Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Executive Committee Meeting May 19, 2021

Teleconference and GoToMeeting Participation Only

MEMBERS	Title of Agency	Present	Absent
Tracie Neal	Chief Probation Officer – Chairman	X	
Bill Schueller	City of Redding Chief of Police	X	
Eric Magrini	Shasta County Sheriff	X	
Stephanie Bridgett	Shasta County District Attorney		X
William Bateman	Shasta County Public Defender	X	
Melissa Fowler-Bradley	Shasta County Superior Court – a presiding judge or designee of the superior court		X
Donnell Ewert	HHSA – the head of the county department of mental health	X	

Attendees:

Erin Bertain, Eric Jones, Carol Ulloa, Chelsey Chappelle, Teresa Skinner, Dominic Evanzia – Shasta County Probation Department

Terri Honer – Shasta County Administrative Office

Danielle Gehrung, Amanda Lightfoote, Tara Levin – GEO Reentry

Steve Kohn, Betsey Ray, Robin Ivins, Christina Mitchell – Member of the Public

Randy Abney – CDCR

Joe Chimenti, Shasta County Board of Supervisors

Eva Jimenez, Robert Bowman, Billy Miller, Misti Hardi – Shasta College STEP UP

Susan Wilson, Youth Options Shasta

Meeting Overview

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Donnell Ewert moved to approve the February 17, 2021 minutes. Bill Schueller seconded the motion. Motion passed: 4 Ayes, 0 Noes

Financial Report

State Allocations to Shasta County

Erin Bertain discussed the State Allocations to Shasta County financial report, stating the revenue is being received higher than anticipated based on the Governor's FY 20/21 May Revise Budget. She stated this was expected and is in-line with what the Governor included in his FY 21/22 January Budget.

Discussion Items

STEP UP Presentation

Robert Bowman gave a presentation on the STEP UP Program for the prior year. He reported the program was required to shift to an, almost exclusively, online format. He said the students proved their resiliency, especially those older students who are not as familiar with technology. He stated they were fortunately able to offer most of the hands-on vocational classes in person. He reported 27 graduates participated in a virtual ceremony at the end of the Spring semester. He said, in the Fall 2020 semester, the average GPA of the cohort was 3.14 and there were 29 students on the Dean's List. He explained the percentage of students on the Deans List for the STEP UP program is significantly higher than that of the regular student population. He stated the overall recidivism rate of those who have participated in the program is 19.22% and the recidivism rate of those who have graduated the program is 6.42%. Robert announced that Shasta College was one of two campuses in Northern California selected for a pilot site for The Access Project which is a program that provides legal services for former or current students who want to expunge their convictions or get certificates of rehabilitation.

William Bateman asked if there was a noticeable increase to probation violations or failures due to remote learning in the last year. Robert said there was not, but they did see more students reducing their course load or deciding to not enroll. He stated many of the students deciding to not enroll in subsequent semesters made that decision because they had children doing virtual learning and they could not effectively balance the responsibilities and equipment needed to assist their children with for virtual learning and meet requirements of attending school themselves.

Eva Jimenez announced Shasta College was provided an additional grant to provide leadership for 15 colleges with the region, 9 of which have restorative justice projects on their campuses. She stated Robert will be taking the lead on this project. She said this project would support students with their ability to transfer to other campuses within the state by establishing a network of people and resources for them to access regardless of which school they are attending.

Eva reported that Chef Jeff would be delivering the commencement speech for Shasta College's Graduation and they would be offering him an honorary degree in Business Administration. Tracie Neal said Chef Jeff was a speaker at a conference she attended and he had 4 at risk youth working with him in his kitchen in Las Vegas.

Robert announced a partnership with the Sheriff's Office and Probation to begin offering classes in the Jail and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility. He said they would start with offering workshops and non-credit classes through a grant from the Alliance of Higher Education in Prison.

Supervised Own Recognizance (SOR) and the Brief Mental Health Screen, Housing, Substance Use Disorder, and Veteran Questionnaire.

Carol Ulloa stated the SOR Program has been in operation at the Community Corrections Center for 8 years. She explained the purpose of the SOR program is to provide increased accountability for offenders while they are going through the court process and pending sentencing. She stated they use the Virginia Risk Pretrial Tool as part of the screening process along with interviews. She reported Probation is in the process of validating the VPRAI in Shasta County. Carol said an additional screening is conducted to identifying mental health, homeless, substance use, and veteran needs. She said they have completed about 500 of these expanded assessments and found the following: 34% did not have needs in any of these areas, 17% had unmet mental health needs, 24% had unmet substance use disorder needs, and 22% were in need of housing assistance in some form.

Eric Magrini entered the meeting at 3:04.

William Bateman asked if the SOR program was used exclusively for those individuals pending felony charges. Carol Ulloa answered in the affirmative. William Bateman asked if the program could be expanded to those pending misdemeanor charges as well since there is a significant problem with that population failing to appear for their court hearings. Carol explained how the population is identified and the capacity of the program.

Tracie Neal discussed the handout that was provided with historical data on the SOR program including increases to the number of people in the program as a result of a grant the court received, decreases to number following the end of the grant, and recent increases as a result of the Humphrey Decision as well as continued education with justice partners on the benefits of SOR. She explained the program is successful in getting individuals to appear for court throughout the process including sentencing. She said last year, 64% of the individuals in the program made it to sentencing. She stated the Governor included \$140 million in Fiscal Year 2021/2022 May Revise Budget for pretrial programs and proposed continued funding into the next fiscal year. She explained this funding may open the door for a larger program including doing assessments on everyone booked into the jail. She said the allocation methodology for the funding has not been established and stated the amount of money Shasta County receives will determine how much larger the program will be able to grow. She stated there are two bills (AB 329 and SB 262) which include legislative changes to the bail structure and system. Tracie said the topic of pre-trial will be ongoing and updates would be provided at future meetings.

Story Maps

Dominic Evanzia gave a presentation on and demonstration of story maps, which are similar to interactive online newsletter. He indicated this technology provides a method of distributing information that is easy for the user to navigate regardless of what type of technology they are using. He stated story maps can include pictures, interactive maps, and embedded videos. He said story maps are distributed via a link and could be included on social media or websites.

Resuming In Person Meetings

Tracie Neal asked the Committee for input regarding resuming in-person meetings rather than virtual meetings in the future. All members present indicated support of resuming in-person meetings provided they were held after June 15 and in a larger room like the Community Room in City Hall.

Action Items

Revised Revenue Distribution Percentages for Fiscal Years 2020/21 and 2021/22

Erin Bertain explained the redistribution of revenue for Fiscal Year 2020/21 and 2021/22 is a cleanup item related to the additional general fund allocation to replace the use of some AB109 funds in the jail that was approved by the Board on March 16. She reminded the group that the AB109 fund balance has been declining sharply and the additional general fund for the jail significantly improved the outlook of the fund. She explained that, during the process to prepare the budget amendment, the Auditor's Office requested the AB109 revenue distributions be revised to reflect the receipt of additional general fund to the jail.

Bill Schueller moved to approve the revised revenue distribution percentages for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. Donnell Ewert seconded the motion. Motion passed: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes

Operational Updates

Tracie Neal announced that Teresa Skinner accepted another job and would be leaving at the end of the month.

Future Agenda Items

Tracie referred to the agenda for a list of upcoming topics to be discussed and asked for any additional items members of the committee would like to see added. William Bateman asked to add the Striker Funding to a future agenda.

Next Meeting

Tracie Neal stated the next meeting would be for the full committee on June 16, 2021. She said the meeting would be in-person at a location to be determined.

Adjourn

William Bateman motioned to adjourn. Bill Schueller seconded the motion. Motion passed: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.