

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

May 24, 2016 – 3:00 p.m.
Downtown Law Building, 3960 Orange Street, 5th Floor, Riverside

MINUTES

PRESENT

Mark A. Hake, Chief, Probation
Maria Barajas, Division Director, Probation
Jason Beam, Assistant Division Director, Probation
Viola Becker, Principal Accountant, Probation
Vincent Chugbo, Principal, RCOE
Pat Cooper, Legislative Asst., Supervisor John B. Benoit
Jen Cruikshank, Chief Operations Officer, RUHS
Tari Dolstra, Division Director, Probation
Sarah Franco, HR Service Manager, Human Resources
Bill Gorenstein, Consultant Finance, RUHS
Steven Harmon, Public Defender, Public Defender
Mike Hestrin, District Attorney, District Attorney
Bryce Hulstrom, Chief Deputy, Probation
Courtney Johnson, Supervising Probation Officer, Probation
Deborah Johnson, Deputy Director, Mental Health
Ron Miller, Chief Deputy, Probation
Doug Moreno, Chief Deputy Administrator, Probation
Luis Nolasco, Community Organizer Member
Rosario Rull, Assistant Chief, Probation
Zareh Sarrafian, Chief Executive Officer, RUHS
Fay Shaw, Supervising Probation Officer, Probation
LaToya Thomas, Supervising Probation Officer, Probation
Susan Von Zabern, Director, DPSS
Cherilyn Williams, Admin Services Manager, Probation
Joe Zamora, Assistant Director, RUHS-BH

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mark Hake called the meeting to order at 3:28 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mark Hake asked for a motion to approve the May 11, 2015, meeting minutes. The motion was moved by Susan Von Zabern and seconded by Steve Harmon. Minutes were approved and stand as written.

3. **SB 678/CCPIA UPDATE**

Jason Beam provided an overview and update of the Community Supervision Oversight Unit statistics and evidence-based programs funded by the Community Corrections Performance

Incentive Act (CCPIA), formerly known as SB 678. CCPIA was designed to ensure evidence-based practices were incorporated into probation departments' operations. The goals were to ultimately reduce the number of probationers sentenced to state prison and reduce recidivism. In 2011, the Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act essentially replaced SB 678 and added specific performance measures, required data driven decision making, and improved outcomes.

Evidence-based practices are the strategic and deliberate methods of applying empirical knowledge and research-supported principles to justice systems at the case, agency, and system level. According to the 2015 Judicial Council of California SB678 report, all counties across California report expanded use of some EBP elements. Those elements include application of risk and needs assessments, increased collaboration among local justice system partners, more effective offender supervision, more effective treatment programs, and overall more effective management practices.

The metric used by the state to gauge probation departments' performance is the Probation Failure Rate. The formula has been modified several times since 2011. The most recent Probation Failure Rate/funding formula for 2015 was calculated as the total number of adult felony probationers sentenced to state prison from that county as a percentage of the county's average adult felony population for that year. The new formula takes into account revocations resulting in State Prison only, and no longer takes into account PC 1170(h) sentences.

Although the average felony population decreased from 2012 to 2014, there was an increase in the number of revocations. This is likely due to the fact that some offenders were opting for sentences pursuant to PC 1170(h), rather than probation, as they typically offer a shorter period of supervision. Also, an increase in staffing resulted in closer supervision, which could have increased the number of revocations. As a result, data reveal an increase in failure rate during years 2012, 2013, and 2014, in comparison to prior years. Specifically, the failure rate for each of the aforementioned years are as follows: 2012 (4.3%); 2013 (5.9%); and 2014 (6.5%). As the most recent formula came in to effect this year, the failure rate was significantly different than the prior years. In 2015 the failure rate was 2.91%.

In 2015, there was a substantial change in PC 1170(h) commitments. This was likely a result of the passage of Proposition 47, which reclassified many felonies as misdemeanors. As misdemeanors are not eligible for PC 1170(h) sentences, the number of these commitments dramatically declined.

Cherilyn Williams reviewed past allocations amounts. The initial funding of \$2.8M was awarded in 2010 for the two year grant period ending September 2012. The funds were used to implement new evidence-based programs and funded 15 new positions. To date, CCPIA funds a total of 54 positions; 49 sworn and 5 non-sworn. The estimated overall statewide allocation is \$125M. It is estimated Riverside County's share may be \$8.53M.

Historical Allocations to Riverside County:

- FY 2011/12 was \$8.96M
- FY 2012/13 was \$10.64M
- FY 2013/14 was \$5.78M
- FY 2014/15 was \$3.11M
- FY 2015/16 was \$7.16M

In 2015, probation continued to focus on training new staff in their respective assignments. A vital

component to probation supervision practices has been the incorporation of evidence-based training for staff, especially supervision officers. Evidence-based training classes provide a foundation for effective supervision, with the goal of successful community integration. Motivational Interviewing (MI) classes emphasize effective communication with clients/offenders. These classes teach staff to collaborate with and promote self-change within clients. Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) is a validated risk/needs assessment tool. This class teaches staff how to utilize the software, which in turn helps probation officers to assess the appropriate supervision level for a case. Courage to Change (C2C) is a form of cognitive-behavioral treatment. Staff are trained to utilize this interactive journaling tool to help offenders re-evaluate their thought processes. These classes are offered in groups, or on an individual basis.

The Community Supervision Oversight Unit has four Motivational Interviewing (MI) Coaches. As part of probation's quality assurance component, each MI coach is responsible for coaching all probation officers, in an effort to enhance their communication skills. Probation officers are observed conducting interviews, then asked to submit a recording of a conversation between them and a client. Upon receipt, the MI Coach will transcribe the conversation and code the probation officer's responses in accordance with the Motivational Interviewing Treatment Integrity (MITI) scale. The scale takes into consideration the probation officer's ability to incorporate open-ended questions, provide affirmations, and utilize reflections to foster a more productive meeting with their client. The goal of the conversation is to foster "change talk" from the client. The MITI score compiles the probation officer's overall ability to incorporate evocation, collaboration, autonomy/support, and empathy to direct the conversation toward "change talk." Once coding is completed, the MI Coach has one-on-one training sessions with the probation officer to review results and practice skills that require further development. The information is shared with the probation officer's supervisor and manager.

CCPIA Statistics

Active Probationers as of December 31, 2015:

- 276 High Risk Felony Probationers
- 3 High Risk Misdemeanor Probationers
- 1,404 Medium Risk Felony Probationers
- 52 Medium Risk Misdemeanor Probationers
- 7,085 Low Risk Felony Probationers
- 839 Low Risk Misdemeanor Probationers

Total Case Completions for Calendar Year 2015:

- Felony – Successful is 3,267
- Misdemeanor – Successful is 595
- Felony – Unsuccessful is 1,065
- Misdemeanor – Unsuccessful is 448
- Other Dispositions is 2,398

Helping Individuals Realize Employment (H.I.R.E.) program is a workshop series targeting high and medium risk offenders designed to motivate, educate, and initiate a self-developed action plan for each offender. The action plan will assist the offender in identifying personal risk factors and overcome employment barriers. The total number of offenders who attended at least one session was 682 and the total number of referrals given to offenders was 1,320. The total number of offenders who completed an action plan was 581. These statistics are inclusive to all 10 H.I.R.E. workshops, dating

back to November of 2012.

On-Going Projects:

- Quarterly CCPIA and Realignment Joint Workshops to reinforce evidence-based supervision strategies.
- Validation of the COMPAS assessment tool with our local population to evaluate outcomes associated with current risk and needs scales.
- Quality assurance component to monitor the fidelity of C2C classes and H.I.R.E. workshops.

4. NEXT MEETING: TBD

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Cathy Piech, Secretary II, Riverside County Probation Department