

Process and Evaluation Workgroup

Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2020

In attendance:

Rodney Brooks: Alameda County Public Defender's Office

Bob Britton: Faith in Action East Bay (FIABEB) Live Free

Lisa Abernathy: Alameda County Probation Department

Charlie Eddy: Urban Strategies Council

Joey Mason: Alameda County Probation Department

Darryl Stewart: Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley's Office

Rashad Eady: Alameda County Behavioral Health

Sophia Lai: Alameda County Behavioral Health

James Metter: Alameda County Probation Department

Jean Moses: Faith in Action East Bay

Shawn Rowland: Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS)

Lillian Stables: Five Keys Schools and Programs

The meeting started with introductions and approval of the November minutes.

Next was a discussion about the Safe Landing trailer outside of Santa Rita Jail which included a review and update from the previous meeting. A summary of the discussion is below:

- In response to the question from the previous meeting about receiving data on how many people are released and at what time:
 - Alameda County Behavioral Health stated that they are working with Roots to change the data they collect so they will be able to better track the release times. In addition, the Bridging Group is working on a dashboard, displaying release time and other information and it will be available to the public.

- In response to the question about adding transportation services to the current Roots contract, Probation reported:
 - It is expected that the contract will be executed in 2-3 weeks
 - Transportation will be provided 8 AM – 12 AM, Monday through Saturday. There will be no service on Sunday, so the shuttle can be serviced.
 - There is a contract to transport people within 150 miles coming from State facilities with the Prison University Project, which started on April 1, 2020 and runs through March 31, 2023.
- There was no update on providing gift cards to people who come to the trailer.
- As promised the Sheriff's staff provided the list of organizations who were providing services in Santa Rita Jail prior to COVID-19.

The workgroup discussion in response to the updates is listed below:

- There was concern about no representative from Roots being present. Rodney explained the staff person had a scheduling conflict.
- Concern was expressed that Roots is still not operating the trailer in the late evening and early morning hours.
- It was also reported that an assessment was done on the time of release of inmates that found that between 3 PM-5 PM is when the most people are released.
- Members noted that many have requested information from the Sheriff about release times and have not been able to obtain it.
- It was concluded that the workgroup would continue to try to get the inmate release data. Strategies moving forward included:
 - Making a request to more senior people in the Sheriff's Department.
 - Appealing to members of the Board of Supervisors.
- It was noted that the Safe Landing trailer services AB 109 clients yet is not funded through AB 109 dollars, which may impact how to access the information.
- The Safe Landing contract runs through October 31, 2022.
- Sighting the difficulty in getting the release data a suggestion was made for an appeal for broad support for transparency in receiving information from the County.
- It was noted in the November meeting that the ROOTS staff shared information about how many people came to the trailer and received services.

The discussion then turned to Medi-Cal reinstatement for people leaving Santa Rita Jail, a summary is below:

- It was re-stated that some say the union representing the Social Service employees is hesitant to agree to allow their staff to enter Santa Rita Jail. Others rejected the legitimacy of that claim.

- The County is planning on implementing a Department of Health and Human Services rule change which will be in effect by 2022 to address the Medi-Cal issue.
- It was agreed that the group will look for the language of the rule change.
- Workgroup members also noted that when individuals are not on Medi-Cal, they require more expensive care.
- Finally, it was agreed to create a subcommittee, that would develop a job description which responsibility of going into Santa Rita Jail to be discussed with the appropriate County staff.

Lillian Stables representing Five Keys Schools and Programs gave a brief update on how the organization continuously provides services inside of Santa Rita during the COVID pandemic. The summary of the discussion is below:

- Five Keys uses video visitations.
- Teachers are in their offices for two-hour shifts.
- Five Keys staff are allowed into units 9 and 12.
- Five Keys staff are teaching a three-week course on health and hygiene, has restarted GED courses and they will have two graduates this month.
- Connecting to the Five Keys students in jail is difficult.
- Five Keys staff does not have release info on clients making it hard to follow up with them. Yet, you can get connected to the students when you go to CORE (The newest version of Probation's transition center.)

The meeting adjourned at 11:59.