



San Mateo County Community Corrections Partnership

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members

John T Keene*

Chief Probation Officer

David Canepa

Board of Supervisors

Steve Wagstaffe*

District Attorney

Elisa Kuhl

District Attorney's Office:
Victims Representative

Louise Rogers

Health System Department

Claire Cunningham*

Human Services Agency

Jei Africa

Behavioral Health and
Recovery Services

Jennifer Valencia

Human Services Agency:
Employment Services

Neal Taniguchi*

Superior Court

Ed Barberini*

Chief, San Mateo Police
Department

Karen Francone

Service League

Christina Corpus*

Sheriff

Nancy Magee

County Office of
Education

Lisa Maguire

Private Defender Program

*Executive Committee Members

Present Members:

John Keene

Jei Africa

David Canepa

Elisa Kuhl

Louise Rogers

David Silberman

Neal Taniguchi

Jennifer Valencia

Absent Members:

Ed Barberini

Claire Cunningham

Christina Corpus

Karen Francone

Nancy Magee

Lisa Maguire

Steve Wagstaffe

Additional Attendees:

Tamara Arana

Ondray Cooper

William Fogarty

Martin Fox

Sean Gallagher

Pooja Keswani

Paul Kunkel

Melissa Larrarte

Michael León

Bonnie MacAskill

Stephanie Ross

Cheska Valentino

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Speakers recognized by the Chair: Mr. Martin Fox.

III. Old Business

Approval of minutes from previous meeting – 03/29/23:

The minutes from the March 29, 2023 meeting was approved as submitted.

There were no abstentions. **M:Rogers/S:Canepa.**

IV. New Business

Update on AB109 Offender Population

John T. Keene, Chief Probation Officer, presented on the AB109 Offender Population.

- There were 61 new clients during this quarter; there was a tremendous drop in the numbers from CDCR.
- There were 10 new mandatory supervision clients.
- Thirty-one percent of new supervisees were out of county; thirty-four percent were transient.
- Two new Mobile Services vans were received through a state grant; the vans will be out in the community very soon. The hope is these vans will service our general probation population, victims and transients.

- Out of county residents continues to be an issue, which has been addressed at the state level.
- Successful terminations increased to 70%; this number will likely increase in the future with use of the mobile services van.
- In San Mateo County, the target population for services is the 26 – 35 age group; we hope to see funding to target this population in the new legislative cycle.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Is the Mobile Probation Services van available for youth?

A: Our goal is to provide services to clients and their families. Currently, there are no restrictions.

Sheriff's Office/NCRIC

William Fogarty reported on in-custody and NCRIC AB109 data.

- The current jail population in the Maguire facility is 419 men, 6 women; at the Maple Street facility: 456 men, 112 women.
- The Alternative Sentencing Bureau: 278; 1% (10 inmates) are awaiting transport to CDCR.
- There are 16 inmates waiting to be accepted into state hospitals.
- The partnership with state hospitals for the Incompetent to Stand Trial Reevaluation Program has resulted in 105 completed zoom interviews since February 2022.
- COVID-19 impact: Since March 2020, 1,246 individuals tested positive, 203 were released while positive (status unknown).
- To date, there have been no deaths or hospitalizations in the jail facilities due to COVID-19.
- There was 1 positive case in October, no positive cases in November.
- Vaccination rate for the current population: 62% are partially or fully vaccinated; 38% are unvaccinated.
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Questions/Comments:

Q: The Incompetent to Stand Trial Pilot seems to be working. How many cases still need to be addressed? *A: We don't know yet, but we could look into this.*

Q: Is the CDCR acceptance process running smoothly?

A: Yes. There has been significant improvement over the past few weeks; transportation is easier.

Human Services Agency

Jennifer Valencia, Director of Employment Services reported on CalFresh, Service Connect, and housing and employment benefits.

- Service Connect numbers are the same; 50% AB109, and 50% Unified Reentry.
- Virtual intakes are just under 40%.
- Eligibility benefits remain the same; applications for general assistance and CalFresh are the most denied due to failure to provide verifications.
- Employment Services: First quarter wages were \$21.90 per hour. The second quarter numbers were better; \$33 per hour (July), and \$28 per hour (Sept.)

- The living wage for a single person in San Mateo County is \$26 per hour; wages for those placed through Service Connect was just under \$22 per hour. However, wages in San Mateo County are \$6 above the state minimum wage.
- Transportation and food assistance are still the most requested service; bus tickets are provided as needed.
- Money was requested in this year's budget to increase education services; 2 people are participating in the JobTrain Program.
- A life/career skills program will be implemented at the College of San Mateo in January 2024.
- Money has also been requested to expand housing; An RFP will go out soon for a rapid-rehousing program to secure rental services.

Questions/Comments:

Q: What kinds of jobs fall under the services umbrella?

A: Painter, laborer, auto mechanic, electrician.

Chief Keene noted that a significant number of parolees take advantage of the services in San Mateo County. However, the Redwood City parole office closed, and the nearest office is now in San Jose. The intake numbers are high due to this. This issue will be addressed with the CDCR director.

Q: What have agency partners done to assist now that the Redwood City parole office is permanently closed? *A: Probation raised the issue with the parole board about the lack of support for its clients. We'll continue to address this issue with our elected officials. However, Probation will also continue to support parolees who visit our offices.*

Health System

Jei Africa, Director of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services reported on the Health System and BHRS.

- Jei shared a success story about a client who suffers from mental illness. Through Service Connect, the client began meeting with a therapist and complying with the program. Eventually, the client was able to qualify for a housing voucher, and now has his own apartment.
- In the past quarter, cannabis dependence surpassed nicotine dependence.
- There were 138 active cases in the last quarter (the largest amount in 2 years).
- Client engagement increased to 63%; there were more clients enrolled in substance use treatment programs than mental health programs.
- Referrals decreased, but everyone who was referred received services. (The root cause for the decline will be examined.)
- Psychiatric emergency visits also decreased; the average is about 25 visits.
- The Passport to Wellness program has been reinstated to encourage clients to choose health and wellness. Clients receive incentive credits for participating.

Questions/Comments:

Q: Cannabis use has increased. Has there been any significant increase in fentanyl use as well? *A: Fentanyl use doesn't appear to be as high as other opioid use.*

Chief Keene suggested that we explore ways to track fentanyl use in San Mateo County as we prepare to reevaluate/edit our CCP plan.

Q: How does BHRS manage cannabis dependency among its clients now that cannabis is legal? *A: Alcohol dependency is a bigger issue because there are underlying issues that drive it. However, BHRS uses interactive therapies to help combat alcohol dependency. These therapies could also apply to cannabis use.*

Annual Survey Update

The state requires that we update our CCP Plan; up to this point, we've been making minor edits as necessary. However, we'll be forming a workgroup next year so that we can work on a large-scale revision. We'll work with the County Executive's Office to designate a point person to lead this effort. *(More details will follow on this.)*

2024 CCP Meeting Format

Chief Keene mentioned that there could be a few subcommittees and/or special meeting sessions to address special topics between our scheduled, formal CCP meetings. David Silberman commented that these types of special sessions do not need to be formalized. Adam Ely will gather a group to discuss the CCP Plan.

Chief Keene addressed the hybrid-style meeting format that has been adopted by other committees. He offered this format as an option for next year's CCP meetings. David Silberman stated that a hybrid format can be conducted via teleconference or online, but specific meeting rules apply. Online access is for the public; committee members are required to attend in person, or via teleconference only in cases of illness. Meeting materials must still be posted online prior to the meeting to comply with The Brown Act requirement. David Canepa agreed to defer to Chief Keene's recommendation for next year's meeting format. After further discussion, it was decided that next year's CCP meetings will continue to be in person only.

V. 2024 CCP Meeting Schedule:

- June 5, 2024 *(Location TBD)*
- December 4, 2024 *(Location TBD)*

Adjournment: *The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.*