

Process and Evaluation Workgroup

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2023

In attendance:

- **Rodney Brooks**, Alameda County Public Defenders Office
- **Janene Grigsby**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Jenica Wilson**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Jason Sjoberg**, Alameda County District Attorneys Office
- **Nancy French**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Charles Turner**, Alameda County Workforce Development Board
- **Shawn Rowland**, Our Road Prison Project
- **Alexa Young**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Charlie Eddy**, Urban Strategies Council
- **Tyler Zatcoff**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Shadeequa Smith**, Alameda County Probation Department
- **Elena Wang**, Urban Strategies Council
- **Linnea Forsythe**, Bay Legal

The meeting opened with introductions.

The attendees reviewed and approved the minutes.

A summary of the Workgroups development of a quality of life survey was presented, noting that Probation has agreed to include much of the information in their new client services contracts.

The Workgroup then discussed how to proceed since the County's procurement process will not allow members to meet with the service provider to discuss the quality of life questions prior to being awarded the contract.

A summary of the discussion is below:

- The question was raised about the survey questions being included in the procurement process.
- Next, it was asked if the quality of life questions can be distributed by the current providers to probation clients.
- There is no way to distribute the current survey.
- Probation is restructuring the way they deliver services to be more client centered, part of the goal is to eliminate the number of times a client is asked the same question. Probation will not require the new service provider to utilize the survey questions, since much of the content will be embedded in the service delivery.
- Currently, the employment service providers are required to survey their clients, but Probation does not dictate the questions included in the surveys. Quality of life surveys could be included but have not; in addition, service providers have been hesitant to provide Probation with summaries of the survey results.
- Questions about people with lived experiences being included in the survey process, and if clients could be compensated for participating in the surveys were raised.
- It was reiterated that the current process will not allow the client survey to be utilized.
- The question was raised about how Probation will evaluate the results of the survey. **Answer:** The new service providers will be required to adapt their programs in response to the client survey responses.
- How much influence can the Workgroup have on this procurement? **Answer:** the focus areas from the survey will be included, but not the actual questions.
- Members of the Workgroup agreed to invite the new service provider responsible for gauging the quality of life changes of Probation clients to a meeting in the future.

Realignment program data from January through March 2023 was presented and reviewed.

A summary of the discussion is below:

- There are approximately 5,200 clients on probation each month.
- Oakland is the city with the highest number of people on probation.
- Unlawful Driving of a Vehicle; Possession of a Firearm by a felon and Assault with Great Bodily Injury are the top three offenses for active probation clients.
- Probation generally gets 200 new clients a month.
- Workgroup members asked to see how many clients are in programs contrasted with how many clients are not in programs.
- It was noted the data on housing shows program capacity and the number of individuals enrolled.

- Probation was asked to show how many people start but don't complete programming. It was suggested that average length of stay can be reported by probation.
- Building on the question of people showing up and completing programming, it was asked, if the "flow" of clients could be shown: referral to a program, enrolling in that program, retention, and completion.
- It is easiest to track that type of information in the employment program. Average length of stay may not be illuminating since individuals often attend different employment programs.
- It was requested that future data presentations clearly show utilization rates by showing the number of clients active in programs divided by the total number of Probation clients. The accuracy of the current data to be utilized in this way was questioned. Probation agreed to verify their data and bring the accurate utilization rates in the future.
- The utilization rates are up due to the increased education of Probation Officers about the individual programs; and the capacity of many programs has increased.
- It was noted the utilization rates do not always reflect the level of need for Probation clients.

The CCP Workgroup Outlines document was distributed which defines the "Activities and Objectives" of the Process and Evaluation Workgroup.

Below is a summary of the discussion of proposed modifications to these original Workgroup guidelines:

- Initially one charge to the Process and Evaluation Workgroup was to "Articulate the Community Corrections Partnership's goals for Realignment in Alameda County with defined measures of success." It was suggested that the Workgroup could assess how well the Executive Committee decisions are aligned with the proposed work of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP), since all the CCP recommendations are funded by the Executive Committee.
- It was suggested that the Process and Evaluation Workgroup is successful in identifying, addressing and removal of barriers.
- It was suggested that the Workgroup's objectives simply be described as responsible for: oversight, assessment, and recommendations.
- In prior meetings we suggested that individuals from our Workgroup attend the meetings of the other Alameda County Realignment Workgroups.
- If we are to discuss the expansion of our AB 109 population, there needs to be a better understanding of the resources available/provided by the other Workgroups.
- The Data and Information group is assessing if all the Realignment Workgroups are utilizing the same data and if there are any gaps in the information available.

- It was agreed that attendees would review the CCP Workgroup Outlines document and come to the July meeting with their assessments and proposed amendments.
- The next meeting will be held on July 5th.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58