

**Reentry Steering Committee
(RSC)**

January 17, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

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

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

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

RSC Members in Attendance:

Sylvia Barnard, Good Samaritan Shelter Services
James Friedrich designee for Kim Shean, Santa Barbara County Probation Department
John Lewis, Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness
Ricardo Ramirez designee for Anthony Ivanich, California Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Deirdre Smith, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

RSC Members Absent:

Anthony Ivanich, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Christina Kelley, Changes Outpatient Wellness Center
Tracy Macuga, Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender
Eddie Perez, Impact Ministries
John Savrnoch, Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office
Kim Shean, Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Vincent Wasilewski, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office
Paloma Arnold, Santa Barbara City College

Other Attendees:

Julius Baldueza, Santa Barbara County Probation
Barton Clark, Santa Barbara County Probation
Michael Heck, Community Solutions, Inc.
Ray McDonald, Workforce Development Board
Alejandra Ochoa, Santa Barbara County Probation
Kristianne Schell, Community Solutions, Inc.

I. Call to Order/Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. and attendees provided self-introductions.

II. Approval of Minutes from September 20, 2018, RSC Meeting

- The draft minutes of the September 20, 2018, Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was submitted by Probation Manager James Friedrich and seconded by Deirdre Smith. Minutes approved, via vote, as presented.

III. **Comments from Co-Chairs – Deirdre Smith**

- Deirdre Smith expressed excitement to be the Co-Chair of the Reentry Steering Committee; this was her first meeting as Co-Chair.

IV. **Prison to Employment Initiative – Ray McDonald**

- Ray McDonald, Executive Director from the Workforce Development Board, handed out a packet regarding the Prison to Employment Initiative. Mr. McDonald briefly discussed the history of the board. The board is a private/public partnership that receives national funding to allocate job seekers with employment. The board also participates in gang prevention programs for youth. During the summer the Department of Labor funded a \$2 million program in Santa Maria that provided 260 youth with employment. Governor Brown allocated \$37 million from the General Fund to the workforce system to get involved with the justice involved individuals. Funding will be allocated between 14 regional planning groups. The Central Coast Regional group consists of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and Santa Cruz Counties. It is estimated that the Central Coast Regional group will receive \$1.4 to \$1.6 million in funding that will be dispersed in two cycles; round one in April 2019 and the second in July 2019 that will serve 240 estimated participants region wide. The goal of the Prison to Employment initiative is to collaborate with other partnerships like the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) in connecting justice involved individuals with employment. The target population would be all justice involved and formerly incarcerated individuals, both male and female offenders. The criteria in the selection process is under development. The outcome of the workforce grant is for the individual to successfully enter, participate, and complete the workforce education programs to gain and retain employment in the local workforce.

V. **Jail Programming – Deirdre Smith**

- Deirdre Smith handed out jail programming information currently being offered at the Santa Barbara County Jail. The Sheriff's Treatment Program (STP) is an evidence based program provided to moderate to high risk offenders. The STP is a group intervention consisting of approximately 10 to 20 in all classes. Inmates in the program participate in approximately 120 hours of classroom instruction while incarcerated.
- Deirdre announced a partnership with Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) now offering two, six-week semesters that will be offered to the general inmate population and protective custody male and female inmates. Courses being offered are GED classes, Stress Management, Career Planning, a variety of Personal Development classes, and ServSafe Certificate.
- The STP participants are also participating in the Prison Yoga project that is now offered to both male and female inmates.
- Partnership with United Way and First Five program now offering a Healthy Relationship class that will be offered in Spring 2019 to both male and female inmates. If the program is successful it will be converted to a parenting program.
- The Edovo tablet program is offered to inmates who do not participate in STP programming. The tablets offer educational programs providing inmates with an opportunity to earn certificates. Inmates can earn time towards entertainment based on the amount of time spent on educational programs.
- Deirdre is looking into partnering with Allan Hancock College (AHC) in offering GED, Personal Development courses, and Vocational Training programs. The Santa Maria Humane Society will be offering a Dog Training program that AHC may potentially become a certificate program. Deirdre is working on modifying the curriculum to parallel programming offering inmates

programs offered at the Probation Report and Resource Center (PRRC) and Day Reporting Centers (DRC).

- Sylvia Barnard from Good Samaritan Services shared about the Nurturing Parenting program offered at the Good Sam provided by CALM.
 - Deirdre will be connecting with Sylvia Barnard to inquire further on this program.

VI. **Jail Discharge Planning** – Barton Clark

- Probation Supervisor Barton Clark discussed the results of a Jail Discharge summit that took place in December 2018. The team was in agreement with the collaboration between the Jail Assessors and the Discharge Planners has been very beneficial in serving the incarcerated population. One of the challenges experienced by the team has been that there are two discharge planning vacancies, which has made it difficult to fully serve the inmate population. Another challenge that the team has been experiencing is with the new Organized Delivery System (ODS) for Drug and Alcohol Services. Inmates have not been able to call the access line and gain services. John Lewis from Behavior Wellness discussed implementing the new ODS has been problematic for the inmate population and Behavioral Wellness is working on possibly creating a direct line for inmates.

VII. **Day Reporting Center (DRC) Report** – Michael Heck

- Michael Heck from Community Solutions Inc (CSI) handed out the quarterly report for the Santa Maria and Santa Barbara Day Reporting Centers. In Santa Barbara, 69 referrals were received, 24 individuals were admitted, and 19 were discharged. In Santa Maria 46 referrals were received, 38 individuals were admitted, and 34 were discharged. Michael discussed the individual has 30-days from admission to engage in the program, or the individual would have to be discharged without prejudice. There are no sanctions for no programming. Michael discussed the discharge status report and explained the different types of successful and unsuccessful discharge reasons.
 - Sylvia Barnard suggested adding the total number of admitted individuals starting the beginning of the quarter.

VIII. **Overview of Pre-Trial Services (PTS) Program** – Alejandra Ochoa

- Supervising Probation Officer Alejandra Ochoa briefly discussed the history of Pre-Trial Service (PTS) program. The Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument (VPRAI) predicts the risk of reoffending, and the probability of appearance to the next court hearing. Subsequently, the Superior Court, Own Recognizance (OR) Unit makes a recommendation to the Court to either release the client from jail on their own recognizance or release with a supervision component. A VPRAI risk levels of one (1) to nine (9) the OR unit will recommend PTS supervision or the defendant remains in custody.

The Probation Department's PTS team is currently staffed with four Pre-Trial Compliance Officers; two in North County and two in South County. Due to the increase of cases each regional office now has a low risk caseload of 40:1, and a high risk caseload of 20:1. Alejandra handed out the Pre-Trial Services Report for both supervised and investigation population. The investigations component was implemented in the beginning of the program. If the Own Recognizance (OR) recommended the individual was potentially eligible for Pre-trial Services, Probation would conduct a follow up investigation and provide a recommendation to the court indicating whether or not the individual was suitable to be released under OR. The investigations component is not a mandated component for Probation, subsequently an email was sent to the Judges clarifying when a supplemental report should be requested and clarifying what the Pre-trial Compliance Officer (PTCO) will do.

The supervision component of the handout demonstrates the numbers of how many cases were received, how many entered the program, and how many exited each month. PTCOs write warrants, GPS monitoring and write progress reports with the goal of guiding the defendant towards successful completion and get them to appear for their court hearings.

IX. Santa Barbara County 2-1-1– Julius Baldueza

- Mr. Baldueza provided an update 211 Probation Portal access point on their website for adult probationers to access resources available to them in the county. The portal access was launched on December 15, 2018; it will provide offenders with 24hr telephone and text access in 150 languages. The text component that will give staff the ability to text offenders information regarding job fairs, housing opportunities, counseling services, and shelter availability. Julius demonstrated what the website looks like; the icon is “Returning from Jail/Prison.” More information about the 2-1-1 website can be found at <https://211santabarbaracounty.org/>

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X. Public Comment

- None provided.

XI. Confirm Next Meeting, March 14, 2019 and Adjourn – Kim Shean

- The next RSC meeting will be held on March 14, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at the Santa Barbara County Probation Department, 117 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California. Participation via teleconference will be available at the Santa Barbara County Probation Department, 2121 S. Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria, California.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Valdez, Administrative Office Professional, Senior