



## **Offender Treatment Advisory Group April 25, 2008 Meeting Summary**

### **OPENING REMARKS**

Director Renee Zito opened the meeting, welcomed the participants, and thanked them for attending. Director Zito provided the members with a brief overview of the meeting agenda. Director Zito also welcomed the new members to the Offender Treatment Advisory Group (OTAG) some of which were not able to attend today's meeting.

Director Zito mentioned that the Little Hoover Commission released a March 2008 report on Addressing Addiction: Improving & Integrating California's Substance Abuse Treatment System. With respect to Proposition 36, the Little Hoover Commission recommended increasing collaboration, performance-based funding, implementing best practices, and improving quality of care.

Director Zito also mentioned that these recommendations underscore the need for members of OTAG to provide its own direction on ways to improve Proposition 36. The recommendations by the Little Hoover Commission are a historic opportunity for change at the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP).

Director Zito concluded with a discussion on her plans for ADP that included:

- Improving the quality of care
- Strengthening counselor certification
- Mandating licensing of all treatment facilities

### **PROGRAM UPDATES**

Millicent provided the members with an update on the Budget Hearings. ADP has completed the first round of Budget Hearings. We are experiencing tough budget times. ADP is preparing to send out the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA), OTP, and the Drug Court application packets based on the Governor's ten percent cuts.

Millicent mentioned that the annual Making It Work conference name has been changed to Building Bridges between Treatment and Criminal Justice. The Building Bridges conference will be held in Del Mar, California from October 8 – 10, 2008. The conference will be taking on a new direction providing opportunities for counties to teach each other.

Millicent reviewed the goals of the OTAG and asked members to think about a focus for the future. After the discussion, members agreed that the OTAG needs to continue.

Millicent mentioned that the next Offender Treatment Advisory Group Meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 11, 2008, and if the State Budget is not signed, ADP cannot authorize travel for the members. As a result, the members decided to reschedule the July 11, 2008 meeting to Monday, June 30, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Millicent introduced Kevin Wortell, OCJC's new Branch Chief for the SACPA, OTP, Drug Courts, and the Parolee Services Network. Kevin is an experienced manager with a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice and nine years with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). He comes from the Parole Division at CDCR and has strong background with Correctional and Community Re-Entry programs and a great enthusiasm for the effort to provide treatment instead of incarceration for drug offenders.

Millicent then facilitated introductions and updates from the OTAG members. She was very pleased that Department of Mental Health (DMH) is at the table and stated their participation is critical to ADP.

There was consensus from the members that the proposed FY 2008-09 ten percent cuts would impact services and outcomes. Millicent added that counties need to focus on what they were beginning to improve on prior to the funding cuts and look at redesigning the way we do business.

### **NON-VIOLENT OFFENDER REHABILITATION ACT (NORA)**

The members had a very lengthy discussion on the Non-Violent Offender Rehabilitation Act (NORA). Members commented that the group needs to set aside personal views and start discussing an implementation plan in the event of its passage.

The members agreed they will need presenters who will represent all sides of NORA including treatment and criminal justice. Members also agreed that they will need to identify what the issues are.

Members concluded that the sheriff's office, district attorney, prosecutors, courts, CDCR, parole, counties, probation, police department, and public defenders are the parties that will be affected by NORA.

### **UPDATE ON SB 1137**

Morgan Staines, Chief Legal Counsel, ADP, provided the members with an update on SB 1137. In March 2008, the court issued a tentative ruling granting the relief requested by the lawsuit.

The ruling found that SB 1137 was inconsistent with the initiative and further struck down the language that would put the measure to the public for a vote. The final decision should be out anytime. As a result, ADP will continue to administer SACPA as usual.

## **CO-OCCURRING JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Al Senella, President, California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives reported that at the last Co-Occurring Joint Action Committee (COJAC) meeting, organizational issues were discussed.

The COJAC provided suggestions for revamping the structure of the committee. Some of these suggestions included having a smaller program within COJAC to act independently to take recommendations to the field that could be implemented in a timelier manner. Starting a pilot project was another suggestion recommended which would include a new assessment tool to be used in schools, community organizations, and treatment facilities.

Public Domain, Client Confidentiality, Volunteer Assessment, and the Use of an Outside Agency who could compare notes throughout the delivery systems are four concerns that need to be addressed before beginning the structure of the revamp.

## **AB 900 UPDATE**

Carole Hood, Chief Deputy Secretary, Adult Programs, CDCR, provided the members with an update on AB 900. Carole stated that 33 institutions throughout California are at 190 percent capacity.

The Adult Programs at CDCR looked at what other states were doing and listened to all advice from strike teams and Governor's committees. After studying requirements and expectations regarding rehabilitation and sorting through 200 possibilities, CDCR came to three focus areas:

1. System Design/Development - Identifying individuals and criminogenic needs.
2. Implementation Design - Developed into three tracks:

### Track 1

CDCR needs to better manage inmates, get the population to show up and participate in activities, and get prisons back to managing programs. (Studies have shown that attacks on staff and prisoners go down as program participation increases.)

### Track 2

Bring in a new system design which examines the process of entrance into prison through successful reentry into the community.

### Track 3

Roll out the California Logic Model statewide. Look at institutions with the lowest lock down rate for programming models.

3. Organizational Readiness - Change management of over 61,000 correctional institution employees.

CDCR plans to bring change by training in the areas of: motivational interviewing; criminal thinking; appropriate language usage; case management; system training; planning; and communication.

CDCR is looking at reentry with a broader prospective. CDCR has increased its regions from four to seven. Each has a Regional Administrator who works with local communities and ensures a seamless handoff of parolees to community programs.

CDCR is seeking to obtain formal partnerships with communities for increased involvement. CDCR is working to bring the same evidence-based logic from the community programs into the prisons.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

The following members have agreed to work with their organizations to ensure proper representation at the next meeting for the NORA discussion:

Judicial Point of View – Judge Ana Maria Luna, Judge Stephen Manley, and Judge Richard Vlavoans

County – Gino Giannavola to make arrangements with the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators' Association of California

Treatment – Al Senella will provide ADP with a designee/s

Criminal Justice – Robert Elsberg and John Lovell will provide ADP with a designee/s

### **NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**

Prepare for NORA

Building Bridges – Conference Agenda Items

### **NEXT MEETING**

June 30, 2008 - 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 1700 K Street