**Reentry Council**

**City & County of San Francisco**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, July 25th, 2019

10am- 12pm

St. Anthony’s Foundation

150 Golden Gate Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94102

**Member Present:** Tara Anderson, representing District Attorney George Gascón (co-chair); Chief Adult Probation Officer Karen Fletcher (co-chair); Ali Riker, representing Sheriff Vicki Hennessy (co-chair); Simin Shamji, representing Public Defender Manohar Raju (co-chair); Mawuli Tugbenyoh, representing Mayor Breed’s Office (co-chair); Chief Allen Nance, Juvenile Probation Department; Angela Coleman, Board Appointee; Angelica Almeida, Department of Public Health; Aspen Marshall, California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, Division of Parole Operations; Kaki Marshall, Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing; Karen Roye, Director, Department of Child Support Services; Jasmine Dawson, Department of Children, Youth & Their Families; Shannon Martin, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco; Lucero Herrera, Mayoral Appointee, Ian Fregosi, representing, Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer of the Board of Supervisors; Noelle Simmons, Human Services Agency; Captain John Gemornin, San Francisco Police Department; Victoria Westbrook, Board Appointee; Amy Rizor, U.S. Probation Office; Sheenia Branner, Mayoral Appointee; Norma Ruiz, Mayoral Appointee, and Tajuana Gray representing; Office of Economic and Workforce Development

**Members Absent:** Jose Bernal, Board Appointee; Teddy Tolliver, Board Appointee;

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Mawuli Tugbenyoh, representing Mayor Breed’s Office, called the meeting to order at 10:05am. Mawuli acknowledged his four co-chairs: Karen Fletcher, Chief Adult Probation Officer; Simin Shamji representing Public Defender, Manohar Raju; Ali Riker, representing Sheriff Vicki Hennessy; and Tara Anderson, representing District Attorney George Gascón. Mawuli highlighted the newest member of the Reentry Council (Council) Sheenia Branner, a mayoral appointee for the Transitional Age Youth seat. She was welcomed by the Reentry Council and the public. Sheenia Branner briefly shared with the Council that she was born and raised in San Francisco’s Hunter’s Point area. She stated she has been attending these meetings for over a year and that she wanted to give back to her community by sitting on this Council. She acknowledged Geoffrea Morris and the Reentry Division of San Francisco Adult Probation Department in supporting her with the appointment process.
2. **Public Comment on Any Item Listed Below as for “Discussion Only.”**

There was no public comment for this agenda item.

1. **Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of April 25th, 2019 (discussion & possible action).**

Kaki Marshall, Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing, informed the Reentry Council that Healthy Streets Operation Center (HSOC) opened in January of 2018 and NOT January 2019.

Angelica Almeida, Department of Public Health, stated their program was called “Supporting Treatment And Reducing Recidivism” and NOT “Supportive.”

Director Karen Roye motioned to adopt the amended minutes of April 25, 2019 and Ali Riker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the minutes were adopted.

1. **Staff Report on Activities of the Reentry Council and its Subcommittees (discussion & possible action).**

Lauren Bell, Director of the Reentry Division and Geoffrea Morris, Reentry Policy Planner, provided the staff report on activities of the Reentry Council.

Staff Updates

i. A formal announcement was made that Reentry Council Member, Victoria Westbrook, had been selected as the new Women’s Gender Responsive Coordinator for Adult Probation’s Reentry Division. Geoffrea informed the Council that Adult Probation Department had just completed their first cohort of Mothers Matter. She stated there were five graduates. She informed the body that there would be a second cohort scheduled tentatively for September.

iii. Geoffrea informed the Council that the Hep-C work in-custody presentation, which was requested by Council Member, Victoria Westbrook, would be heard during October’s meeting.

iv. Geoffrea stated the Humanizing Language/ Person first Language; which was passed in April’s meeting was introduced to the Board of Supervisors by Supervisor Fewer. Geoffrea stated several supervisors signed on to co-sponsor the non-binding resolution. She stated the Board of Supervisors passed the legislation; as well as, 20 plus Criminal Justice Agencies sign on to support the resolution. Geoffrea stated the resolution was now on Mayor Breed’s desk. She also informed the Council that SF Weekly had wrote an article about the Resolution.

Subcommittee Updates

iii. Geoffrea informed the Council that more than 20 People attended May’s Reentry Council Lobby Day. She stated attendees visited almost every legislative office advocating on the seven Reentry Bills that were still active on the floor. She also informed the Council that the group was able to meet with Senator Scott Weiner.

iv. **Community Appreciation Dinner**, an annual Reentry Council event, was held on

June 13, 2019. This year’s dinner had over 100 plus people representing the formerly incarcerated community and families impacted by the criminal justice system. Several community partners attended this event. There were no services offered during this event; the event was tailored around family and community having fun. It was an amazing event. The Council gave a special thanks to Julio Escobar from Restorative Ministries with the San Francisco Archdioceses; as well as, APD Reentry Team, Sheriff’s Department, Senior Ex-Offenders Program and Ernest Kirkwood.

**Recovery Summit**, Steve Adami, Manager from the Reentry Division at Adult Probation, spoke about the 2nd Annual Recovery Summit hosted on June 26th 2019. This year’s event was focused on the Impact of Drug Use on Family Members. It was an amazing event with an amazing keynote speaker and panel discussion. Steve informed the body that a video of the event will be posted soon and that it was currently being reviewed. Steve informed the Council that the Recovery Summit Workgroup was currently in the process of launching two surveys: one for active or former drug users and one for family members effected by drug use. Steve informed the Council that he hopes to bring the recommendations from survey to the Reentry Council and then possibly move to the Health Commission.

v. **Non Partisan Debate Series**

Geoffrea made several announcements about upcoming events:

The Reentry Council is having a District Attorney Debate at the Public Library’s Koret Auditorium on Thursday August 22nd from 5:30pm-8:00pm. The Council was informed that the moderator for this event will be Council Member, Jose Bernal.

The Reentry Council is also hosting a Sheriff’s Debate on August 29th in the Koret Auditorium from 5:30pm-8:00pm. The moderators for this debate will be mayoral appointees, Sheenia Branner and Norma Ruiz.

Geoffrea informed the Council that since the Public Defender was running unopposed, the Council was hoping to have community meeting at either Café Envy in the Bayview or United Playaz in the South of Market Area. Geoffrea mentioned a possible community location in the Mission District.

Geoffrea informed the body that the Annual Reentry Conference and Resource Fair will be held on September 6th at [St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough Street @Geary in San Francisco](https://sfarchdiocese.org/events/reentry-conference-and-resource-fair) from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Geoffrea concluded the Staff Report by seeking approval from the Reentry Council to host a Register to Vote Campaign on October 10, 2019. Geoffrea stated the desire would be to send folks out to six justice-impacted locations to get people to register to vote.

Mawuli informed the Reentry Council that Geoffrea Morris was seeking approval from this Council to host a October 10, 2019 Voter Registration Outreach day to communities that are highly impacted by the criminal justice system.

Sheenia Branner motioned and Chief Adult Probation Officer, Karen Fletcher, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

1. **Regular Update on Activities of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Sentencing Commission, Collaborative Courts, and Community Corrections Partnership, LEAD, Prop 47 (discussion only).**

Angelica Almeida presented on LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) and Prop 47 Programs. She stated LEAD has had a lot of activity with 77% of referrals coming from the San Francisco Police Department. She stated 64% of all referrals were coming from the Tenderloin area. Angelica stated the LEAD Program has enough funds to continue until June 2020. She stated the LEAD Program has highlighted the need for low threshold Harm Reduction case management for substance use disorder treatment.

Angelica informed the Council that the Department of Public Health had been awarded the Prop 47 Grant for six million dollars. She stated the contract should be signed soon and that grant is scheduled to start on August 16th. She mentioned a desire to move quickly in implementing the program.

Karen Roye, Director of the Department of Child Support Services, and Reentry Council representative on the Sentencing Commission, gave an update on the Sentencing Commission Meeting that was held June 19, 2019. Karen stated there were three key presentations at the past Sentencing Commission:

1. A Safety and Justice Challenge update

2. A sentencing enhancement and incarceration in San Francisco from 2005-2017 update

3. A Computational Policy Lab report given

Karen stated the next the Sentencing Commission meeting was scheduled for Sept 18, 2019 at 850 Bryant in the District Attorney’s Law Library

Geoffrea Morris informed the body that the annual CCP Meeting was scheduled for Thursday August 15th at 10am-12pm in the State of California Building located at 455 Golden Gate Ave in the San Diego rooms.

Council Member Victoria Westbrook asked about DPH’s bed placements in regards to outcomes about Prop 47. Angelica Almeida responded that in their upcoming evaluation those questions will be answered.

Aspen Marshall asked if other agencies could make referrals for the beds mentioned in Angelica Almeida’s report. Angelica responded that DPH is interested in helping any agency streamline referrals.

1. Additional Reentry Council Co-Chair from the Previously Incarcerated Community (discussion only and possible action)

During April’s meeting, Council Member Jose Bernal suggested that a 6th co-chair be added to this Council, and that the newest chair be held by one of the appointed previously incarcerated members on the Council.

Council Member Norma Ruiz informed Council that their voices needed to be heard by the people who has say over incarcerated people’s lives. Kaki Marshall informed the Council that we should include those voices of those who are affected by the outcomes of our decisions. Karen Roye informed the Council that this was a wonderful moment and an exciting time to create equity on this Council. Simin Shamji informed Council that her office is behind this and supports this.

Karen Fletcher motioned to approve a 6th co-chair be added to the Reentry Council, and that the newest chair be held by one of the appointed previously incarcerated Council members. The motion was seconded Ali Riker. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

1. Presentation on Getting Out and Staying Out Guide

Destiny Pletsch from the Reentry Division at the Adult Probation Department provided an introduction for Charlie Thao, one of the lead developers of the Getting Out and Staying Out Guide’s (GOSO) Website. Charlie Thao was formerly incarcerated at San Quentin State Prison and began working with the Last Mile on digitizing the paper guide of the GOSO to a web platform. During his presentation, Charlie informed the body on how to navigate the website, and informed everyone that the site was very user and mobile friendly. Charlie was able to walk through some of the different links and informed the Reentry Council that he shares the information regularly with other folks in the criminal justice system.

Destiny informed the Council that it was the plan of Adult Probation Department’s to upload the guide book onto tablets for in-custody use. She stated the goal of the GOSO website is to continue to have information sharing for those getting out and wanting to stay out.

The presenters referenced page 23 of the public packet on how the public can access the digitized site. [www.SF-GOSO.org](http://www.SF-GOSO.org)

Chief Fletcher thanked her team for their work on digitizing the GOSO guide. Karen Roye also thanked everyone and Charlie on this amazing work. Council member, Victoria Westbrook, stated this website was a game changer for her clients and staff. Angelica Almeida also added that the DPH’s TAY System of Care would be a great resource to TAY youth and that she was happy to partner with APD’s Reentry Division to make sure that this information was uploaded into the Guide. Tara Anderson also wanted to echo all of the compliments and thank Charlie for his work on this site.

An unidentified member of the public asked if there was an app for the GOSO Guide. Charlie informed the public that there was not an app for the GOSO Guide; however, that the website was very user and mobile friendly. Jasmine Dawson also informed the public and the body that DCYF also funds programs for transitional aged youth that might would be a resource to the guide.

1. Presentation on Victim Compensation Fund CALVCB by District Attorneys

Maria Miguel from the District Attorney’s Office did a presentation on California’s Victim Compensation (Cal VCB). She instructed the Council and members of public that a copy of her slides could be found on pages 24 to 29 of the Reentry Council’s Public Packet.

Maria informed the Reentry Council on who is eligible for California’s Victim Compensation Fund (Cal VCB) and how it is funded. Maria stated since January 1, 2016, people who are victims with felony conviction can apply for benefits, but are not eligible until they are off probation or parole. She also informed the Council that eligible “derivative victims” are also eligible for Cal VCB Program. She stated the Cal VCB program also cover minor witnesses. Maria provided scenarios on why some applicants may be denied. She also informed the Reentry Council that emergency assistance is available based on immediate need or substantial hardship. She stated payment can be rendered in 30 days. Maria also informed the Reentry Council that Cal VCB offices are located all over California, and the California State law requires that all law enforcement agents inform victims with information on Cal VCB.

Tara Anderson also informed the Council that Victim Compensation has had 22 changes to the victim compensation program in the past years. Tara stated there is still work to be done in supporting our folks involved in the criminal justice system; however she stated the District Attorney’s Office has seen its denial rate go from 30% to 4% rate with these new changes. In 2018, 2,000 people individuals had received over 1.6 million dollars in Cal VCB funds. Tara also shared the District Attorney’s Office also has a small fund to support those who may not qualify for Cal VCB support.

Sheenia asked if victims could file for Cal VCB while in custody/ incarcerated. Maria informed her that victims could apply; however, she stated they would not be eligible to receive funds until they were out of custody and off probation or parole.

Norma Ruiz asked if Cal VCB funds covered victims of police involved shooting and witnesses and/or family members of these incident? Maria informed her that they would base the victims’ eligibility on their emotional connection to the crime; Maria said in order to be eligibility for Cal VCB there needs to be a crime. In summation, if a police involved shooting is not deemed a crime, then the funds are not available. The crime needs to be definitive to move forward in application.

Public Comment: Dauras Cyprian, from Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, asked if family members of people who have violent felonies or on parolee are victims of crime, is their family members eligible for services? Maria informed Dauras that the family members would be covered under Derivative victims.

1. Presentation on ACA 6/ AB 646, Free the Vote Act by Legal Services for Prisoners with Children All of Us or None from Dauras Cyprian

Dauras Cyprian presented on ACA 6, Free the Vote Act. Presently, several criminal justice reform agencies are seeking to restore the voting rights for individuals on parole. Currently, there are 18 states including Washington D.C that has restored individuals voting rights upon release from prison. Dauras informed the body that currently, California legislators are seeking to amend California’s Constitution to allow individuals being released from prison the ability to vote. ACA 6 is accompanied by AB 646 that would send this voting rights initiative to the 2020 ballot for Californians to decide.

Tara Anderson from the District Attorney informed the Council that District Attorney, George Gascon, is in support of ACA 6/ AB 646. She stated the District Attorney’s goal is shift the perspective of this being a public safety issue. Ian from Supervisor Fewer’s office also informed the Council that she is a co-sponsor of the resolution and wanted to thank all of the advocates for their support.

Public Comment: An unidentified member of the Public urged the body to please keep up support for Free the Vote Act.

Mawuli requested a Motion to support Supervisor Haney’s Resolution supporting ACA 6/ AB 646, the Free the Vote Act.

The following Council Members requested to abstain from the motion to support ACA 6/ AB 646.

Mawuli from Mayor Breed’s Office

Amy Rizor from U.S. Probation Office,

Captain John Gemornini from San Francisco Police Department,

Aspen Marshall from California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, and

Chief Allen Nance, Juvenile Probation Department

Mawuli then requested for a motion to allow above departments to abstain from support of ACA 6/ AB 646.

Sheenia Branner motioned to allow the above members to abstain voting to support ACA 6/ AB 646. Chief Karen Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion motioned passed unanimously.

Karen Roye motioned to support of ACA 6/ AB 646 and Tajuana Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

There was no public comment for either motion.

1. Presentation by Criminal Justice Racial Equity Co-Chairs and Bias Diversity and Inclusive Training Inventory Request Letter to all departments.

Tara and Geoffrea informed the Council of the training letter enclosed in their public packet around racial equity and diversity. Both Tara and Geoffrea are graduates of the Government Alliance on Race and Equity. They informed the body that the goal of this training inventory letter was to amplify the trainings and fill some of the gaps that we all are seeing in the work we do here in San Francisco as criminal justice agencies. They acknowledged the work that the Human Rights Commission had already done in the area of Racial Equity. They also informed the group that this inventory request would work in tandem with the City’s goals around racial equity. Geoffrea and Tara informed the body that they were hoping to receive the training inventory list by September 30, 2019.

Victoria motioned to support the Bias, Diversity, and Inclusive Training letter. Karen Roye seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Public Comment: member of the comments requested to think about Post Traumatic Slave trade training

1. Council Members’ Comments, questions and Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Karen Roye wanted to help raise awareness on the upcoming Census and she wanted to know how to properly count our justice-involved population. She requested a presentation from the City’s census division and she also asked if the subcommittees could get involved in the census outreach.

1. Public Comment

Caleb Maldonado, a member of the community, asked the Council to continue support youth 18- 24. Caleb felt the City needed to provide more Reentry Support to the youth at a younger age prior to youth entering jail and/ or prison.

Norma Ruiz motioned to adjourn the meeting; which was seconded by Kaki Marshall. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57am.