



McEaddy Conference Room
12th Floor, Governmental Center
301 North Olive Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33401

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome and opening comments

Chair Dr. Angela Bess

II. Special welcome

Chenise Bonilla, Manager – Criminal Justice Programs

Sarah Sanchez, Temporary Administrative Assistant

Randi Taylor, Reentry Program Coordinator

III. Introduction of members and guests

Participants introduced themselves in lieu of a roll call. A total of 47 members and guests were in attendance.

IV. Approval and/or additions to the Agenda

Motion to approve: Tamara Starks, Meredith Powers-Lupo

V. Approval and/or corrections to the 1/23/2019 minutes of the Reentry Task Force

Approved: By Diana Stanley, Tamara Starks

VI. Recognition:

Congratulations to Ms. Williams on her recognition as “Employee of the Month for April 2019” by Assistant Regional Director Patrick Murphy and the Management Team at Okeechobee C.I. And a special Thank you to Tiffany Marino of Sherwin-Williams for donation of paint to beautify the parking lot at Sago Palm Reentry Center.

VII. Old Business

- a) Urban Institute – Public Safety Risk Assessment Clearinghouse project, *Jennifer Loyless/Chenise Bonilla*

Trying to validate the LSIR to ensure appropriate risk level assessment; FDLE providing data; reentry has submitted some data for review; update will be at the next meeting.

- b) Notice of Funding Available (NoFA) (formerly RFP), *Chenise Bonilla*

Currently drafting those materials now; publicly available in mid-May; takes about 4 weeks of time to prepare for the proposals. Reduction from money at state level (FDC), will decrease from \$250,000 to \$50,000; Stephanie mentions if it is necessary, we could request additional funding from the Board of County Commissioners; effective July 1st, 2019 (October 1, 2019 start/effective date for FY). Ad Valorem dollars address operations for July-October. Note: Blue nametags are the voting members; white nametags are advisory/non-voting members.

VIII. New Business

Green Jobs Reentry Training, *Dr. Jake Leech, -- PBC Office of Resilience*

States it is the newest & smallest department with the county; addresses climate/environmental. Looking at solar jobs for reentering citizens; Southeastern Sustainability Directors' Network – looking for sustainability projects/collaboration/social equity – potential collaboration for Sago Palm Reentry Program & for community-based clients.

New Reentry Logo, *Chair D. Bess*- Two logos are available for selection in the packet; “Program” makes it sound restricted; RESTORE is only one piece of reentry as mentioned, “RESTORE” terminology is also in the statute; reentry is the national terminology addressing returning citizens. As discussed just incorporating restore as part of the overarching REENTRY brand & logo; 7 votes are needed, there are 13 voting members that are available.

Circles of Support and Accountability, *Arlene Griffiths*

Looking to receive TA through Victim Services Department for training: best practice model for managing offenders (sex offender focus, but all); looking at dates in July & June; Circles of Support & Accountability incorporates practitioners, victims, communities, etc. (Input from Meredith Powers-Lupo discussed interest from Broward County being involved); 2.5 day training.

Appointment of Chair – Employment Training & Education Subcommittee, *Chair Dr. Bess* New Co-chairs: CareerSource – Sharon Huges & Gulfstream Goodwill – Lasandra Huggins-Wilson.

IX. Task Force Initiatives/Updates

Sago Palm Reentry Center, *Asst. Warden Javier Jones*

Palm Beach State College has wastewater & HVAC classes – May/June. 6 inmates have passed GED classes in February. They are introducing a New pesticide test – to SAGO inmates. (\$110/test). Food Service classes – ServSafe testing – 25 inmates pending testing (is good for 3 years). Also a Typing class was added: 14 students have taken the class. Basic cleaning class: \$150 for the license. A new Dog program was introduced; they have 18 dogs currently; is impacting those in need and will help them get jobs in the animal care field. 384 inmates are in SAGO Palm (less than 150 are enrolled in classes); they are trying to improve the participation and outcomes for inmates that are participating in the certifications and programs. Can other organizations/individuals sponsor the costs for those certifications/programs? YES, they would directly pay the entities providing the testing, eliminating the middleman (Sago).

Smart Grant update: Jessica Hidalgo/Cassandra Atkin-Plunk

Official implementation was 6 months ago; 43 participants (med/high risk); placing into transitional skills. 26 were referred to programming and 17 were placed into randomization. Cassandra has been doing site visits with The Lord's Place, GGI, & RB; they have been going well; a 6 month report will be coming together soon.

Reentry Simulation, *Kevin Jones*

Reverend Jones: 1st Friday of March – 90-minute simulation for individuals on clients returning to society. The Goal is that all participants will go back to their entities more informed and compassionate/accommodating for reentering citizens. Contemplating a youth-centered simulation forthcoming. 3 of the LTP's donors went to the simulation and it was a life-changing experience for them – great regards/reviews of the simulation.

Second Chance Month, Arlene Griffiths- Press Release is included in the packet; flyers are available. Events are going very well; TLP's BBQ is this Saturday; Sago Palm Job Fair is on Friday 4/26/19 Donation Drive: looking to collect housewarming items for reentering citizens (household items, sheets, pots/pans, etc.); there are donation boxes at all providers, and on 10th floor of the Governmental Building.

X. Subcommittee Reports

- Data & Evaluation, Ms. Jennifer Loyless
- Employment, Training & Education, Sharon Hodges/Jessica Hidalgo

a. Ventured out into 4 apprenticeship programs; info will be distributed

- Housing, Mr. Armando Fana

b. Chair Fana asks, what are the numbers of returning citizens that are facing homelessness? Visited PBC Jail & there are challenges in getting the data; plus at arrest – many homeless carry IDs w/ inaccurate residence info to avoid overnight jail stays. PILOT: Wraparound case management services with 12-month transitional housing funding; Housing authority is involved; expanding the target population to any prisoners reentering back to Palm Beach County; needs donations for household goods. We do get some data from FDC on homelessness, but not all information is accurate.

- Sex Offender, Ted Rodharm/Arlene Griffiths

c. Palm Beach was a location of analysis – there was a report prepared on some of the resources available for legislative purposes. There are ZERO nursing homes that will take registered sex offenders. Discussed sexting & the consequences of sex crimes; discussed implementation of dangers of sexting.

- Sustainability, Diana Stanley

a. October 21st-23rd: Reentry Summit 2020. Potential chair is Cassandra Plunk; next planning meeting June 5th at 1-3PM @ TBD

-Discussion on future funding & any need for supplementing reduced funding from current funds. Legislative roundtable: have a roundtable for legislators who are back from Tallahassee to bring realistic data/anecdotes to those representatives at home. Also

discussed the true costs of reentry in Palm Beach County – asked all three numbers to bring back a number of what reentry is costing us locally & how can we ensure actual sustainability moving forward.

- Reentry Program Coordinator. Juvenile Stepdown Transitional Program: pilot will be on a smaller scale; Kroll & DJJ Secretary Marstiller have spoken; still in preliminary stages of planning, discussion.

XI. Additional member and guest comments

- a. **Oswald Newbold (Riviera Beach resident; new Supervisor w/ City of Riviera Beach):** Ban the Box & Amendment 4 discussion; encouraging members to support returning citizens w/ skills, courses, training, etc.
- b. **Thank you to Arlene & Jessica for all their efforts with the Second Chance month events.**
- c. **Serena Johnson:** working w/ church to develop a Lift Them Up Restoration Center; looking to create a welcoming event for citizens returning home from facilities; first week of September to have a networking event in Riviera Beach.
- d. **Linda Porter brought a youth to the meeting.**

XII. Adjourn-

-Diana Stanley, seconded by none

XIII. Next meeting date – Wednesday, July 24, 2019

XIV. Megan Houston, Director