



Division of Rehabilitative Programs

Director's Stakeholder Advisory Group
Sacramento County Office of Education
David P. Meaney Education Center
August 13, 2015
Meeting Minutes

I. **Members Present:**

Millicent Tidwell
Rusty Bechtold for Charles Pattillo
Carolyn Eggleston
Vitka Eisen
Michelle Gibbons
Bill Heiser
Steve Jackson for Sushma Taylor
Shawn Jenkins

Stephen Maulhardt
Vanessa Nelson-Sloane
Matt Perry
Tom Pinizzotto
Misty Polasik
Albert Senella
Colleen Stoner
Sheldon Zhang

II. **Welcome and Introductions/Review and Approval of Minutes**

Director Millicent Tidwell called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m. The meeting started with welcome and introductions.

John Krauss, ex-offender and founder of *Big House Beans* was introduced. Also, he provided coffee service to the attendees. Mr. Krauss shared his journey of incarceration to success in order to break the stigma of ex-offenders.

III. **DRP Updates**

Director Tidwell introduced the Office of Program Accountability and Support (OPAS) team as the DSAG meeting host.

Cynthia Florez-DeLyon, Deputy Director of Community Reentry Services (CRS) and Program Support; Kevin Hoffman, Associate Director of In-Prison Programs;

and Kelly Medina, Chief of In-Prison Programs, were respectively introduced as new members of the Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) Executive Team.

She welcomed new DSAG members- Russ Nichols, Director of Enterprise Information Services at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR); Stephen Maulhardt, Executive Vice President of AEGIS Treatment Centers, LLC; and Sharon Rapport, Associate Director of California Policy, Corporation for Supportive Housing.

Director Tidwell stated the Governor approved \$2 million of ongoing funding to continue Arts-In-Corrections services. CDCR was given an additional \$3 million to fund Innovative Programming Grants in order to expand volunteerism in areas where volunteerism is low in certain institutions.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) signed an agreement with CDCR in order to expand the California Identification (CAL-ID) Card Program. This was initiated in the Reentry Hubs and will now be implemented in all the institutions.

She also stated that the Reentry Hubs have expanded from 13 to 18 hubs.

Superintendent of Office of Correctional Education (OCE) Brantley Choate discussed SB 1391. This is a College Partnership initiative that will allow community college instructors to enter institutions for the purpose of providing “face to face” instruction. It is estimated that within one year, DRP will be partnered with local community colleges to provide services in all institutions. A Memorandum of Understanding will be used for this process.

IV. MCRP Update

Dr. Vitka Eisen from HealthRIGHT 360 provided an update regarding the Male Community Reentry Program (MCRP) in Los Angeles. There are currently 100 beds in Los Angeles County and 50 beds in Kern County. Short stays have been challenging due to parole. Good relationships with counties have helped with housing issues.

Director Tidwell mentioned that DRP is looking into providing additional inmate television programming and increasing program awareness by distributing fliers.

The PEW Charitable Trust is working with DRP on a cost benefit analysis. They will be looking at CDCR’s data on cognitive behavioral treatment.

V. OPAS Presentation

OPAS Associate Director Robert Downs provided the history and responsibilities of OPAS. OPAS is one of the offices under DRP. It oversees data collection and analysis of rehabilitative programs, financial management, outreach, and resource development. He also introduced the OPAS team.

VI. BREAKOUT SESSIONS/OPAS HIGHLIGHTS

Tamera Calmer, Staff Services Manager II from OPAS, announced the breakout sessions (reflecting the work of OPAS). The rotational stations consisted of the work OPAS that is done in In-Prison Programs, OCE, and CRS.

VII. Lunch

The group adjourned for lunch.

VIII. Q & A SESSION

Associate Director Robert Downs answered questions from members and attendees.

IX. Housing Committee

Doug Bond, Chair of the DSAG Housing Committee, discussed the barriers of housing after individuals are released from institutions. Mr. Bond stated there needs to be an increase awareness of the housing crisis for parolees.

X. Integrated Care Committee

Director Tidwell advised that DRP has been partnering with Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) on their efforts to implement their Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) 1115 Waiver. The Waiver is a California-only pilot program that was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on August 13, 2015. The five year pilot will test a new model for the organized delivery of health care services for Medicaid eligible individuals with substance use disorder (SUD).

A DSAG Ad Hoc Integrated Care Committee was established at the past May DSAG Meeting. The purpose of the committee is to work on identifying DRP

systems that will need to be modified to ensure compatibility with the DMC-ODS Waiver and provide better access to a continuum of care for offenders.

Recently, there was a survey that was distributed to DRP program providers to determine which providers are Drug Medi-Cal certified.

XI. Meeting Recap and Next Meeting Date

Director Tidwell acknowledged everyone for their participation at the meeting. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for January 21, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.