

**Reentry Steering Committee
(RSC)**

September 20, 2018

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:

Don Deming, designee for Sylvia Barnard, Good Samaritan Shelter Services
Tracy Macuga, Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender
Eddie Perez, Impact Ministries
Kim Shean, Santa Barbara County Probation Department
Deirdre Smith, Community Solutions, Inc.
Vincent Wasilewski, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

RSC Members Absent:

Paloma Arnold, designee for Marsha Wright, Santa Barbara City College
Anthony Ivanich, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Christina Kelley, Changes Outpatient Wellness Center
John Lewis, Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness
John Savrnoch, Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office
Katie Ward, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office

Other Attendees:

Joseph A. Adams, Allan Hancock College
Angela Braun, Santa Barbara Superior Court
Erica Bottorff, Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender
Barton Clark, Santa Barbara County Probation
Gabriela Dodson, Family Services Agency
Laura Fairbanks, Family Services Agency- Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender
James Friedrich, Santa Barbara County Probation
Lynne Gibbs, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) /Families Act
Michael Heck, Community Solutions, Inc.
Karyn Milligan, Santa Barbara County Probation
Elisa Pardo, Community Action Commission 2-1-1
Kristianne Schell, Community Solutions, Inc.
Ryan Sullivan, Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office
Sylvia Talaugon, Santa Barbara County Probation
Juan Valdez, Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office
Jan Winter, Behavioral Wellness Commission/NAMI
Tona Wakefield, Santa Barbara County Office of the Public Defender

I. Call to Order/Introductions

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

II. Approval of Minutes from July 19, 2018, RSC Meeting

- The draft minutes of the July 19, 2018, Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was submitted by SBSO Chief Vincent Wasilewski and seconded by Deirdre Smith. Minutes approved, via vote, as presented.

III. Comments from Co-Chairs – Kim Shean

- Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) Kim Shean announced the Probation Department is accepting applications for two positions sitting on the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). These positions are voting members that have two-year terms. The first position is for a representative from a community-based organization with experience in successfully providing rehabilitative services to persons who have been convicted of a criminal offense. The second position is for an individual that represents the interest of victims. Those interested in applying or want more information are asked to please contact Executive Assistant, Melanie Davis, of the Probation Department or the Probation Department's Facebook page and website.
- DCPO Shean welcomed Kristianne Schell from Community Solutions Inc (CSI). She has filled the position funded by realignment that focuses on enhancing community engagement between government agencies and community-based organizations to better collaborate when working with justice involved individuals. Probation manager Karyn Milligan is overseeing the project. Updates regarding the position will be provided at future meetings.

IV. Holistic Defense –Tracy Macuga

- Public Defender Tracy Macuga discussed the difference between traditional public defense and holistic defense. She provided that in 1997 she learned about Robin Steinberg, a lawyer who founded the holistic defense approach. Holistic defense is a model of representation designed to identify barriers that can prevent a client from being successful while providing the client with legal assistance and help to overcome identified barriers. At the time of arraignment, a client is connected with a holistic defense team that consists of a lawyer, an advocate, a resource specialist, and an investigator. Data regarding clients participating in the study will be available in December.
- Deputy Public Defender Erica Bottorff further discussed the components of holistic defense indicating holistic defense is an interdisciplinary and community-based model that collaborates with other agencies. At the time of arraignment, a client is connected with a holistic defense team, the social work team will conduct a social assessment to identify the barriers a client may be facing. In Santa Barbara the holistic defense study started in 2017, 82 treatment group clients and 300 control group clients are participating. She spoke about a justice involved individual that participated in the study and successfully engaged with the holistic team. The participant had been in the military and suffered an injury, the participant became addicted to opiates resulting in a heroin addiction, in addition the individual had been involved in a gang culture environment. Once the individual was connected with the holistic team, they were able to engage with him and his family assessing a readiness for change the team provided him with a plan for transport, and a long-term treatment plan. Once the individual completed his one-year treatment plan, he was able to regain his driver's and construction license, gained employment, successfully terminated Probation early, and is now working with law enforcement at his county of residence with gang prevention at elementary schools.

- DCPO Shean suggested the Holistic Defense team examine and consider integrating with the Jail Discharge planning team.

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

- Probation Supervisor (SPO) Barton Clark distributed information regarding the Jail Discharge Planning and its process. The team is comprised of two Deputy Probation Officers (DPO), and representatives from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Good Samaritan Shelter. The team coordinates services to assist offenders while in custody. The DPOs also review parole and PRCS revocations with offenders and complete the Prohibited Persons Relinquishment Form associated with firearms with offenders, which began in January 1, 2018. Barton indicated approximately 1800 requests for discharge planning has been received this year. Referrals come from family members, the inmate themselves, attorneys, judges, and probation officers. Referrals must go through the Jail Assessor for review and assignment. The Jail Assessor enters the inmate information into the Jail Discharge Planning database. All inmates exiting the jail are eligible to receive some level of assistance based on the offender's level of risk and needs, as determined by the Initial Screening Tool (IST) and the Risk of Violence and Recidivism (ROVAR).
- DCPO Shean invited the holistic defense team to the Discharge Planning Team summit meeting set for December 13, 2018.

VI. **Day Reporting Center (DRC) Report** – Deirdre Smith

- Deirdre Smith announced accepting a position at the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office and her last day at the Santa Barbara DRC with CSI, Inc. is September 21, 2018.
- Ms. Smith distributed a handout regarding the number of clients served in both Santa Barbara and Santa Maria as of July and August 2018. In Santa Barbara 48 clients were served, 36 referrals were received, 16 individuals were admitted, 34 were a no-show or declined services, 18 were discharged. In Santa Maria 89 clients were served, 26 referrals were received, 29 individuals were admitted, one (1) was a no-show or declined services, and 39 were discharged.
- Michael Heck from Community Solutions, Inc (CSI) discussed the initiative and goal of the Hayward Lumber project in Santa Maria. The initiative is to help justice involved individuals in obtaining entry level jobs and transition into a career. Once an individual obtains the skills necessary to obtain employment and then finds employment, it has been noticed that the individual may be having a hard time making it a long term career opportunity. It's been determined that social and economic sustainability needs to happen at the same time in order for the individual to be successful in obtaining a long term career. The program would partner with community-based business owners and collaborate with one another to ensure that the individual is successful in their work performance. It's been about a year since the program has been initiated and, so far, one graduate gained a promising career with a contractor now making \$42 dollars an hour. Two more are expected to graduate in the next couple months. The goal is to get more community based businesses participating in the program. So far CSI, Inc. has been approached by Corning in Goleta who has agreed to hire individuals and transport people in North County to and from work as well as provide them lunch. Hardy Diagnostics is also interested in a one year apprenticeship program for justice involved individuals.

VII. **Probation Report and Resource Center (PRRC)** – James Friedrich

- Probation Manager James Friedrich handed out the Probation Report and Resource program guides for Santa Maria and Santa Barbara and quarterly data regarding referrals received, as well as a menu of services provided at the Probation Report and Resource Centers (PRRC).

- DCPO Shean shared the quarterly data demonstrates a decline in referrals coming in as well as retention issues in Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT). MRT is an evidence-based, cognitive behavioral treatment program focused on substance abuse that targets recidivism reduction, and is designed to facilitate the development of higher stages of moral reasoning. The data demonstrated more retention issues in Santa Barbara compared to Santa Maria. DCPO Shean indicated a need to regroup to come up with a comprehensive plan on how the Probation Department could focus on this issue. Karyn Milligan added for MRT specifically the department has funded a small evaluation study through UCSB to identify why people are unsuccessful and what worked for those that were successful.

VIII. **RSC Co-Chair Membership Change** – Kim Shean

- A motion was made by Chief Vincent Wasilewski and seconded by DCPO Shean to request that the CCP approve the appointment of Dierdre Smith as Co-Chair of the RSC, a vote was taken, and the motion passed. The proposed appointment will be submitted to the CCP meeting scheduled October 12, 2018 for final approval of the Co-Chair appointment.

IX. **Overview of Pre-Trial Services (PTS) Program** – Sylvia Talaugon

- Kim discussed the Pre-Trial reform in California. The governor has signed a bill that will abolish Bail effective October 1, 2019. Kim handed out the Pretrial Services Program update for the month of August 2018. The data demonstrated 459 defendants were processed by the Santa Barbara County Pretrial Services (SBPTS). The data also demonstrated the Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument (VPRAI) results for the 257 defendants interviewed by Pre-Trial Services. The tool 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.
- Probation Manager Sylvia Talaugon 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 therefore the Own Recognizance (OR) Unit has resumed that component. 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. The Probation Department's PTS team is currently staffed with four Pre-Trial Compliance Officers; two in North County and two in South County; the positions are funded by realignment.
- SPO Barton Clark acknowledged Manager Sylvia Talaugon and the whole Pre-Trial team for their amazing work.

X. **Santa Barbara County 2.1.1 Presentation & Discussion of Services** – Karyn Milligan & Elisa Pardo

- Probation Manager Karyn Milligan informed staff the Community Action Commission (CAC) and their 211 group are looking to create a Probation Portal access point on their website for adult probationers to access resources available to them in the county. It will provide offenders with 24hr telephone access in multiple languages. It may include a text component that will give staff the ability to text offenders information regarding job fairs, housing opportunities,

counseling services, and shelter availability. The portal is expected to launch by the end of the year.

- Elisa Pardo from CAC gave a presentation on 211 services and the history of the program; 211 is a comprehensive information and referral system connecting people quickly and effectively to health and human services, disaster relief and public information. Santa Barbara County's 211 was implemented in 2005 and, as of 2014, it is a program under CAC of Santa Barbara County. Elisa indicated the demographics of individuals calling are between the ages 30 and 54, and the highest needs of the caller for mental health, addiction, and housing needs. The 211 call centers assist during emergency situations as most recently experienced with the natural disasters our county suffered in December 2017 and January 2018. Elisa expressed an excitement in collaborating with Probation in building a component specific to the needs of justice involved individuals.

XI. Housing Subcommittee – Kim Shean

- DCPO Shean will be presenting at the CCP Workgroup some ideas on possibly allocating housing resources for justice involved individuals, and will need to submit a proposal in October 2018. Some of the ideas include converting an existing county facility into a reentry facility; rapid rehousing where you leverage housing vouchers. Also, the governor has allocated housing resources for the state called the Homeless Emergency Aid Program or HEAP. Each county will be receiving a onetime fund allocation; Santa Barbara County is expected to receive nine million dollars that will need to be spent by 2020. More information to be provided in the November 2018 meeting.

XII. Edovo Tablet Presentation- Don Deming & Juan Valdez

- SBSO representatives Don Deming and Juan Valdez spoke about the learning tablets that are now available for some of the population in the jail. There are currently 180 tablets that have been pre-programmed to offer educational and vocational training as well as GED preparation. The tablets are provided to the inmates once a week and individuals are positively engaging. The tablets are an incentive for the inmates to earn credits, for every minute the individual completes a program they will earn one minute of incentives that can go towards the inmate watch movies, games, or listen to music. The jail has a dashboard viewing capabilities where officers can view what the inmate has done. Both officers indicated the tablets have improved behavior of inmates as they are positively engaging in the program.
- DCPO Shean suggested adding 211 to the Edovo tablets. Mr. Deming will inquire on how to have that added as it may be required for hard copy version of the handbook be imported.

XIII. Public Comment

- None provided.

XIV. Confirm Next Meeting, November 15, 2018 and Adjourn – Kim Shean

- The next RSC meeting will be held on November 15, 2018, 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 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Valdez, Administrative Office Professional, Senior