

Process and Evaluation Workgroup

Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2022

In attendance:

Rodney Brooks: Alameda County Public Defender's Office

Janene Grigsby: Alameda County Probation Department

Charlie Eddy: Urban Strategies Council

Nancy French: Alameda County Probation Department

John Jones III: Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency

Shawn Rowland: Re-entry Private Practitioner

Veronica Rios-Reddick: Alameda County District Attorney's Office

Darryl Stewart: Office of Supervisor Nate Miley

Tim Smith: Chairman, Alameda County Community Advisory Board

The meeting started with attendees agreeing to participate virtually in accordance with AB 361

Next, the group approved the meeting minutes.

Tim Smith, Chair of the Community Advisory Board (CAB) presented their priorities for 2022, outlined several pressing issues and the possibilities for collaboration with the Process and Evaluation Workgroup. A summary of the discussion is below.

- Starting the re-entry process with a clients' initial incarceration.
- Providing support for returning citizens so they are not priced out of the Bay Area, including connecting clients with livable wage employment.
- Allowing a wide variety of people to enter Santa Rita Jail to provide services.
- Helping clients to be successful in their probation programming beyond the initial 30 days.

- Getting formally incarcerated people involved in civic engagement, including reimagining public safety.
- Supporting families of victims of homicides, even if family members have prior convictions.
- Helping families understand and navigate government systems to acquire resources.
- Broaden the definition of victims to include justice involved individuals, those who are negatively impacted by government systems; and develop better strategies to work with that population.
- As a result, family members of people who are excluded from being classified as victims are also victimized.
- Addressing the issue of formerly incarcerated people being overrepresented in homeless encampments.
- The presence of institutional racism in Alameda County.
- The lack of systems impacted people hired in Alameda County.
- How can we support “Robin Hood Gangsters”, community members who are providing cash support to youth and others.
- Working on developing better success matrixes for the AB 109 contracts.
- How can we increase the success of the 1400 Jobs Initiative?

The group then engaged in a discussion after Mr. Smith’s presentation. A summary of the discussion is below.

- What are some of the ways we can create less restrictive contracts to provide resources for non-traditional providers?
- What are the resources we can give people when they leave probation supervision?
- Identify the barriers in county services which prevent formally incarcerated people from accessing them.
- What process is there/how can we use the unspent AB 109 dollars.
- Some noted that we are spending more than we are bringing in, so the “leftover funds” will be gone.
- The issue was raised that the unspent unallocated dollars is due to numerous procurement issues. In response, questions were raised about the suitability of some programs and challenges of initiating programs.
- It was noted that much of the Workgroup’s activity has focused on Process, but not on Evaluation.
- Community members met with Probation Chief Dawal to talk about the 1400 Jobs initiative, he committed to restart the initiative, but wanted to work internally first.
- Members of the group agreed it is important to broaden the AB 109 eligibility.

- The group summarized what Mr. Smith presented and agreed it is essential to prioritize them moving forward.
- It was raised that appropriate performance measures need to be a part of contracts if we expected vendors to appropriately report them.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49