

**Reentry Steering Committee / Quality Assurance Committee
(RSC/QA)**

January 16, 2020

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

Amy Lopez, designee for John Lewis, Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness

Carrie Paine, Community Solutions Inc.

Eddie Perez, Impact Prison Ministry

Kimberly Shean, Santa Barbara County Probation

Vincent Wasilewski, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

RSC Members Absent:

Paloma Arnold, Santa Barbara City College

Christina Kelly, Changes Outpatient Wellness Center

Anthony Ivanich, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Tracy Macuga, Santa Barbara County Public Defender

John Savrnoch, Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office

Deirdre Smith, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

Other Attendees:

Julius Balduenza, Santa Barbara County Probation

Jennifer Barretto, Community Solutions Inc./Probation Report and Resource Center

Kelly Berger, Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Erica Bottorff, Santa Barbara County Public Defender's Office

Angela Braun, Santa Barbara Superior Court

Gabriela Dodson, Family Services Agency

Esteban Enriquez, Santa Barbara Superior Court

Diane Esparza, Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Manuel Garcia, Allan Hancock College/ Beyond Incarceration Greater Education

Christina, Grabowsky Viani, Sanctuary Centers

Michael Heck, Community Solutions Inc.

Kevin Lynch, Racy Ming Associates

Cynthia MacDuff, Family Service Agency

Karyn Milligan, Santa Barbara County Probation

Nicole Oldendick, Community Action Commission

Cheech Raygoza, Allan Hancock College/Beyond Incarceration Greater Education

Bret Reynolds, Good Samaritan Shelters

Peggy Still, Community Solutions Inc.

Sylvia Talaugon, Santa Barbara County Probation

I. Call to Order/Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. and attendees made self-introductions.

II. **Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2019, and November 21, 2019, RSC Meetings**

- The draft minutes of the September 19, 2019, and November 21, 2019, Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) meetings were reviewed. A quorum was not present at this time; the approval will be carried over to the meeting on March 19, 2020.

III. **Comments from Co-Chairs – Kim Shean**

- The co-chairs Kim Shean and Deirdre Smith have discussed refreshing RSC membership as many voting members have not been attending for an extended period of time and it is holding up voting items as there rarely is a quorum. It has been decided that membership positions are not tied to agencies or community entities, for example, a voting member position held by a SBCC representative would not be immediately replaced by another SBCC representative, the vacated position would be open to anyone for application.
- The co-chairs will be sending out emails in the coming month to request formal applications for anyone interested in becoming a voting member. Applications will be reviewed at the RSC meeting in March and the group will submit their decisions to CCP for final vote.
- The CCP workgroup is designing the budget for 2021 and will be going to CCP on February 6, 2020, to propose their budget for approval at which point work will begin on designing the full realignment plan for 2021.

IV. **Holistic Defense – Erica Bottorff**

- Holistic Defense is in its third year of implementation in Santa Barbara County. It was initiated as a partnership with Family Service Agency to bring social workers onto the Public Defender's team to serve as defense advocates. Advocates serve to identify and address the underlying medical, legal, and mental issues that lead someone into the justice system. They also help clients navigate the legal system and identify needs and coordinate resources as they transition back into the community.
- In the Holistic Defense practice, reentry begins at the time of arrest. Advocates provide unique skills that differ from typical social work, they perform biopsychosocial assessments, identify factors contributing to fair sentencing, and educate attorneys about mental health conditions to help develop case theory. The objective is to provide psychoeducation to clients as well as the community to shift the way all agencies are practicing.
- The program began with one full time social worker and the partnership with Family Service Agency allowed the addition of two additional social workers and four graduate level interns with funding from various sources and grants. One grant received last year allowed the addition of a full time social worker specifically for female clients to focus on the issues unique to women's needs like human trafficking, torture, and adverse childhood experiences.

V. **Jail Programming – Vince Wasilewski**

- Currently in talks with Allan Hancock College to bring formalized education to the North Branch Jail, as well as various trade unions for vocational studies.
- Still in communication with the Santa Maria Valley Humane Society for dog training, with the goal of socializing animals to find their forever homes.
- The Sheriff's Treatment Program is going to expand into the North Branch once open which, as of right now, looks like it should be ready for inmates over the summer. Due to contractor availability the completion and opening date keeps changing.

- Dr. Gary Christensen and Kevin Warwick will be brought out in February to talk about their Applied Correctional Transition Strategy (ACTS) program that works online to track inmate's programming, classification, and recidivism rates. It is a one stop shop for data retrieval and reporting that the jail has had for years but has previously been unable to integrate with the jail management system.
- Edovo tablets continue to be a well-received educational tool. There currently are 180 tablets that inmates may use to complete online training for various topics like self-help or education. Use of the tablets is incentivized, inmates can earn up to 42 days off their sentences for 80 hours of training.

VI. Probation Report and Resource Center (PRRC) Utilization – Kim Shean

- Kim Shean noted Probation has two Probation Report and Resource Centers (PRRC) located in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria. The PRRCs are available to any medium or high-risk individuals seeking assistance. As of July 1, 2019, individuals released from custody have been directed to report directly to the PRRC prior to meeting with their probation officer.
- Handouts were provided with PRRC statistics covering October 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019 for both Santa Barbara and Santa Maria locations.

VII. Overview of Pre-trial Services (PTS) Program – Sylvia Talaugon

- As of December 30, 2019, the Pre-trial Services program has transitioned from the Court to Probation. On the supervision side, the program employs six Pre-trial Compliance Officers, three each in North and South County as well as one supervisor. These officers are assigned to supervise offenders that are released on supervised pretrial release with court imposed conditions such as: monitoring SCRAM, tracking GPS, writing court reports, and making recommendations as to whether supervision should be reduced or increased according to performance. These offices screen 130 to 150 clients per month who are released based on their risk score which is calculated based on risk of recidivism and failure to appear.
- The assessment side was formerly known as Own Recognizance, Bail Reduction (ORBR) with the Court. We assumed oversight of six staff who have transitioned from the Court and are now Pre-trial Services Specialists, an additional two have been hired with three positions yet to be filled. The specialists are currently housed in the Juvenile Services building on Hollister for ease of access to the County Jail for conducting interviews. Once the north branch jail is complete the specialists will be set there for post release interviews.
- The program received a \$1.6 million grant, over two years, from the Judicial Council to expand the Pre-trial unit, a new position for mental health navigator will be added, interviews are being conducted at the end of the month with Community Based Organizations who have submit their Request for Proposals. This position will work closely with the Pre-trial Officers to ensure any clients needing supplemental mental health treatment will receive all the assistance they need. A goal of the grant is within the next few months, everyone booked into the jail will be assessed within 24 hours, unless they have a no bail probation or parole hold, an out of county warrant, or are in for first degree murder. The program is also looking at a pre-arraignment release process for those who are low risk and booked for misdemeanors that do not involve violence. Data will be provided to the Judicial Council on a quarterly basis.

VIII. Day Reporting Center (DRC) Report – Carrie Paine

- Kim Shean provided an overview of the DRC which are overseen by the Sheriff's department in partnership with Community Solutions Inc. for offenders exiting prison who go to state parole instead of probation.
- Handouts were provided with DRC statistics for the second quarter of FY 2019-2020 covering October 2019 through December 2019 for both Santa Barbara and Santa Maria locations as well as the programming currently offered.
- Carrie mentioned that over the holiday season there were opportunities for clients to take a break and bring their families in to celebrate as a community center and now everyone is ready for a fresh start to the New Year.

IX. Community Engagement Initiative – Karyn Milligan and Kevin Lynch

- Karyn Milligan introduced Consultant Kevin Lynch of Racy Ming Associates, our new Community Engagement Coordinator. After the consultant, Dr. Austin, was hired to assess the County, it was identified that community engagement was a gap that needed to be addressed. Now, the CCP annually allocates up to \$100 thousand to a Community Based Organization to engage the residents and community of Santa Barbara County.
- Kevin Lynch identifies his role as two main objectives, the first, facilitating conversation and communication among service providers and community groups. The second, raising awareness of the challenges of the population of Santa Barbara County, with the ultimate goal of ensuring services are effective, available, and accessible. At this point in the initiative, Kevin is reviewing documents, observing meetings, and talking with agencies and organizations to familiarize himself with the county.

X. Quality Assurance Updates

A. QA Process Review – Julius Baldueza

- Julius is continuing to complete on-site fidelity visits, most have been focused on PRRCs and he still needs to visit Coast Valley Substance Abuse Treatment Center in Lompoc. He will also be conducting on-site visits for sober living environments later this month. A reminder to complete peer-to-peer fidelity visits, these are due June 30, 2020. Please, visit a partnering agency with the same curriculum and complete a fidelity check list, if you have trouble finding a partner please let Julius know.

B. Contract Monitoring – Julius Baldueza

- A new summary services worksheet is being developed for Juvenile Services. The juvenile vendors will be provided with a summary sheet to verify clients in program and statistics to be completed monthly. Adult Services will go through same exercise, if there have been changes to performance measures in contracts then the summary services worksheets will be updated to reflect those changes.

C. Brown Bag Update – Julius Baldueza

- A handout was provided with the remaining Brown Bag dates scheduled for this fiscal year.
- The next meeting is February 13th with the Good Samaritan Shelter who will be conducting a tour of their supportive housing in Santa Maria along with a discussion of services available.
- If you have any ideas or recommendations for meetings topics and locations for next year please feel free to share.

XI. Roundtable and Public Comments - All

- Amy Lopez shared dates for upcoming Behavioral Wellness training, the next course will be Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in February, followed by Harm Reduction in March, ASAM in April, and Co-Occurring Disorders in May. Anyone is welcome to register, classes are free to attend. If you are interested please contact Amy, she will send out the list of training dates to Lesley Stewart to distribute to the RSC mailing list. Behavioral Wellness will be hiring Alcohol and Drug Program Care Coordinators that will fill roles similar to the Mental Health Navigator position discussed earlier.
- Sylvia Barnard shared that Good Samaritan Shelters in partnership with Behavioral Wellness and the Public Defender's Office, are working on a sober center with ten beds that should hopefully be open by the end of the month. This center will be open Thursdays through Mondays allowing 24 hour stays for jail diversion and/or public intoxication. Good Sam will also be opening step down housing in partnership with BeWell and Family Service Agency. This will be a 20 bed facility with three houses for males and one for females, for low risk offenders who will be able to stay up to a year.
- Kelly Berger of the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse's Project Recovery shared that they have secured dates for Moral Reconciliation Therapy training February 18th to 21st but are still looking for locations.
- Eddie Perez of Impact Prison Ministry thanked everyone for the work that they are doing in this community, as a former inmate, he never had the experience of seeing so many people wanting to help the incarcerated and treating them as fellow humans and not just numbers.

XII. Confirm Next Meeting, March 19, 2020, and Adjourn – Kim Shean

- The next RSC meeting will be held on March 19, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. at the Santa Barbara County Probation Department, 117 E. Carrillo 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 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lesley Stewart, Administrative Office Professional, Senior