

**Reentry Steering Committee
(RSC)**

January 19, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, California

Participation by Teleconference pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b) was available at:

Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, California

RSC Members in Attendance:

Tanja Heitman - Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Jimmy Reyes, designee for Anthony Ivanich - California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Kim Shean, Co-Chair - Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Danielle Spain - Community Solutions, Inc.
Katie Ward, Co-Chair - Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office
Mark Mahurin, designee for Vincent Wasilewski - Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

RSC Absent Attendees:

Sylvia Barnard - Good Samaritan Shelter Services
Vacant - Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender
Vacant - Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness
John Savrnoch - Santa Barbara County Office of the District Attorney
Marsha Wright - Santa Barbara City College

Other Attendees:

Angela Braun - Santa Barbara County Superior Court
Carolyn Diaz - Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Elizabeth Krene - Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Laura Loes - Santa Barbara County Superior Court
Kristianne Clifford Schiel - Freedom to Choose Project

I. Call to Order/Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. and attendees provided self-introductions.

II. Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2016 RSC Meeting

- The draft minutes of the November 17, 2016, Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) meeting were approved as presented.

III. **Comments from Co-Chairs – Kim Shean and Katie Ward**

- Co-Chair Shean discussed the progress made towards development of the fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018 Realignment Plan. The County Executive Office (CEO) contracted with a consultant, JFA Institute, to create a strategic planning proposal for the County's Realignment Plan. The proposal was presented to the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) on December 9, 2016, at which time subcommittees were assigned to design new or enhanced programs that would be responsive to the noted gaps/recommendations and to draft corresponding budgets.
- Co-Chair Shean stated that the subcommittees will primarily focus on issues related to pre-trial release, enhancement of Jail programming, transitional housing, and forensic beds for the mentally ill justice-involved population. A report to CCP is scheduled for the February 2017 CCP meeting.
- Tanja Heitman announced that the CEO is leading an effort to apply for Proposition 47 (Prop. 47) grant funding to focus on diversion from Jail for individuals with mental health and substance use issues. The following two-pronged project is being considered:
 1. Use of beds at the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) as an "in lieu of jail" option
 2. Expansion of Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
- Tanja Heitman announced that the CCP has considered identification of the RSC as the proposed oversight committee for the Prop.47 project. Responsibilities may include review of the grant application, as well as monitoring of funding and guidance for ongoing program needs. Continued discussions at the CCP level will occur to explore the feasibility and a status report will be delivered to the RSC at the next meeting.
- Tanja Heitman discussed the need for increased community involvement in the RSC; i.e., more community based organizations (CBO), community activists, and consumers of current programming. RSC enhancement would be furthered via involvement of people who have received substance abuse services, were formerly incarcerated, ex-offenders, etc.
- Jimmy Reyes announced Parole is starting a "Lifer Peer" group. The group meets at San Luis Obispo Parole once per month towards the goal of supporting other justice-involved individuals in the community through programming and personal successes. This may serve as a potential resource for the Prop. 47 Committee.

IV. **Overview of Pre-Trial Services (PTS) Program – Angela Braun and Laura Loes**

- Angela Braun circulated a flyer announcing the Pre-trial Awareness Workshop scheduled for January 26, 2017. This informational workshop will serve as an educational discussion about the pre-trial movements occurring across the nation and will introduce the positive and innovative changes coming to Santa Barbara County's pre-trial release program.
- The Superior Court is in a finalizing phase of the PTS program; the supervised release program. Development is being facilitated through a sub-committee of the CCP. A draft will be submitted to the CCP Workgroup and will include a proposed budget for supervised pre-trial release and software implementation for the PTS unit for tracking and effective statistical analysis. The software will include a texting notification component to remind justice-involved individuals of court dates and other obligations associated to their release.
- Efforts have continued to ensure the software can capture appropriate data to determine pre-trial eligibility. PTS is working closely with the Jail to identify appropriate candidates.

V. **Jail Discharge Planning – Katie Ward**

- According to the aforementioned JFA report, discharge planning is a passive process which relies on inmates and others to submit requests for discharge services. It is recognized that inmates are often pressured by fellow inmates not to complete the discharge planning packets, or paperwork

of any sort. While Jail staff and teams of discharge planners frequently walk the Jail to provide the application to the inmates, there are gaps in receiving the completed paperwork. The Jail implemented a system whereby inmates can also apply for identification (ID) cards free of charge for inmates being released.

- Co-Chair Ward discussed “Root & Rebound” program based out of Alameda County, which created a reentry document entitled, *Roadmap to Reentry*. This resource guide, which can be accessed at <http://www.rootandrebound.org/roadmap>, includes helpful links and forms for inmates coming out of jail.
- Carolyn Diaz discussed the efforts being made by Deputy Probation Officers to resolve communication issues as offenders are being moved out of County, especially when the Court orders release and placement without notice.

VI. Day Reporting Center (DRC) Report – Danielle Spain

- Danielle Spain stated that a dip in admissions was experienced during the late summer due to staffing changes.
- Jimmy Reyes reported that California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is utilizing the Counseling and Psychology Centers of America to provide treatment for sex offenders in San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, and Oxnard.

VII. Update Regarding Current Jail Programming and North County Jail Project – Katie Ward

- Co-Chair Ward announced the tentative opening of the new Jail as being Spring 2019.
- The Jail Programming Subcommittee is reviewing current programming and considering possible expansion and partnering with other County members (Workforce Development), as well as ways to serve more inmates with intensive programming.
- Work has progressed on a pilot program with Freedom to Choose to identify the appropriate population and bring in services to the Jail.

VIII. Community Engagement – Katie Ward

- Co-Chair Ward discussed a need to involve more community members in the reentry efforts. As an example, San Diego has a strong advocacy group for offenders led by community activists. In an effort to expand evidence-based practices, increased community participation is needed.
- Tanja Heitman suggested extending an invitation to CBOs to participate in a group discussion at the March RSC meeting. The discussion should include ideas of what the CBOs would like to see from the RSC.

IX. Public Comment

- Jimmy Reyes shared that CDCR staff are looking forward to the new Northern County Jail in Santa Maria. He indicated that CDCR remains uncertain of the impacts that Proposition 57 (Prop. 57) will have to their current caseloads.

X. Confirm Next Meeting and Adjourn – Kim Shean and Katie Ward

- The next RSC meeting will be held on March 16, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the Santa Barbara County District Attorney’s (DA) Office, 112 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California. Participation via teleconference will be available at the Santa Barbara County DA’s Office, 312-D East Cook Street, Santa Maria, California.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Marchbanks, Administrative Office Professional, Senior