

STANISLAUS COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Thursday – September 2, 2021

Stanislaus County Probation Department – Microsoft TEAMS

MEMBERS/STAFF PRESENT

MARK FERRIERA, Chief Probation Officer, Chair, Probation Department
LETICIA RUANO, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department
JEFF DIRKSE, Sheriff, Sheriff's Office
WENDELL EMERSON, FOR BIRGIT FLADAGER, District Attorney
SWEENA PANNU, Public Defender
PATRICIA SANCHEZ, District Attorney's Office
BRITTANY HARKER, Victim's Advocate, District Attorney's Office
DORIS FOSTER, DIRECTOR, Workforce Development
RUBEN IMPERIAL, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
CHANDRA CAMPBELL, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
ABRAHAM ANDRES, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
MONICA CORYEA, CEO's Office
KATHY HARWELL, DIRECTOR, Community Services Agency
CYNTHIA DUENAS, Center for Human Services
DEPUTY JARED VAN GRONINGREN, Sheriff's Office
LT. TIMOTHY BURNS, Sheriff's Office
DEPUTY STEVEN ROSALES, Sheriff's Office
SGT. JEREMY PEREA, Sheriff's Office
BROOKE FREEMAN, Sheriff's Office
TRISHA BIRCHARD, Modesto Police Department
JEREMY GREEN, LCA
CONSUELO FELIX, LCA
REYNA RODRIGUEZ, LCA
MICHAEL BAGLEY, Nirvana
DANE HELDING, Nirvana
STEVEN GAXIOLA, Learning Quest
TRACIE MARTIN, Realignment Manager, Probation Department
VICKI MARTIN, Administrative Services Manager, Probation Department
AMBER MYERS, Supervising Probation Officer, Probation Department
JANICE CREE, Data Manager, Probation Department
MEKO LOCARNINI, State Parole
BRAD BEARD, State Parole

GUESTS:

JAMMIE SMITH, inkoff.me
CHRIS BENDINELLI, inkoff.me

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera. Members of the group introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Three participants could not be identified by their phone numbers during the meeting. They did not identify themselves when requested during the meeting. These three participants remained on the call throughout the meeting and were designated as members of the public. No public comments were made during the meeting.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2021, MEETING

MOTION: Doris Foster. SECOND: Sheriff Jeff Dirkse. The minutes of the May 20, 2021, meeting were approved unanimously.

4. INKOFF.ME PRESENTATION:

Chris Bendinelli, President of inkoff.me provided a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation about their company and the tattoo removal services they have provided the community since 2012. The presentation highlighted the following:

(The presentation is attached):

- MOBILE TATTOO REMOVAL
- MOBILE UNIT
- TATTOO REMOVAL RULES
- CCP PARTNERSHIP
- COSTS

Mr. Bendinelli stated that while their primary focus is on job stopper tattoo removal from the hands, face, and neck, the final decision is that of the client, and the number of sessions required varies on a case-by-case basis. Their mobile services are available to both in-custody and out-of-custody individuals abiding by specific guidelines.

Chief Mark Ferriera informed the group that a Scope of Work for inkoff.me has been submitted and is currently undergoing review. Furthermore, he shared that the program's funding would come from the Programming and Services line item specific to the Probation Department's CCP Budget, and approval from the Board of Supervisors would not be necessary. Additionally, he indicated, without providing details, that the Sheriff's Department is also considering the program for their jail.

5. PROGRAM UPDATES:

Tracie Martin, Realignment Manager from the Probation Department, advised that CDCR's early releases, which began in April 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreaks within the facilities, had concluded.

The Probation Department has partnered with other local law enforcement agencies in monthly Regional Apprehension Team (RAT) operations. In July, they partnered with the Modesto Police Department and the Sheriff's Department in August, resulting in the discovery of a marijuana grow but no arrests. The plants were removed with the assistance of the Sheriff's Department.

CARE:

Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Leticia Ruano, reported that monthly CARE Leadership meetings are being held. Additionally, she announced that the Crime Analyst assigned to CARE has been hired and is scheduled to begin on September 13, 2021.

Jail: Sgt. Perea reported that two new programs had been launched as of September 1, 2021: an Educational Program via ZOOM and the Agricultural Vocational Program. Learning Quest is facilitating the Educational Program and is now offering a variety of courses.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS): Chandra Campbell from Behavioral Health and Recovery Services reported that BHRS services continue to be provided via telehealth and in person. For last quarter, the IOT Substance Abuse program at the DRC served 78 clients who stayed an average of 60 days, up from 55 days the previous quarter, and the average daily attendance of participants was 12.

District Attorney's Office: Brittany Harker from the District Attorney's Office indicated that the AB109 Victim Advocates' Unit is currently addressing staffing shortages. She noted that they had received a total of 64 requests for victim information and protective orders since the last CCP meeting.

Nirvana: Dane Holding from Nirvana advised that Nirvana continues to work at a reduced capacity due to the pandemic. For the month of June 2020 to July 2021, he reported the following: 94 referrals were received, 27 clients admitted, 16 clients completed, 11 clients failed, with 50 percent of the failures being from clients who were there no longer than three days, and 14 graduates from the STIC Program. He noted that the pandemic has made staying in the program more challenging for clients.

Michael Bagley announced that Nirvana added a new structure to their 1028 Reno Avenue location, extending an invitation to the CCP group once a grand opening date is slated.

Leaders in Community Alternatives(LCA): Jeremy Green announced that as of July 1, 2021, LCA had the following shift in positions: Mr. Green has been appointed to LCA Director of Program Services, Consuelo Guzman has taken over the LCA Employment Services overseeing services provided at the DRC, CBI Employment Program and Aggressive Replacement Therapy (ART), and Reyna Rodriguez is the LCA Director for the new in and out-of-custody programs for youth.

Consuelo Guzman announced the addition of two new staff members to LCA, Lidia Valdez and Rosa Angelica Rodriguez. She discussed the prospect of adding a morning ART class, contingent on DRC room availability. The ART Program is an anger management program designed to assist offenders who struggle with anger issues by identifying their triggers and strengthening their social skills over the course of ten weeks.

Jeremy Green reported that out-of-custody ART classes for youth are held every Tuesday and Thursday, with an average of 6 to 10 youth attending. CBI Core for out of custody youth will start in October, pending room availability. He stated that LCA continues to recruit for their youth programs, and all current LCA staff are trained and certified to teach ART and CBI. Reyna Rodriguez reported that LCA received 12 youth referrals, and 9 youth are currently engaged.

Center for Human Services: Cindy Duenas, Director for the Center for Human Services, reported that the grand opening of the Youth Navigation Center is pending inspection completion, and once completed, she offered LCA room availability for the out-of-custody youth.

Learning Quest: Steven Gaxiola reported the following:

- A total of 30 in-custody individuals are receiving HSE services.
- In-custody Zoom courses started on September 1, 2021
- Since the beginning of COVID-19, educational services to in-custody individuals have been delivered via the packet system.
- In July 2021, REACT Community Services Officer Brittney Bailey took over the Learning Quest recruitment process, and it is going well.

Public Defenders Office: Interim Public Defender Sweena Pannu reported that the Case Workers are doing a great job and are currently working on 73 cases. These 73 cases have been connected to 170 services. Ms. Pannu indicated that she still did not have a BHRS Clinician assigned to the Public Defender's Office as agreed upon in an MOU between the Public Defender and BHRS. Cindy Duenas stated that the pandemic had impacted the recruitment process for many, noting that her department has three vacant Clinician positions. She suggested that in light of BHRS's current reorganization, it would be best to have a separate meeting with BHRS to discuss other options. Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera agreed with Ms. Duenas, noting that a separate meeting will be organized with Ms. Pannu and BHRS Director Ruben Imperial to discuss the vacancy.

6. COMMENTS:

CPO Mark Ferriera announced that the Board of Supervisors approved the CCP Plan on June 8, 2021.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date will be set for December 2, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.