



MEMORANDUM
SHERIFF'S OFFICE, PROBATION DEPARTMENT
& HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: May 3, 2016

FROM: Edward N. Bonner, Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

Marshall Hopper, Chief Probation Officer

Jeffrey Brown, Director, Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Collaborative Plan to Help Address Homelessness in Placer County

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive a joint presentation from the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and the Department of Health and Human Services on a collaborative plan to help address homelessness in Placer County.

BACKGROUND

The Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and the Department of Health and Human Services jointly recognize the need for a collaborative plan which increases internal coordination between our three agencies to better address issues and needs pertaining to the homeless population in Placer County. Each of the three partnering agencies have developed components to this collaborative approach, and taken together, we believe this plan is an important step in effectuating the changes your Board and the citizens of Placer County are seeking. Details of the collaborative plan, as well as resources required to implement the plan should your Board desire, are presented for review and discussion.

Sheriff's Office:

The Sheriff's Office is committed to protecting all citizens of Placer County and providing exceptional public safety services, while accomplishing our mission of maintaining the quality of life our citizens enjoy. In an effort to ensure Placer County is a safe place to live, work and visit, the Sheriff's Office has assessed impacts of the homeless population from a law enforcement perspective, and developed a plan to help reduce the homeless population by providing assistance and referring these individuals to available services.

The Sheriff's Office has been keeping transient related statistics in the field since June 2014. Unfortunately, prior to August 2015, data input was a bit inconsistent, and therefore proved somewhat unreliable. Improvements have been made to collection and recording methodologies, and recorded data now provides a much more accurate portrayal of transient related contacts and calls for service in North Auburn. The North Auburn area is divided into three "beat" boundaries designated as "Alpha" (North of Bell Road), "Boy" (I-80 Corridor near Foresthill Exit), and "David" (Placer County Government Center and Highway 49 Corridor).

Transient Related Call Volume (August 2015 - Present)									
Shift	"Alpha"			"Boy"			"David"		
	<i>Total Calls</i>	<i>Transient Calls</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total Calls</i>	<i>Transient Calls</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total Calls</i>	<i>Transient Calls</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Day (0630-1630)	1,658	474	29%	702	104	15%	2,017	796	39%
Swing (1500-0100)	1,605	218	14%	752	54	7%	1,498	407	27%
Graveyard (2200-0800)	645	101	16%	398	36	9%	616	168	27%
Total	3,908	793	20%	1,852	194	10%	4,131	1,371	33%

Note: Transient Related Calls for Service represent 24% of ALL Calls for Service in North Auburn since August 2015 (2,358 of 9,891)

Reducing the criminal element within the homeless population in Placer County is a priority for the Sheriff's Office. In order to effectively address the impact of transient/homeless issues in the County, the Sheriff's Office will need to create four (4) Homeless Community Liaison (HCL) positions to contact, document, track, and offer services to eligible members of the community who find themselves homeless. The Sheriff's HCL's will be tasked with addressing on-going concerns relating to transient/homeless behavior and criminal activity. Assigned Deputies will conduct direct enforcement with individuals who engage in quality-of-life ordinance offenses and criminal activities that negatively impact the quality of life in the community. The deputies will utilize discretion and balance their job by enforcing the law, while also providing human assistance to help the homeless population with their needs. Additionally, HCL's will organize and supervise cleanups of abandoned property and illegal campsites.

Through partnering with the Placer County Probation Department, Health and Human Services, faith based and non-profit organizations, and other law enforcement agencies, the Sheriff's Office can more effectively refer homeless individuals for assistance in obtaining employment, general aid, family support, and housing. The Homeless Community Liaisons will reach out to homeless individuals during consensual contacts and calls for service, and will work closely with all partnering agencies in referrals for additional services and case management. The HCL's will be responsible for maintaining a database to track each of their contacts and their progress through the system. In the future, the Sheriff's Office is hopeful to integrate the data resources of HHS' Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) with data collected by the HCL's to provide an even more comprehensive picture of the homeless population in Placer County.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to improving the quality of life for Placer County residents adversely affected by local crime, and improving the quality of life for those individuals who find themselves part of the homeless community and are seeking services. Your Board's implementation of this plan would allow the Sheriff's Office to have a dedicated Homeless Community Liaison on duty seven days a week for both Day and Swing Shifts, from 6:30 AM until 1:00 AM the following day.

Probation Department:

Probation recognizes the transient population throughout Placer County has a tremendous amount of presenting issues, including: mental health, substance abuse, housing and poverty. A percentage of this population impacts Placer County's jails, law enforcement partners, Health and Human Service partners, and the communities we serve. In keeping with principles outlined in the Marbut Study, Probation collaborates with our partners and is working through these partnerships to engage this population, hold Probationers who are homeless accountable for their actions and behaviors, and to co-locate services as much as possible.

To help mitigate impacts on the Sheriff's Office, and in conjunction with our partners at Health and Human Services (HHS), Probation redirected a Senior Deputy Probation Officer as of March 7, 2016, to contact, document and offer services to eligible members of the community who find themselves homeless, as well as to increase accountability and services to Probationers who are homeless. The caseload for this officer includes in excess of 60 offenders on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), mandatory supervision and formal probation with all types of charges, who are determined to be homeless. Probation has worked with HHS to create a Client Services Practitioner position to work in conjunction with Probation's Senior DPO and to be co-located with Probation in order to best facilitate the delivery of programming and services. This unique issue addressed in a collaborative manner with the Sheriff's Office and HHS, will hold offenders accountable, promote public safety, and provide services to the homeless population that interfaces with the criminal justice system.

In conjunction with this position, Probation will move up its timetable to expand existing Re-Entry and Life Skills Services currently offered in Probation's Placer Re-Entry Program (PREP) Center in South Placer, to include the Welcome Center in Auburn, and/or to a location on C Avenue in the Placer County Government Center. The expansion of PREP and the services offered through the contract with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) will benefit the population here in Auburn, as this population is a subset of the targeted population for these services, while also directly working to address the safety of the North Auburn

community. This program delivers a multitude of services in one location through the coordinated efforts of Deputy Probation Officers and Client Services Practitioners.

The final component of our collaborative effort to address this emergent issue would be the funding of a second Client Services Practitioner. The second position would co-locate with Probation and Sheriff's Office staff to work with transients who are in custody. This position would work to facilitate programs and services as already discussed, while also working to ensure transients who are released from custody have a re-entry plan for programs and services in place, as well as an initial prescription of any needed medications available upon release to further work towards positive outcomes for these individuals.

The Probation Officer, by supervising offenders in the community, will ensure known offender compliance with the terms and conditions of release. The Officer and Practitioners would also complete risk and needs assessments, and develop collaborative case plans based on these assessments. Officers and Practitioners use evidence-based supervision and/or treatment practices to hold offenders accountable and improve the likelihood of successful transition of offenders into self-sufficiency. In the first week of managing the new caseload, this Officer focused attention on the transient population, while conducting 40 contacts (in a variety of settings including our offices, the jail, as well as in the community), referring 14 offenders into appropriate services, arresting 3 and issuing warrants for the arrest of an additional 2, while helping 1 offender transition into stable housing.

Together, the Probation and HHS positions would work to provide offenders, as well as adults at risk of becoming an offender, with cognitive behavioral interventions, life skills, education, including: Anger Management; Job Readiness; Basic Financial and Money Management skills; Drug & Alcohol Education; GED services; and, Theft Education as indicated through their assessments. Client Services Practitioners working with Probation would assess offenders for Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug issues, make referrals for treatment including in-patient and refer offenders to the HHS screening clinic. PREP case managers and Probation would assist offenders with Medi-Cal enrollment, housing, job assistance, education and clothing.

In order to effectively implement this plan, Probation will need to add one new Senior Deputy Probation Officer Field allocation to work with the Officer re-directed in March 2016 and two HHS' Client Services Practitioners to better address issues within the homeless population, while still being able to manage other on-going caseload priorities. Your Board's implementation of this plan would improve the quality of life for Placer County residents affected by the homeless, while also improving the quality of life for those individuals who find themselves part of the homeless community. Probation will continue to work closely with our stated collaborative partners to ensure adequate staffing at all levels to address the needs of the communities we serve.

Department of Health and Human Services:

In addition to homeless outreach and service coordination with the Sheriff's Office and Probation Department, HHS will hire a Housing Coordinator to specialize in the unique aspects of identifying transitional and permanent housing for homeless individuals as they are released from jail and/or on Post Release Community Supervision. This Housing Coordinator will work with local landlords, substance use treatment programs, and other transitional housing placements to better link homeless individuals from the Probation Department, the Sheriff's Office, PREP program staff and the assigned Client Services Practitioners. The Housing Coordinator's expertise to work with local landlords to develop more options for permanent housing is particularly important in Placer County where there is less than a 2% rental vacancy rate and a highly competitive environment for housing placements.

HHS will also continue to work with law enforcement officials in Placer County to better identify and intervene where mental illness, substance use disorders, homelessness and the criminal justice system intersect. The partner organizations are in the process of reviewing post booking diversion programs and how these might better address homelessness and related aspects of treatment services for mental illness and/or substance abuse. We will also be exploring the possible expansion of successful best practices such as expansion of the mobile crisis team who work with law enforcement to respond in the field to assist people in mental health

crisis or the development of a sobering center to address issues of substance use and help officers to return to other critical duties more quickly.

The Health and Human Services Department is committed to working with the Sheriff's Office and the Probation Department to address law enforcement concerns and the underlying causes of homelessness in conjunction with the larger planning work that the Department has embarked on with the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras. As presented at the February 9, 2016, Board meeting, the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras (HRCS) serves as Placer County's Continuum of Care for the homeless population in order to address the full spectrum of prevention; coordinated outreach, intake and referrals; crisis intervention and emergency shelter; case management and access to services; and, permanent and supportive housing. HHS will be returning to your Board in FY 2016-17, in partnership with HRCS, with a complete implementation plan based on the community workgroups associated with the Homeless Needs Assessment and Action Plan presented to your Board by Marbut Consulting in April 2015.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should your Board desire to implement the collaborative plan detailed above, total funding required for FY 2016-17 is estimated at \$1,173,761, which includes on-going costs of \$905,439, and one-time costs of \$268,322:

- **Sheriff's Office (\$648,416)**
 - On-Going - \$439,244 (Salary and Benefits - four Deputy Sheriff allocations)
 - One-Time - \$209,172 (4 Patrol Vehicles and Associated Equipment)

- **Probation Department (\$431,984)**
 - On-Going - \$372,834 (Salary and Benefits - one Senior Deputy Probation Officer; two Client Services Practitioners)
 - One-Time - \$59,150 (Vehicle and Associated Equipment)

- **Health and Human Services (\$93,361)**
 - On-Going - \$93,361 (Salary and Benefits - one Client Services Program Specialist II allocation to serve as a Housing Coordinator)
 - HHS intends to apply for grant funding in FY 2016-17, for up to five years of support, to help off-set costs should the collaborative plan be implemented.