocational training post release.
- Carolyn Diaz: Extended an invitation for participation in Probation's Bowling Tournament, which will be held on October 14th at Rancho Bowl in Santa Maria. Proceeds to benefit PRRC clients.
- Danielle Spain: Community Solutions, Inc. has initiated a recruitment for a position in Santa Barbara; qualifications include the need for an associate's or bachelor's degree.
- Bret Reynolds: Expressed gratitude for the jail tour and the criminogenic risk assessment training, and indicated that he would welcome additional training opportunities.
- Amy Lopez provided the following updates:
 - Staff from the Department of Behavioral Wellness will meet with justice partners regarding concern that treatment is being court-ordered and they will share language recommendations for court orders.
 - Work on the implementation of the Organized Delivery System (ODS) has continued; it was anticipated that ODS will be fully operational by FY 2018/2019.
 - Title 22 requires a new release of information for the provision and/or exchange of client information.
- Diane Esparza: July 20th will be the last day of CADA's MRT training. CADA representatives will connect with Good Samaritan and Sanctuary to arrange peer reviews.

X. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting** – All

- Attendees were encouraged to send suggested agenda items to the Chair for consideration prior to next meeting.

- The next QA Committee meeting will be held on September 21, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. via videoconference at the Probation Department's Santa Barbara and Santa Maria offices.
- The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

KM: PS