

# Public Safety Realignment Program (AB 109) & Reentry Services

## Executive Summary

In April 2011 Governor Jerry Brown signed the Public Safety Realignment Act (AB 109) mandating the reinvestment of State resources, primarily spent on prisons and parole, to local community corrections and county programs. The shift of State prisoners to California counties created opportunities to build upon and expand evidence-based programs to effectively increase public safety while simultaneously holding offenders accountable through county and community based treatment. The County, in partnership with internal and community stakeholders, is implementing the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Implementation Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 27, 2011, and the Adult Reentry Strategic Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in May 2012.

The County has managed to set an excellent foundation for a proactive and rehabilitative justice network with untold capacity for continued improvement over the years. For example, the County created the Reentry Resource Center as a one-stop centralized location for justice-involved individuals to receive services and service referrals designed to increase successful reentry. As a result, our clients are starting to develop more positive outcomes and are accessing expanded County programs. The level of collaboration and communication achieved across organizations/systems is very promising and admirable. These efforts often take years if not decades to come to fruition. Preliminary numbers suggest that the County is headed in a good direction.

## Key Findings and Trends in the First Two Years

During the first two years of implementation, between October 2011 and September 2013, the total realignment population was 3,558. Of those, 45% were classified as Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), 45% were classified as 1170(h) individuals sentenced to local jail instead of state prison, and 10% as 1170(h) MS locally sentenced under AB 109. The following chart displays the type of services AB 109 clients are receiving.

Findings and Enrollment Related to Services	# October 2011 to September 2013
1170(h) Clients Enrolled in in-custody programs	833
Custodial Alternative Supervision Program participants (out-of-custody)	297
AB 109 Clients Enrolled in Substance Abuse Treatment residential, outpatient, and/or transitional treatment	2,184
AB 109 Clients Enrolled in Mental Health Services	770
AB 109 Clients Enrolled in Cognitive Behavioral Services	311
AB 109 Clients Enrolled in Employment, Vocational, and Educational Services	1,214
AB 109 Clients Enrolled in Social Services Benefits	1,065

Clients who received Substance Abuse Treatment may have also received Mental Health Services as well as other services listed in the table.

## Achievements

An important goal is the continued effort to facilitate cross-systems communication and collaboration. In order to fully make use of the County's reentry programs and resources, there is a need to share what is working and what needs improvement. Below are some examples of the many achievements made during the second year of implementation, and during the first half of calendar year 2014:

- Successfully executed Year One Adult Reentry Services Request for Proposal (RFP) & Service Agreements
- Enhanced communication between cross-functional teams
- Promoted evidenced-based approaches as a guiding force towards developing Reentry Programs
- Began implementing a \$4 million housing program for reentry clients

## Current Evaluation Efforts and Goals for FY 2015

In 2012 the County contracted with Resource Development Associates to perform an interim evaluation of AB 109 to measure alignment between implementation activities and the CCP Plan, and to determine preliminary outcome findings related to client recidivism and service referral, enrollment and completion rates. Currently, RDA is performing a two-

year evaluation of the County's reentry services, including the Reentry Resource Center, Adult Reentry Strategic Plan and AB 109 efforts. Phase I of this evaluation consisted of focus groups with clients and community-based organizations, performance measure review with department staff and contracted partners, and key informant interviews with department stakeholders to determine the extent of progress, and assess successes and challenges. Below is a list of recommendations and goals for FY 2015:

- Increase the number and specificity of the Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) between Departments and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to improve collaboration and communication and to clarify roles and responsibilities
- Consider data sharing technology to improve access to outcome data and drive decision-making
- Develop an orientation for County and CBO providers on AB 109 and rehabilitative philosophy to promote a common approach
- Revisit protocols around sharing client assessment information between Departments and CBOs to further improve service provision, as increased access to client histories results in more responsive service provision
- Implement the new service unit oversight and welcoming reception center at the Reentry Resource Center
- Implement the Second Adult Reentry Services RFP & Service Agreements
- Complete the outcome measurement analysis of AB 109 individuals (Oct 2011-Sept. 2013)

- Establish a quarterly reentry dashboard

Every opportunity to evaluate programs and efforts is needed in order to address commonly asked questions among criminal justice partners. One such question is, "What is the recidivism rate of the AB 109 clients?" Another question is, "Do the services the County refers to clients decrease their recidivism?"

With two years of data now available on the service linkages and whether an individual has re-offended, the Office of Reentry Services and reentry partners will provide an initial recidivism rate for convictions to the Public Safety & Justice Committee on May 21, 2014. Re-convictions will be tracked by cohort across time periods.

### State Funding Allocation Detail

For FY 2014, the County anticipates receiving \$40.6 million, of which approximately \$600,000 is mandated for the District Attorney and the Public Defender Parole Revocation Proceedings. For FY 2015, the County expects to receive \$37,398,130 in Realignment State Allocation and \$1,718,096 in FY 2014 Growth Amount for a total of \$39,116,226.

To maintain current operations, continue existing activities approved by the Board of Supervisors as part of the FY 2014 Final Budget and adjustments during FY 2014, and fund \$592,000 in one-time program needs, \$43,336,805 is required. The difference of \$4,220,579 will be funded from fund balance on a one-time basis in FY 2015.

## Current and Emerging Issues:

### Medi-Cal Enrollment

AB 720, signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on October 8, 2013, expands the Affordable Care Act in California. AB 720 will assist formerly incarcerated individuals in enrolling into the Medi-Cal program prior to being released. Additionally, costs associated with Medi-Cal are covered using federal funds. AB 720 will address one of the main barriers to reentry by helping formerly incarcerated inmates access physical, mental health and substance abuse services.

The importance of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to county corrections budgets cannot be understated. Anything that increases the authority at the county (or state) level to create more gateways towards enrollment expands the cost-saving opportunities at all levels (100% federal reimbursement until 2016, then 90% after). As a result, the more offenders who are enrolled, the more money the county will save overall on inmate healthcare. Even individuals with pre-trial status are

eligible and in those cases, increased access to treatment may become a valuable means of preventing first offenses or recidivism.

## Housing

The Board of Supervisors adopted the FY 2014 Final Budget, which included the allocation of \$4 million in one-time AB 109 funds to develop a housing plan that will implement subsidies or housing funds for permanent supportive and/or long-term transitional housing with supportive services. These supportive services include intensive case management and much needed treatment programming. The Office of Reentry Services continues to work with housing stakeholders to implement this housing program in conjunction with other housing initiatives the County is currently undertaking. Without reliable, affordable housing, successful reentry and long term stability are nearly impossible to achieve. Establishing a reliable network of resources for “housing the hard to house” in FY 2015 will further the common goal of reducing recidivism in Santa Clara County.

## Parolee Reentry Services Program

The County entered into a formal partnership in the amount of \$2.6 million with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to

reintroduce CDCR parolees back to their respective communities with increased support. Specifically the Santa Clara County Reentry Resource Center (RRC) in collaboration with the Office of Reentry Services and the Department of Alcohol & Drug Services (DADS) will establish the Parolee Reentry Services Program, targeting parolees residing within the County of Santa Clara. This partnership is in alignment with the RRC’s mission to reduce recidivism by using evidence-based practices.

The project will serve a minimum of 200 male and female offenders residing within the County of Santa Clara per year, who have been referred by a Parole Agent. The Program will run between April 2014 through June 2015. At any given time, it is planned that the RRC will accommodate up to 82 parolees receiving intensive program-funded services for a typical period of six to nine months, after which they will continue to receive support through RCC and its partners. The Program’s caseworkers will continue to closely monitor the offenders for a period of one year.

## Summary of Departmental Ongoing Allocations for FY 2015 Base and Recommended

Department	FTE	FY 2015 Base Cost	FY 2015 Revenue	FY 2015 One-time Allocation	FY 2015 One-time Shortfall Solution	Total
County Executive/Office of Reentry Services	6.0	\$1,471,070	\$1,346,193		\$124,877	\$1,471,070
Employee Services	0.0	\$50,000	\$45,755		\$4,245	\$50,000
Information Services	5.0	\$800,369	\$732,427		\$67,942	\$800,369
Public Defender – Expungement Services	3.0	\$545,514	\$499,206		\$46,308	\$545,514
Pretrial Services	5.0	\$710,435	\$650,127		\$60,308	\$710,435
Sheriff/Department of Correction	81.0	\$12,381,394	\$11,330,359	\$30,000	\$1,081,035	\$12,411,394
Sheriff – Fingerprint Identification Services	13.0	\$1,279,143	\$1,170,559		\$108,584	\$1,279,143
Probation	60.0	\$10,067,862	\$9,213,217		\$854,645	\$10,067,862
Facilities & Fleet	0.0	\$767,467	\$702,317		\$65,150	\$767,467
Mental Health	11.5	\$4,061,389	\$3,716,624	\$532,045	\$876,810	\$4,593,434
Custody Health	26.0	\$4,718,223	\$4,317,701		\$400,522	\$4,718,223
Department of Alcohol & Drug Services	13.0	\$5,076,042	\$4,645,145	\$30,000	\$460,897	\$5,106,042
Social Services Agency	7.0	\$815,852	\$746,596		\$69,256	\$815,852
<b>Total</b>	<b>230.5</b>	<b>\$42,744,760</b>	<b>\$39,116,226</b>	<b>\$592,045</b>	<b>\$4,220,579</b>	<b>\$43,336,805</b>

