

**Work Plan and Implementation Status Report**  
**Subcommittee on Assessment and Connections**  
*Reentry Council*

**Purpose of the Subcommittee on Assessment and Connections**

Improve assessments, referrals, and connections for individuals across systems and institutions, including appropriate connections between institutions and outside, and criminal justice and non-criminal justice entities.

<b>Need or Barrier</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Info to Gather and Possible Next Steps</b>
<p><b>Civil Rights &amp; Civic Engagement of Formerly Incarcerated People #8</b></p> <p><i>Voting</i></p> <p>Need for outreach and education about voting for inmates, and families of inmates, of eligible voters in county jails.</p>	<p>Assess feasibility of establishing a regular polling station in the SF County Jails for inmates and visitors of inmates on Election days.</p> <p>Consider implementation in at least one SF County Jail.</p> <p>Register eligible voters beyond jail. Staff from Adult Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, and Public Defender's Office, among others could explain eligibility criteria to clients and register them if they are eligible to vote.</p>	<p>SF Sheriff's Department Prisoner Legal Services (PLS) provides extensive outreach and education in County Jails. According to PLS it is not feasible to establish a polling station at a county jail. PLS indicated that resources are better spent by registering eligible voters in-house (which is done by PLS staff); and in the community. Inmates' family and friends can be educated and registered during visiting waiting time. All registered voters should be educated about mailing ballots.</p> <p>Social Workers of the Public Defender's Office participated in education and dissemination campaigns for 2008 elections.</p>	<p>Invite representative from Department of Elections to future subcommittee meeting to discuss possibility of additional polling stations for families visiting jails.</p> <p><u>Create a Voter Registration Task Force to register eligible voters in county jail (inmates and visitors) and in the community. Members of the task force would include staff from: Prisoners Legal Services, Adult Probation Department, Public Defender Office, District Attorney's Office, and Parole.</u></p> <p>Next Election Day is November 6, 2012, for a General Election. <u>Deadline to register for next election is October 22, 2012.</u></p> <p><u>Once the election gets closer, disseminate information about propositions and candidates. Partner with Five Keys Charter School.</u></p> <p><u>Request voting literacy materials to KOED.</u></p>

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<p><b>Civil Rights &amp; Civic Engagement of Formerly Incarcerated People</b></p> <p><b>New</b></p> <p><i>Voting</i></p> <p>In March 2012, CCSF and State were named as respondents in law suit brought on behalf of people on PRCS, 1170(h)(5)(b) Mandatory Supervision, and those in jail under 1170(h).</p>	<p>On December 5, 2011 the Secretary of State issued a memo clarifying voting eligibility for the population under the <i>Criminal Justice Realignment Act (CJRA)(AB 109-117)</i>. According to this memo, the <i>CJRA</i> did not change the voting status of offenders convicted of <i>CJRA</i> defined felonies (PC 1170(h)) because they serve their sentences in county jail instead of prison; the voting status of these individuals does not change if they are released under Mandatory Supervision* (PC 1170(h)(5)(b)) as part of their sentence. And, it did not change the voting status of those confined in state prison and then released on Post-Release Community Supervision* (PRCS) because this release is labeled other than “parole”. *Supervised by Adult Probation Department.</p> <p>On March 9, 2012, the City and County of San Francisco Department of Elections and the Secretary of State were named as respondents in a petition (All of Us or None v. Bowen) brought on behalf of people on PRCS, Mandatory Supervision/1170(h)(5)(b), and those in jail under 1170(h).</p> <p>On April 16, 2012, San Francisco’s City Attorney representing the Department of Elections filed a response determining that in their interpretation of the law, these individuals do have a right to vote. The Secretary of State filed a response recommending that the Court of Appeals hears the matter.</p> <p>On May 17, 2012, the Court of Appeals denied the petition and it refused to hear the case or issue an opinion.</p> <p>On June 18, 2012, San Francisco City Attorney filed a request to the California Supreme Court for review of the petition.</p> <p>On July 25, 2012, the California Supreme Court denied review of the case. This means that the Secretary of State's interpretation stands, and low-level felony offenders sentenced to county jail under (1170(h)), or released under Mandatory Supervision (1170(h)(5)(b)) or Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS) do NOT have the right to vote.</p>		
<p><b>Civil Rights &amp; Civic Engagement of Formerly Incarcerated People #10</b></p> <p><i>Access to Identification</i></p> <p>Obtaining a proper set of personal identification requires in-person visits to multiple agencies.</p>	<p>Staff and resource Parole PACT meetings and County Probation Orientation meetings so that all individuals attending these meetings are able to directly obtain or apply for birth certificates, social security cards, and driver’s licenses or state identifications. Consider service delivery models that streamline administration and contain costs.</p>	<p>PACT meetings are held on Tuesdays at 10am at 1727 Mission Street.</p> <p>APD and Sheriff’s Department orientations are held daily at 70 Oak Grove for people being released.</p> <p>APD hosts orientation for Domestic Violence, Drug Diversion, among other units.</p>	<p>At a minimum have applications available at these sites.</p> <p><u>Check with DMV about how to get vouchers to pay for ID Card.</u></p>

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<p><b>Community Justice and Alternatives to Incarceration #2</b></p> <p><i>Diversion, Pretrial Release, Unlocked Alternatives to Incarceration</i></p> <p>Limited information on defendants' risks, needs, and service linkages is available to judges, from arraignment through sentencing, to assist in placing individuals into appropriate alternatives to incarceration.</p>	<p>Implement risk/needs assessment and case management system (COMPAS) for all defendants and probationers for use by judges and probation officers, in conjunction with training in evidence based sentencing (CalRAPP pilot) and supervision practices, to expand use of appropriate alternatives to incarceration in lieu of jail or prison.</p>	<p>SFAPD administers COMPAS for Pre-Sentencing Investigations (PSIs) and for 1170(h)/PRCS pre-release or upon release.</p> <p><u>There were concerns about confidentiality issues with COMPAS. The District Attorney's Office signed an MOU agreeing not to use the information generated from COMPAS for the purpose of the prosecution. The tool is mainly to identify clients' needs.</u></p> <p><u>Jail Psychiatric Services wants to explore how to share information, if possible.</u></p> <p><u>There are concerns about Supervised Pre-Release Program in lieu of OR being underutilized.</u></p>	<p><u>Lee Ann from Adult Probation Department presented an overview of the assessment tool.</u></p> <p><u>Bring underutilization of alternatives to incarceration to the attention of the Reentry Council, and ask them to have a special presentation about this issue at their October 23, 2012 meeting.</u></p> <p><u>The purpose of the presentation should be to start a conversation with the courts and judges about barriers to using available services and programs, and how to overcome these barriers.</u></p>
<p><b>Community Justice and Alternatives to Incarceration #4</b></p> <p><i>Intensive, Specialized, Regular Supervision</i></p> <p>Lack of comprehensive strategy, appropriate staffing and sufficient funding has historically limited SF Adult Probation Department's and CDCR Division's of Parole Operations from providing effective supervision and/or treatment that minimizes recidivism.</p>	<p>SF Adult Probation Department and CDCR Division of Parole Operations continue to implement evidenced based practices in parole and probation, including use of validated risk/needs assessments, referrals to services as related to assessed needs, and staff training and reorganization. Support implementation by exploring creation of a centralized reentry one stop center to which parole and probation may easily refer.</p>	<p>SFAPD implementing EBPs across organization including training and use of risk and needs assessments tools.</p> <p>Realignment provided opportunity to create streamline access to dedicated services and bid for Community Assessment Service Center (CASC) which will serve realignment and probation populations.</p> <p><u>APD released a Request for Proposals for Reentry Services in May. Proposals are due June 25.</u></p>	

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<p><b>Health &amp; Well-Being of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #1</b></p> <p><i>Shelter</i></p> <p>The real-time centralized reservation system for SF's Emergency Shelter beds has been designed to meet needs of those who are currently homeless. There is not an access point for people exiting jails and prisons to allow for reserving a shelter bed prior to release, resulting in lack of immediate shelter upon release for those who do not know about reservation system, or who are unable to arrive at reservation site in time.</p>	<p>Develop a protocol within SF's Emergency Shelter bed reservation system for people who are exiting jails and prisons. Allow reservations to be made for incarcerated people by setting aside a number of beds for this population for their reservation during daytime, which can then be released for others if not used. Consider establishing an additional access point from in custody, to be connected to real-time reservation system for Emergency Shelter beds.</p>	<p>Community Justice Center (CJC) has designated shelter beds for this population.</p> <p>Releases from County Jails at unreasonable hours.</p> <p>The Shelter Monitoring Committee is hosting a series of meeting (Shelter Access Work Group) to discuss shelter needs in San Francisco.</p> <p>For information about the work group visit: <a href="http://www.sfgov3.org/index.aspx?page=3636">http://www.sfgov3.org/index.aspx?page=3636</a> or contact Amanda Fried at 415-554-6881</p>	<p>Initiate conversations with HSA and Sheriff's Department. This recommendation can be included in the Reentry Pod planning process.</p> <p><u>Develop a system to identify after hours shelter beds availability and have pick up locations such as resource centers for people to drop in if they want to be taken to shelters.</u></p> <p><u>Expand the conversation with San Francisco Housing Authority. Housing for individuals recently released from prison or jail remains a critical barrier identified by each subcommittee.</u></p> <p><u>Explore possibility of Women's Reentry Center and Community Assessment and Services Center to operate after hours for people to wait for availability of beds in shelter.</u></p> <p><u>Participate in Meetings of the Shelter Access Workgroup.</u></p>
<p><b>Health &amp; Well-Being of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #4</b></p> <p><i>Prison and Jail based Health Services</i></p> <p>Access to state prison medical records, including current prescriptions, are not accessible enough by public and community based healthcare providers treating patients on outside.</p>	<p>Develop local-state partnership to provide CDCR inmates with option of sharing medical records with SF Department of Public Health prior to release. Build upon infrastructure recently developed to centralize prescription information within CDCR. Consider cost of technology and other infrastructure needed.</p>	<p>SFDPH has opted in to receive medical information from CDCR (hard copies). They currently receive medical history for everybody released on PRCS and they receive medical information for other people on parole upon request.</p>	<p>Continue to emphasize the importance of sharing medical information electronically prior to release to increase system of care efficiency.</p>

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<p><b>Health &amp; Well-Being of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #9</b></p> <p><i>Mental Health Treatment</i></p> <p>Behavioral health care for parolees eligible for Parole Outpatient Clinic is limited, and disconnected from SF Community Behavioral Health System.</p>	<p>Explore possibility of developing a state-local agreement for SF Department of Public Health to provide mental health services to parolees that are currently provided by Parole Outpatient Clinic.</p>	<p><b>Significant change since realignment.</b></p> <p>SFDPH now responds for mental health care for PRCS population.</p> <p>SFDPH continues to receive contract for SMI Parolees, and it subcontracts to HAFC/WH for Bridges Programs.</p> <p><u>POC is perceived as not reliable. POC provides mostly Case Management but and not treatment. Usually POC refers clients to DPH for mental health treatment.</u></p>	<p><u>Connect with clinicians from POC to get their view on the services they provide.</u></p>
<p><b>Self-Sufficiency of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #3</b></p> <p><i>Employment Supportive Services</i></p> <p>Incarcerated people face obstacles and delays to accessing the local continuum of workforce development opportunities. Delay in assessing individuals for valuable Workforce Investment Act (WIA) certified training opportunities until post release.</p>	<p>Develop process and capacity for assessing all CDCR inmates returning to San Francisco for WIA eligibility pre-release. Partner with organizations working inside of prisons.</p>	<p>Reentry SF</p> <p>Pre-Release Team goes into State Prisons as part of PRCS.</p> <p>Reentry Council appointed a representative to the WiCAC to bring to this Committee's attention the needs of formerly incarcerated people.</p>	<p>Integrate WIA eligibility into Pre-Release Assessment. <u>–This is a difficult task; individuals applying for these services should have several documents available (ID card, SS card) and individuals in custody may not have them.</u></p> <p><u>The process is cumbersome already for people out in the community.</u></p>

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<p><b>Self-Sufficiency of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #6</b></p> <p><i>Benefits Access</i></p> <p>Lack of assessment, application, and connection to means tested benefits prior to release from jail. Underutilization of SSI/SSP, Food Stamps, GA/CAAP, TANF (CalWORKS), and Veterans Administration benefits further disconnects reentering individuals</p>	<p>Develop a process for assessing, applying for, and connecting eligible SF County Jail inmates prior to release for SSI/SSP, Food Stamps, GA/CAAP, TANF (CalWORKS), and Veterans Administration. Consider monthly “Connect” events inside County Jail. Consider staffing and technology needed.</p>	<p>Reentry Pod. –Preliminary discussion between Sheriff’s Department and APD to create a specialized housing unit for people awaiting release (between 30 and 90 days prior). Specific reentry type services will be provided in this pod.</p> <p><u>Transitions clinic provides these services.</u></p>	<p><u>Provide training on social services to clients and their families.</u></p> <p><u>HAS will partner with CASC to offer service prior to release or very soon after.</u></p>
<p><b>Self-Sufficiency of Current and Formerly Incarcerated People #7</b></p> <p><i>Benefits Access</i></p> <p>Lack of assessment, application, and connection to means tested benefits prior to release from prisons. Underutilization of SSI/SSP, Food Stamps, GA/CAAP, TANF (CalWORKS), and Veterans Administration benefits further disconnects reentering individuals.</p>	<p>Develop a process for assessing, applying for, and connecting eligible CDCR inmates prior to release for SSI/SSP, Food Stamps, GA/CAAP, TANF (CalWORKS), and Veterans Administration benefits. Consider partnering with neighboring counties to reach all key prisons through Statewide Network of Reentry Councils. Consider utilizing inter-county transfers between county social services departments in county of prison and that in county of parole.</p>	<p>Pre-Release Team going into State Prisons.</p> <p>The Federal Reentry Council assigned a number of representatives to work directly with counties on issues regarding reentry population access to federal benefits.</p>	<p>Initiate conversation with HSA on how to implement the inter-county transfers.</p> <p>Include this item in the California Reentry Council Network (CRCN) monthly calls and later in the website.</p> <p>Identified the distribution of people leaving different state prisons and coming to San Francisco.</p> <p>Reach out to Federal Regional Representatives and invite them to participate at our next meeting on October 17.</p>

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<p><b>Families, Victims, and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Families #1</b></p> <p><i>Reentry for the Family</i></p> <p>Most reentry planning does not adequately consider the safety and needs of the family members of the returning individual. Income supports and behavioral health are key areas of need for families.</p>	<p>Incorporate families and children into individuals' reentry plans to encourage realistic and healthy relationship, or continued separation from, family members, as appropriate. Ensure safety of family members, and unique needs of individual families, are considered.</p>	<p>SFAPD is implementing Family Focused Probation practices.</p> <p>SFAPD has included a Family Impact Statement in the Pre-Investigation.</p>	
<p><b>Families, Victims, and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Victims #2</b></p> <p><i>Safety &amp; Notification</i></p> <p>Lack of functioning notification system for survivors of crimes committed by offenders currently incarcerated in SF County Jail. Previously, San Francisco utilized Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system.</p>	<p>Establish local notification system for survivors to be notified of release. Consider funding and infrastructure required to ensure that system meets needs of survivors.</p>	<p>VINE will be implemented again.</p>	
<p><b>Families, Victims, and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Victims #3</b></p> <p><i>Behavioral Health &amp; Trauma Recovery</i></p> <p>Lack of continuum of support for short and long term needs of survivors. Difficulty identifying secondary victims, especially children.</p>	<p>Develop City led system to identify and reach out to individuals who are survivors. Provide continuum of outreach and support in short, medium, and long term. Partner with Healing Circle, SFUSD, and others to reach often transient population.</p>	<p>SFDPH offers services through Crisis Response Services (CRS).</p>	<p>Invite DPH CRS to a future meeting to explain their services, roles, and barriers.</p> <p>Invite Sheriff's Department's Survivor Restoration Project to explain services and challenges.</p>

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<p><b>Families, Victims, and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Victims #6</b></p> <p><i>Safety &amp; Notification</i> Survivors of violent crime do not have sufficient information about former offenders' parole or probation conditions, and process for reporting any suspected violations of conditions.</p>	<p>Develop notification system for survivors of violent crime when former offenders are placed on probation or parole. Build upon existing local and state systems to ensure that survivors are notified of conditions of probation/parole, and are in touch with probation/parole agent.</p>	<p>Protocols exist between DA's Office Victim Services and Adult Probation Department.</p>	
<p><b>Families, Victims, and Communities</b></p> <p><b>Victims #4</b></p> <p><i>Safety &amp; Notification</i> Survivors of domestic violence face particular risks when former abusers are released from jail/prison or placed on probation/parole for other crimes (domestic violence or other).</p>	<p>Develop specialized notification protocol for survivors of domestic violence whose former abusers are arrested or convicted for other crimes, or placed under supervision. Consider privacy of former abusers, and effectiveness of notification system.</p>	<p>Protocols exist between DA's Office Victim Services and Adult Probation Department.</p>	