

Sacramento County



Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

The CCP Advisory Board is responsible for providing ongoing data collection, evaluation and analysis, as well as, input from local agency and community stakeholders, including formerly incarcerated individuals, to meet needs for AB 109 Plan updates due to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) each December.

Special Meeting

Agenda: July 31, 2023, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: County Administration Center (Open to the Public)
Board of Supervisors Chambers
700 H Street, 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Invitees: CCP Advisory Board Members - Melinda Avey (Chair - Community Member), Nina Acosta (Vice Chair - Social Services), Chris Baker (Sheriff's Office), Joe Cress (Public Defender's Office), Robyn Howland (Probation Department), Michelle Jeremiah (Superior Court), William B. Norwood (Community Member), Bill Pieper (Community Member), Andrew Soloman (District Attorney's Office), Sameer Sood (Sacramento Police Dept.), Muriel Strand (Community Member)

Alternates: Kelly Finnegan (Probation Department), Matthew Hovermale (Sheriff's Office), Alice Michel (Public Defender's Office), William Satchell (District Attorney's Office), Robbie Young (Sacramento Police Dept.)

Staff: Laura Foster, CCP Analyst; Peter Zilaff, County Counsel

CCPAB Meetings are Open to the Public.

Topic	Item Type	Presenter (If Applicable)
Welcome, Roll Call, and Public Comment Procedures	Information	Melinda Avey/ Laura Foster
Consent Matters	Action	Melinda Avey
1. Approve Action Summary From June 12, 2023		
2. Review Updated 2023 Workplan		
Discussion Matters		
3. Overview and Discussion of AB 109 Plan 2023 Update Preliminary Draft	Discussion	Laura Foster

Topic	Item Type	Presenter (If Applicable)
4. Discussion Regarding Community Workshop	Discussion	Laura Foster
Matters Not On The Posted Agenda		
5. Public Comment On Off Agenda Items		
Separate Matters		
6. Member Reports	Information	CCPAB Members
Adjournment		

Next CCPAB Meeting: August 14, 2023, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Next CCP Meeting: August 3, 2023, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Public Comment Procedures:

The CCPAB fosters public engagement during the meeting and encourages public participation, civility and use of courteous language. The CCPAB does not condone the use of profanity, vulgar language, gestures or other inappropriate behavior including personal attacks or threats directed towards any meeting participant. There will be a designated time for public comment at the end of each item. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Speaker time limits

In the interest of facilitating the conduct of CCPAB business, members of the public (speakers) who wish to address the board during the meeting will have specific time limits as enumerated below. Matters not on the posted agenda will be discussed in accordance with the order of the agenda. Speakers should not expect CCPAB members to comment on or respond to comments directly during the meeting. The CCPAB may request county staff to follow up with a speaker or provide additional information after the meeting or at a later date.

The Chairperson, at their discretion, may increase or decrease the time allocation. Each speaker shall limit remarks to the specified time allotment as follows:

- Speakers will have 3-minutes total for each separate item.
- Speakers will have 3-minutes total for any matter not on the posted agenda.

In-Person Public Comment

Speakers will be required to complete and submit a speaker request form to staff. Staff will invite each individual to the podium to make a verbal comment.

Zoom Public Comment

Members of the Public participating through Zoom should observe the following procedures when providing public comment. Comments submitted through the "Chat" feature will not be accepted. If you wish to speak on an item, click on "raise hand" after the item has been called. When it is your turn to speak, your name or telephone number will be called and you will be able to address the body. Please be sure your device is not muted. If you raise your hand after public comment has been closed, you will not be called.

Written Public Comment

The Public may provide written comments in regards to a specific item on the agenda or off agenda matters by emailing SacCountyCCPAdvisoryBoard@saccounty.gov. Written public comments should include the meeting date item number or off-agenda item. Providing contact information is optional. Written comments are distributed to members and filed in the record.

View Meeting

The meeting is live streamed via Zoom. Members of the Public may participate via Zoom using the following link, meeting ID, and passcode:

Link: <https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1610752549?pwd=YnBZVDIXbkVZeVR5NIZYUzBFV3NXQT09>

Meeting ID: 161 075 2549

Passcode: 034293

Meeting Material

The on-line version of the agenda and associated material is available at <https://saccoprobation.saccounty.gov/Pages/CCPAB.aspx>.



Sacramento County

Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

The CCP Advisory Board is responsible for providing ongoing data collection, evaluation and analysis, as well as, input from local agency and community stakeholders, including formerly incarcerated individuals, to meet needs for AB 109 Plan updates due to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) each December.

Action Summary from: June 12, 2023, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting Location: County Administration Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 700 H Street, 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Facilitator: Laura Foster, Management Analyst II, Public Safety and Justice

Attendees: CCP Advisory Board Members: Melinda Avey (Chair - Community Member), Nina Acosta (Vice Chair - Social Services), Chris Baker (Sheriff's Office), Joe Cress (Public Defender's Office), Robyn Howland (Probation Department), Michelle Jeremiah (Superior Court), William B. Norwood (Community Member), Bill Pieper (Community Member), Andy Soloman (District Attorney's Office), Sameer Sood (Sacramento Police Department), Muriel Strand (Community Member)

Staff: Laura Foster (CCP Analyst)

Absent: N/A

CCPAB Meetings are Open to the Public.

Topic	Item Type	Presenter (If Applicable)
Welcome, Roll Call, and Public Comment Procedures	Information	Melinda Avey/ Laura Foster
Consent Matters	Action	Melinda Avey
<i>1. Approve Action Summary From May 8, 2023</i>		
<i>2. Review Updated 2023 Workplan</i>		
Member Cress made a motion to approve the consent calendar, Member Acosta seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by consensus. No public comment was received.		
Discussion Matters		
3. Discussion of Services/Programs for Potential Inclusion in AB 109 Plan 2023 Update and Possible Action to Recommend Service/Program Priorities to Community Corrections Partnership for Consideration	Discussion/ Possible Action	Laura Foster
Member Norwood joined the meeting during the discussion of this item.		

Staff facilitated a discussion regarding the eligible expenses for reimbursement for inclusion in the AB 109 2023 Plan Update. Discussion questions included:

- What services and programs should be eligible for reimbursement?
- Which overarching goals will each eligible service help meet/achieve?
- What restrictions apply, if any?
- Which entities can be reimbursed for providing each eligible service?
- What are the reporting expectations for eligible beneficiaries?

Staff also reviewed the summarized results of the questionnaires completed by 8 of 10 CCPAB members. The questionnaire did not include mandatory supervision for AB 109 clients and the housing and healthcare costs for AB 109 inmates in custody.

The summarized list of priorities was as follows:

1. Evidence-based services, Treatment, and Education
2. Collaborative Courts/Diversion Programs
3. CBO Partnership
4. Social Workers in Pretrial/Collaborative Courts
5. Mental Health Services in Custody
6. Jail Release/Pretrial Service Programs
7. Jail Support Upon Release
8. ADRC's and Community Supervision
9. SSO Alternatives to Detention
10. DHA Services and Referrals
11. AB 109 Workload Impacts on DA, PD, and Courts
12. Transitional Offender Reentry Plans with Wrap-Around Services
13. Jail Discharge Coordination
14. Transitional Housing
15. SSO Home Detention/Electronic Monitoring
16. Centralized Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting
17. Restorative Justice Programs
18. Post-Conviction Relief/Record Modification
19. Courts Workload for Parole/PRCS
20. Crime Lab Staffing/Supplies
21. Healthy Food/Meals in Custody

Additionally, the following areas were identified as the top priority by one or more members:

- Post-Conviction Relief/Record Modification
- Restorative Justice Programs
- Evidence-based Services, Treatment, and Education
- Collab Courts/Diversion Programs Services & Staff (x2)
- ADRC's and Supervision Units
- Social Workers during Pretrial and Collab Courts
- Data Collection, Analysis, & Reporting

The goal of the discussion was to tie eligible expenses to the overarching goals of the AB 109 and refine the list to enhance specificity, avoid overlap, and identify the potential reporting requirements for services and programs. Staff also indicated that she would like to put together a survey or other method of seeking departmental input to identify specific services, current and potential providers, and, if known, the evidence-base for programs before the next meeting.

The CCPAB drafted a potential value statement to guide future work:
In seeking to maintain community safety, reduce recidivism, and reduce use of jail housing, the AB 109 Plan prioritizes programs that offer treatment and services through partnerships with County agencies and community-based organizations to enable the release of those from custody who can be safely supported through community resources and prepare those in custody for stable reentry into the community.

Member Acosta made a motion to direct staff to create a survey using the plan's 3 goals to identify eligibility, who is providing services, what data supports it, and any reporting requirements to be completed by CCPAB member agency representatives. Member Howland seconded the motion. The motion was approved by consensus.

There was no public comment on this item.

4. Discussion Regarding Community Workshop	Discussion	Laura Foster
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The CCPAB discussed holding a community workshop in August to introduce and receive input on the first draft of the AB 109 Plan 2023 Update. Members suggested using Board Chambers, holding the meeting in the evening, livestreaming the meeting on Zoom, and avoiding conflicts with other Boards and Commissions dedicated to justice-involvement and behavioral health resources. Based on the feedback received, staff will return with date options for the CCPAB's workshop which will be considered a Special Meeting so that all members can participate.

Member Acosta made a motion for the CCPAB to hold a community meeting in August. Member Howland seconded the motion. The motion was approved by consensus.

There was no public comment on this item.

Matters Not On The Posted Agenda

5. Public Comment On Off Agenda Items		
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There was no public comment on off-agenda items.

Separate Matters		
6. Member Reports	Information	CCPAB Members
Member Strand shared informational items; Member Strand's report was supplemented by a written report that was included in the materials packet. Staff noted that, in the interest of promoting sustainability, future meeting packets for members will only be printed upon request. Member Norwood provided a comment about representation and public participation in CCPAB meetings. No public comment was received.		
Adjournment		
Chair Avey adjourned the meeting.		

AB 109 Plan 2023 Update Workplan

Items listed in *blue, italicized text* are past actions that are included for record-keeping purposes. Items in *red text* are notable changes.

CCP Meetings may feature agenda items that are not generated or prompted by CCPAB Actions; those items may not be listed here. Future meetings items are tentative and may be adjusted as needed.

Month	CCPAB	CCP
<i>December 2022</i>	<i>Brown Act Refresher Training</i>	<i>Review Ad Hoc Committee Plans</i> <i>Review AB 109 Plan 2023 Update Workplan</i>
<i>January 2023</i>	<i>Presentations from:</i> <i>Public Defender's Office</i> <i>Probation Department</i>	<i>No Meeting</i>
<i>February 2023 (Moved to January 30th due to County Holiday)</i>	<i>Presentation From:</i> <i>Social Services</i> <i>Overview of County's Jail Population Reduction Plans</i>	<i>Report back on Department Presentations</i> <i>Overview of County's Jail Population Reduction Plans</i> <i>AB 109 Revenue Projections and Funding Discussions for FY 23/24</i>
<i>March 6th, 7 pm Over Zoom: Community Workshop</i>		
<i>March 2023</i>	<i>Presentations From:</i> <i>Sheriff's Office</i> <i>District Attorney's Office</i> <i>Superior Court</i>	<i>No Meeting</i>
<i>April 2023</i>	<i>Discuss Layout/Structure for 2023 Plan Update</i>	<i>Cancelled</i>
<i>May 2023</i>	<i>Presentation from Outreach to Justice-Involved Individuals Ad Hoc Committee</i> <i>Discuss AB109 Eligible Services/Programs and Develop of Member Questionnaire</i>	<i>No Meeting</i>

Month	CCPAB	CCP
<i>June 2023</i>	<i>Discuss Member Questionnaire Results</i> <i>Refine CCPAB Priorities</i> <i>Develop Plan for Community Workshop</i>	<i>Share and Discuss Findings/Trends from CCPAB Ad Hoc Committee Efforts</i>
July 2023	- Review/Discuss Preliminary Draft 2023 Plan Update - Finalize Plan for Community Workshop	No Meeting
August 2023	- Discuss Recommended Changes to Draft 2023 Plan Update - Review CCPAB Bylaws	Receive Overview and Draft 2023 Plan Update
August 21: In Person Community Workshop		
September 2023	- Review/Discuss Community Feedback - Recommend 2023 Plan Update for CCP Approval	No Meeting
October 2023	- Overview of FY 23-24 AB 109 Budget and Available Data* - Discuss/Recommend Bylaw Amendments (if desired) - Present draft 2024 Plan Update Workplan	- Approve AB 109 Plan 2023 Update and Recommend for Board of Supervisors Approval - Overview of FY 23-24 AB 109 Budget and Available Data*

*Adjusted to pair data overview with budget information once September budget is finalized.

Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

DATE: July 31, 2023

TO: Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

FROM: Laura Foster, Management Analyst II, Public Safety and Justice

RE: STAFF REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM #3

#3 - Overview and Discussion of AB 109 Plan 2023 Update Preliminary Draft

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board (CCPAB):

- 1) Review the preliminary draft of the AB 109 Plan 2023 Update, provide feedback, and recommend categorical additions or deletions;
- 2) Provide input on re-ordering the Eligible Programs and Services in category "B" to align with CCPAB priorities; and
- 3) Suggest outcome measures associated with each proposed program and service category.

Background:

Each year, counties must submit an annual update to their AB 109 Plan to the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) by December 15th of each year to receive funding. Prior to submission, the plan must be approved by the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and accepted by the Board of Supervisors. To ensure that Sacramento County meets this timeline, the AB 109 2023 Plan Update will need to be approved by the CCP at its October 5th meeting. To reach this goal, the CCPAB would like to ensure that both the CCP and the community are provided with ample opportunity to review and comment on the draft Plan. Staff will present a draft of the plan at the upcoming CCP meeting on August 3rd which will incorporate feedback and recommended changes suggested during today's CCPAB meeting. The draft will then be posted on the CCP website for community consideration. Community input will be collected through the CCPAB email address (SacCountyCCPAdvisoryBoard@SacCounty.Gov) through September 4th. Feedback will also be received during a Community Workshop which will be discussed in Item 4 on today's agenda.

The proposed plan update is significantly streamlined from prior iterations to improve readability and accessibility. The proposed plan update identifies what types of programs and services are eligible for funding in the FY 24-25 budget, how they are connected to the AB 109 Plan's overarching goals, which entities are eligible for reimbursement, and what claiming restrictions apply. Eligible expense categories are divided into two topical areas:

- A – Eligible Programs and Services Limited to the AB 109 Population and Address Legislative Impacts of Realignment
- B - Eligible Programs and Services Supporting the County's Justice-Involved Population

Staff recommends the CCPAB provide feedback to better rank or order the programs and services in area "B" to better align with the Advisory Board's priorities. Staff's initial ordering was based on the survey responses from CCPAB members shared at the June 12, 2023 meeting; however, the list has changed with some items combined and other items separated apart. Feedback from the CCPAB will be required to reorder the eligible program and service list.

The proposed plan update also introduces a need for annual program evaluations for entities receiving AB 109 funds. Program evaluations would be required to include outcome data as specified in the Plan as well as a breakdown of demographic data for program participants, including race/ethnicity, gender, age, and zip code. Staff seeks recommendations from the CCPAB for outcome measures for each of the eligible program and service categories, and other recommendations to improve the AB 109 Plan 2023 Update draft prior to sharing it with the CCP later this week.

Attachments:

ATT 1 - Sacramento County AB 109 Plan 2023 Update – Preliminary Draft 7/31/23



AB 109 PLAN 2023 UPDATE

Assembly Bill 109
California Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011

Prepared By:
Sacramento County
Community Corrections Partnership

DRAFT - CCPAB 7/31/23

Executive Summary

Sacramento County's 2023 AB 109 Plan Update addresses the goals of the Public Safety Realignment Act by:

- Providing custodial housing for individuals diverted from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to Sacramento County jail facilities;
- Providing community supervision to the AB 109 population through Sacramento County's Probation Department; and
- Providing evidence-based treatment and support services to both the AB 109 Population and other eligible persons in various stages of involvement with Sacramento County's justice system, including pretrial and post-conviction.

All evidence-based treatment and support services eligible under this plan are designed to achieve one or more of the following goals:

- 1) Decreasing the use of jail housing through the expansion of community-based treatment and support services;
- 2) Reducing recidivism and returns to custody; and
- 3) Maintaining and improving community safety.

Recognizing resource limitations, the 2023 Plan Update prioritizes the programs that offer treatment and services through partnerships with County agencies and community-based organizations to enable the release of those from custody who can be safely supported through community resources. Additionally, the Plan seeks to provide treatment and services to prepare those in custody for stable reentry into the community.

The 2023 Plan Update reflects a streamlined format designed to improve readability and accessibility and clarifies eligibility of programs and services. The 2023 Plan Update also draws upon the input and feedback received from the community through Community Corrections Partnership and Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board meetings and workshops and dedicated outreach to the justice-involved community.

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Background

In 2011, the State of California enacted the AB 109 Public Safety Realignment Act. This Act diverts the custody housing and supervision of offenders convicted of certain state prison offenses to the local county level. Realignment legislation also directs the State to give counties a portion of sales tax and vehicle license fee revenue to fund the new responsibilities realigned from the state to the counties. To receive the funding, counties are required to have a Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) that creates and oversees an AB 109 Realignment Implementation Plan (AB 109 Plan) identifying programs to address responsibilities for realigned offenders going through the local justice continuum. Sacramento County's current CCP membership is attached as Appendix A.

AB 109 funds support a broad range of public safety activities, as long as they are in agreement with the AB 109 Plan. Funds may not be used to supplant other funding for Public Safety Services. Public Safety Services are defined by Government Code Section 30025(h) as:

1. Employing public safety officials, prosecutors, public defenders, and court security staff.
2. Managing local jails, housing and treating youthful offenders, and providing services for, and overseeing the supervised release of offenders.
3. Preventing child abuse, providing services to children who are abused, neglected, or exploited, providing services to vulnerable children and their families, and providing adult protective services.
4. Providing mental health services to children and adults in order to reduce failure in school, harm to themselves and others, homelessness, and preventable incarceration.
5. Preventing, treating, and providing recovery services for alcohol and drug abuse.

Sacramento County has made many system improvements pursuant to a Long-Term AB 109 Plan established in 2014; however, in 2020, the state began requiring annual updates to the AB 109 Plan. Annual Plan updates are due to the Board of State and Community Corrections by December 15 of each year and must be adopted by the CCP and accepted by the County Board of Supervisors prior to submission.

In 2021, Sacramento County developed a Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board (CCPAB) to recommend annual updates to the AB 109 Plan. Sacramento County's current CCP membership is attached as Appendix B. The CCPAB reflects the County's commitment to improving communication among the community and system partners to better inform and engage stakeholders in planning and developing future AB 109 Plans designed to meet the needs of the community. Both the CCP and CCPAB meetings provide a forum for increasing communication between the community and system partners. The CCPAB meets monthly while the CCP meets every other month. Both meetings are livestreamed to maximize community engagement, and the CCPAB provides supplemental opportunities for community input through periodic workshops.

Priorities and Goals

In seeking to maintain community safety, reduce recidivism, and reduce use of jail housing, the AB 109 Plan prioritizes programs that offer treatment and services through partnerships with County agencies and community-based organizations to enable the release of those from custody who can be safely supported through community resources. Additionally, the Plan permits the use of AB 109 funding to provide treatment and services to prepare those in custody for stable reentry into the community.

Decrease Use of Jail Housing by Expanding Community-Based Treatment and Support Services

Sacramento County has taken on several interconnected efforts over the years to understand, address, and reduce the amount of contact people have with the jail. The County's commitment to the Stepping Up Initiative, development of its [Sequential Intercept Model](#), and the expansion of resources for diversion programs and collaborative courts demonstrate a commitment to assisting those with behavioral health conditions in seeking treatment and support services to prevent further justice involvement and time in custody.

In 2022, the County further committed to numerous jail population reduction strategies aimed at deflecting initial entry into jail facilities, reducing the length of stay in custody, and reducing returns to custody. The goal of decreasing use of jail housing will be measured and monitored using:

- Jail Profile Data reported by SSO to BSCC: Booking Totals, Average Daily Population, Un-sentenced vs Sentenced ADP, Length of Stay (Source: [BSCC](#))
- Deflection data where individuals are connected to community-based treatment resources instead of jail (Source: local law enforcement and Department of Health Services)
- Data on alternative sentencing programs - electronic monitoring, work release, etc. (Source: Sheriff's Office)
- Data related to pretrial monitoring (Source: Probation Department)
- Data from diversion and collaborative court programs (Source: Superior Court/District Attorney)

Reduce Recidivism and Returns to Custody

A 2022 Sacramento County Jail Study indicated that readmission is a key driver of the County's average daily jail population, with 60% of releases returning to jail within two years and nearly 70% of population comprised of individuals who have been in before. To make progress toward reducing the jail population, programs should address underlying drivers of crime and equip those involved in the justice system for stable reentry. The goal of reducing recidivism and returns to custody will be measured and monitored using:

- Countywide recidivism measure aligned with the BSCC definition to the extent possible based on data tracking methodology possible with existing data systems. For Sacramento County, due to data limitations, recidivism rates will reflect 1) the date of arrest as the date of the offense and 2) focus on local collection data. Additionally, this excludes records of arrests and prosecutions (RAP) data from other jurisdictions. (Source: Reports to be developed with the Criminal Justice Cabinet's IJIS Technology Committee through work with consultants)
- Parolee and PRCS Bookings (Source: Sheriff's Office and Probation Department)
- Program-specific reporting on returns to custody (Source: Agencies receiving AB 109 funds)

Maintain and Improve Community Safety

Sacramento County desires for its residents to have safe places in which to live, work, play and fully participate in all activities of daily life free of violence or injury. LawInsider describes community safety as a situation in which people, individually and collectively, are sufficiently free from a range of real and perceived risks centering on crime and related misbehavior; are sufficiently able to cope with those risks which they nevertheless experience; or where they cannot cope unaided, are sufficiently well-protected from the consequences of these risks that they can still lead a normal cultural, social and economic life, apply their skills and enjoy well-being and the receipt of adequate services.

The goal of improving and maintaining community safety will be measured and monitored using:

- CA DOJ Crime Data (UCR/NIBRS) – Reported Crime Total and Breakout of Violent, Property and Arson Totals (Source: [OpenJustice](#))

2023 Plan Development Process

In developing the AB 109 Plan 2023 Update, the CCP and CCPAB worked to:

- Reformat and streamline the plan to improve readability and use.
- Clarify the inventory of reimbursable program and service expenses and connect eligibility to AB 109 Plan overarching goals.
- Expand community awareness of AB 109 Realignment, the Community Corrections Partnership, and Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board.
- Conduct dedicated outreach to the justice-involved community to better understand needs and programming challenges.
- Integrate and support Sacramento County's Jail Population Reduction Plans.
- Reconcile the challenges of integrating Plan priorities into County budget process as it relates to AB 109 funding disbursements.
- Provide community with ample opportunities to comment on and inform the plan prior to approval.

Restructured Plan and Inventory of Eligible Services

At over 70 pages, prior AB 109 Plan Updates contained a great deal of information. However, the Plan Updates lacked clear direction to agencies for the purpose of planning and reviewing annual budget proposals and submitting quarterly reimbursement claims. Additionally, language that was designed to be inclusive and allow for the development of innovative programs and ideas was, at some points, overly broad and contributed to misunderstandings both internally and externally. Finally, the data and performance metrics outlined in previous iterations of the Plan were not tied to quarterly claiming processes nor required for annual updates, leading to inconsistencies in collection and tracking. The proposed 2023 Plan Update provides clarification about which programs and services are eligible for AB 109 funding in FY 2024-25, describes the funding and reimbursement restrictions associated with each category, and identifies accountability measures tied to quarterly claiming processes and annual program evaluations.

Expanded Community Awareness

The CCP and CCPAB desired to increase community awareness of realignment, the AB 109 Plan, and its planning entities and processes with the goals of increasing community engagement in public meetings and plan development efforts. To this end, in 2023, the CCPAB moved to a larger meeting space, added

remote meeting participation options, developed and distributed flyers, and hosted and recorded an informational webinar. The CCPAB also planned a community workshop to present the draft of the 2023 Plan Update and receive feedback.

Outreach to Justice-Involved Community

The CCPAB aimed to ensure that input from those with lived experience with the justice system and incarceration is valued, considered, and uplifted in developing the AB 109 Plan 2023 Update. The CCPAB used surveys and focus groups to better understand the perspectives of those with current and past justice-involvement related to the following:

- What would have prevented them from becoming involved in the justice system?
- During and after their justice-involvement:
 - What available programs, services, and supports worked?
 - What did not work?
 - What types of programs and services, if offered, would have been helpful and impactful?

Surveys were distributed to more than 400 individuals and groups and received from 117 individuals. Eight focus groups were held at various locations including an Adult Day Reporting Center, Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (RCCC), residential treatment centers, a sober living facility, an outpatient treatment center, and a center providing services to the unhoused community. Among survey respondents, two-thirds identified a personal history of substance use, half expressed experience with financial instability, and nearly half shared an experience with housing instability. More than a quarter of respondents also reported having a disability or physical health condition, living with a mental health condition, having experienced significant trauma, and experience as a crime survivor.

Qualitative analysis of statements provided in the survey and focus groups indicated sobriety, or not using drugs or alcohol, as the top response among those answering the question of what would have prevented their initial justice-involvement. When asked which programs, services, and supports worked and did not work, focus group participants and survey respondents consistently expressed the importance of a justice-involved individual being ready and willing to change their life, behaviors, and habits. Without it, respondents indicated that very few programs and services will yield results and long-term impacts. Respondents also identified that it is difficult to predict when a person will be ready, but it is important to have services available for when they are. Respondents also stressed the importance of programs utilizing staff who are reliable, sincere, and attentive and those with lived experience.

When asked about the additional services that would have improved their experience while incarcerated or supported them upon release, responses included the following:

- Access to treatment, programs, and services regardless of dispositional status (pretrial vs. sentenced)
- Immediate access to substance abuse supportive services and religious services
- Activities to keep busy/more day room programs
- Access to counseling in addition to medication
- Jobs/career training programs and assistance finding meaningful and stable employment
- Life skill, family, and self-improvement courses
- Nutrition classes and healthy food options
- Education/academic training
- Free/cheap phone calls

- Needs assessments and peer navigators
- Assistance securing safe and affordable housing
- Extend time allowances for transitional housing / sober living environments
- Provide rent assistance
- Help with credit repair
- Transportation assistance
- Access to a clothing closet

Future outreach efforts by the CCPAB could include conducting focus groups with family members of justice-involved individuals and crime survivors, surveys focusing on the AB 109 population, and seeking feedback from justice-involved individuals on specific programs and services offered in Sacramento County. Additional information on the CCPAB's outreach to the justice-involved community is available in archived meeting materials on the [CCP website](#).

Alignment with Jail Population Reduction Plans

Sacramento County is subject to a consent decree resulting from *Mays et al. v. County of Sacramento Case No. 2:18-cv-02081* under which a federal court ordered a remedial plan to address unconstitutional conditions of confinement in county jails. The consent decree is monitored by court appointed experts and class counsel. The consent decree includes the following: Segregation and Housing Remedial Plan, Americans with Disability Act Remedial Plan, Suicide Prevention Remedial Plan, Discipline and Use of Force with Mental Health Inmates Remedial Plan, Mental Health Care Remedial Plan, and Medical Care Remedial Plan. COVID-19, insufficient staffing, and old (non-ADA, non-HIPAA compliant) facilities have created challenges to compliance. To move toward compliance, Sacramento County commissioned reports aimed to understand its facility limitations and better understand its population to identify reduction strategies. A [Sacramento Jail Study](#) by O'Connell Research indicated that the average daily jail population can be reasonably reduced by approximately 600 over time by implementing strategies to deflect or divert individuals from being booked into and housed in jail, reduce lengths of stay in custody, and reduce returns to custody.

In December 2022, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved [33 Jail Population Reduction Plans](#) designed to implement these strategies. The plans are consistent with the AB 109 Plan goals of 1) Decreasing the use of jail housing through the expansion of community-based treatment and support services; 2) Reducing recidivism and returns to custody; and 3) Maintaining and improving community safety. The Jail Population Reduction Plans also included the development of several working groups related to booking alternatives for law enforcement partners, risk and assessment/screening tools, and the expansion of pretrial and diversion services. As deliverables are produced by the various working groups, these will be shared with the CCPAB and CCP and used to improve future updates to the County's AB 109 Plan.

Budget Process Changes

Prior to the FY 2021-22 county budget process, the CCP was not required to annually update its AB 109 Plan. As a result, there existed no direct nexus between findings and recommendations in the AB 109 Plan as a basis for the funding distribution budgeted in June and finalized in September each year. Instead, AB 109 funding has historically been distributed in relatively consistent percentages between its primary recipient agencies (Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, Department of Health Services - Correctional Health Services, and District

Attorney), with small changes from year to year based on agency growth requests. Additionally, the broad language in past iterations of the AB 109 plan provided very few limitations on what agencies could claim. It also lacked requirements to provide information to substantiate workload impacts and demonstrate successful performance.

In processing reimbursement claims for FY 2022-23, staff reviewed each claim for alignment with both the wording and intent of the 2021 AB 109 Plan Update, resulting in changes to anticipated claimable costs for Adult Correctional Health. Next, in developing the 2023-24 Budget, each department currently receiving AB 109 funds was asked to identify the costs needed in FY 23-24 to maintain funded programs at their current status and resource level. These estimates were then provided to the County's Office of Budget and Debt Management. The anticipated expense estimates for maintenance of existing programs as well as State revenue estimates were discussed with the CCP at a public meeting to identify priorities for use of revenue not otherwise accounted for by an existing program. The CCP provided direction to prioritize support for programs and services in the County's Jail Population Reduction Plans.

Agencies seeking funding for growth requests in the FY 23-24 budget were required to identify an associated priority funding category in the 2022 AB 109 Plan Update and the specific Jail Population Reduction Plans that would be supported by the request. This budget process resulted in changes to the allocation percentages for each recipient agency and provided AB 109 funding to the Public Defender's Office for the first time. The FY 23-24 budget process involving AB 109 funding demonstrates an incremental approach toward ensuring annual budgets can adjust to changes in Plan updates and provide greater transparency regarding decisions pertaining to growth requests. The approved growth requests and budget allocations for FY 23-24 are attached as Appendix C.

Community Feedback

Content will be added here after a draft of the plan has been publicly posted, a public workshop has been held, and feedback windows have closed. This section will acknowledge any substantial changes made based on public feedback received.

Eligible Programs and Service Categories for FY 2024-25

The following inventory outlines the programs and service categories eligible for reimbursement with AB 109 funds for the FY 2024-25 year. Each category includes a description of services, the entities (departments, agencies, or organizations) who are potentially eligible for reimbursement for these services, any restrictions on reimbursement including calculations and quarterly claiming requirements, and outcome measures to be reported in annual program evaluations.

Each entity accepting AB 109 funds is expected to provide the CCP Analyst with sufficient information to complete annual State reporting requirements for AB 109 funds. Additionally, once developed, each recipient agency will be required to submit an annual evaluation of AB 109-funded programs including outcome data as specified in the inventory below as well as a breakdown of demographic data for program participants, including race/ethnicity, gender, age, and zip code. Future funding eligibility is dependent on the successful completion and submission of annual program evaluations.

A – Eligible Programs and Services Limited to the AB 109 Population and Address Legislative Impacts of Realignment

A1. Housing of AB 109 Inmates in County Jail Facilities

Description: The Sheriff is responsible for the care and custody of all inmates falling under the jurisdiction of the Sacramento County Court System. Analysis of Main Jail and RCCC inmates has shown AB 109 inmates have represented approximately 12 to 25% of the average daily population and that there has been significant growth in need for psychiatric and other correctional healthcare services since AB 109 went into effect. Because a substantial proportion of inmates housed in the county jail system are AB 109 detainees and have significant service needs, financial support for in-custody services to the realignment offender populations remains an eligible expense.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety (compliance with legal mandates)

Reimbursable Entities: Sheriff's Office

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Limited to expenses related to housing for the AB 109 population.
- Calculation:
 - Determine the number of jail bed days for AB 109 offenders, including:
 - Parole holds
 - County Jail – Prison (CJP) inmates
 - Parole revocations
 - Postrelease Community Supervision (PRCS) flash incarceration bookings
 - Multiply jail bed days in each facility by the facility's daily jail rate.
 - Calculate the portion of expenses to reimburse for the Sheriff's Office (removing costs associated with Adult Correctional Health).
- Quarterly claims should include the number of days for each inmate type (parole holds, CJP inmates, parole revocations, and PRCS flash incarceration bookings) each month by facility (Main Jail or RCCC) as well as the unique number of AB 109 offenders booked into jail during the quarter by inmate type.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

A2. Supervision of AB 109 Offenders

Description: The Probation Department handles responsibility for traditional and realigned offender populations through an Adult Supervision Model that is a risk-based supervision system. Probation's intake and case management process applies a validated risk assessment tool to target resources to those posing greatest risk to public safety and incentivizing compliance through a step-down approach to supervision that includes front-loading supervision and treatment resources during the earliest period of supervision, when risk of recidivism is highest.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety (compliance with legal mandates)

Reimbursable Entities: Probation Department

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Limited to expenses related to supervision of the AB 109 population.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees providing services, the number of unique AB 109 offenders who received supervision services each quarter, and the number of AB 109 offenders ordered to supervision services during the quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

A3. Correctional Health Services for AB 109 Inmates

Description: AB 109 along with other detainees in the jail facilities have exhibited growth in the level of mental health services and physical health services needed. Inmates are receiving mental health services to address crisis counseling, clinical/case management, and medication support needs. Prior to AB 109, only about 18.9% of the jail facilities inmate population required these types of mental health services. As of April 3, 2023, 70% of the inmate population has a mental health diagnosis and received mental health services through incarceration. AB 109 detainees who are identified with mental health-related concerns are referred for clinical assessment and jail psychiatric services provided through the University of California, Davis (UCD) Medical Center contract overseen by the Correctional Health Division of the Department of Health Services. The clinical staff assigned at the Main Jail and RCCC provide both in-patient and outpatient psychiatric services. The services involve crisis counseling, clinical treatment and case management oversight and psychotropic medication support. Correctional Health Staff also conduct intake health screenings and provide other physical health services.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety (compliance with legal mandates)

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Health Services (Adult Correctional Health);
Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to correctional health services provided to AB 109 inmates.
- Calculation:
 - Adult Correctional Health costs are reimbursable up to the AB 109 Claimable Rate. The AB 109 Claimable Rate represents the portion of AB 109 inmates booked into Sacramento County jail facilities in comparison to total bookings. To minimize volatility from one year to the next, the AB 109 Claimable Rate is an average of the prior three fiscal years' rates. The CCP analyst will provide Adult Correctional Health with the AB 109 Claimable Rate at the start of each fiscal year.
- Quarterly claims should include the total cost of ACH services multiplied by the AB 109 Claimable Rate.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B – Eligible Programs and Services Supporting the County's Justice-Involved Population

B1. Reentry Services

Description: Reentry services administered by the Sheriff's Office rely on staff and contract service providers knowledgeable in evidence-based and "best practice" program and treatment models. The reentry plan begins with an interview by social workers, testing by Elk Grove Adult Education, and a risk

assessment completed by trained reentry specialists. This process determines education levels, work history, and job readiness, as well as identifying post-release situations that may place the individual at risk for reoffending. Based upon classification, participation in these programs is mandatory. Each offender is evaluated 60 – 90 days prior to release and assisted by an eligibility specialist to apply for benefits and other services for unmet needs. Reentry specialists each carry an offender caseload and work with the offender in a case management model for up to one year after release from custody.

Assessments such as the LS/CMI level of service and case management assessment, ASAM addiction assessment, TCU 5 drug screen, CMHS mental health screening, and URICA readiness for change assessment are used to determine factors that put an individual at risk to reoffend and indicate motivation for change. Based on the assessments, reentry specialists develop individualized, dynamic case plans to address those needs and support skill acquisition aimed at reducing the individual's risk of recidivism. Reentry specialists, many who have lived experience navigating the challenges of reentry, also connect individuals with services upon release and continue providing case management services for up to a year after release. Reentry specialists complete a discharge plan on all inmates released from the in-custody portion of the reentry programs, which includes identifying outside classes offenders can continue to attend, securing personal identification documents necessary for employment, assisting offenders in acquiring basic needs, and ensuring transportation to Probation,

Inmate services include evidence-based risk/needs assessments, cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health and substance misuse treatment, job/education assistance, and development of transitional reentry plans. Inmate programming covers five major areas including (1) academic, vocational, and financial, (2) alcohol and other drugs, (3) aggression, hostility, anger and violence, (4) criminal thinking, behaviors, and associations, and (5) family, marital and relationships.

Classes include:

- Teaching participants social skills, cognitive self-change, and problem solving.
- Educating participants in the social / biological / psychological consequences of addiction.
- Providing participants with job search and employment skills.
- Providing participants with the opportunity to learn from others the negative effects of violence and criminal activity.
- Offering participants a therapeutic environment to examine past situations and events in their lives.
- Working with men and women to stop their violent behavior with themselves, their families, and their community.
- Parenting classes to help male and female inmates develop skills and techniques for working with their children and grandchildren.
- Relapse prevention and process groups. Groups focus on the habitual thinking process that leads to relapse, and an understanding of the role models' belief system that can lead to prevention.

The Sheriff's Office contracts with several community treatment providers to support intensive alcohol and other drug treatment for the Housing for Accountable Living Transitions/Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (HALT/RSAT) Program. HALT/RSAT is an integrated counseling program offering several components that address all ramifications of addiction and chemical dependency. Programming includes relapse prevention, cognitive behavioral therapy, structured life skill classes, survivor impact group

counseling, groups that focus on role playing for change, and transition choices for incarcerated offenders.

Adult basic educational classes are also available at RCCC which help inmates develop the necessary educational skills to secure a general education diploma. The academic programming is a collaborative effort between jail facilities and community school personnel, and is directed to providing educational / academic assistance to both male and female custody inmates. Securing high school diplomas, GED certificates, and building “stackable” secondary education credits that establish a career is emphasized for individuals who have not completed basic high school academic requirements. Both Sheriff and school personnel track and report yearly progress with respect to GED certificates which are issued to county jail offenders.

Employment specialists work with offenders prior to release to develop resumes, teach job search skills, help offenders begin searching for employment opportunities, and directly link offenders to employers who often interview candidates while they are still in custody. Employment specialists attend business hiring group meetings on behalf of the jail facilities to extend the knowledge and awareness of Reentry Programs. A wide range of vocational training opportunities are also offered at both jail facilities.

Inmates can participate in the following vocational programs:

- Automotive Technology Program – Students learn automotive repair using computer-based equipment. The program offers a wide variety of industry certifications through the nationally recognized accrediting body, Automotive Service Excellence (ASE).
- Bee Keeping – Offenders participate in a six-month structured training program on bee keeping and honey harvesting. Students learn the process of bee keeping from hive development and maintenance through the extraction and preparation of honey.
- Cake Decorating – Students learn how to bake and decorate cakes, breads, and pastries. Students are prepared for a job in a bakery, deli, or pastry shop.
- Coffee Education and Barista Training – Students train for careers as baristas and coffee roasters. Students learn bean anatomy, tasting notes, coffee origins, milk science, pouring espresso shots, and latte art. Final sessions focus on cafe operations such as taking inventory and writing schedules.
- Computer Skills – Students learn basic computer skills and Microsoft Office software as well as telephone answering skills, filing techniques, and other office tasks.
- Construction Technology – Students learn a variety of trade skills identified by local employers as critical skills necessary for post-release employment. From foundation to finish carpentry, students have the ability to complete a variety of certification-based skills.
- Culinary Arts – Students learn basic culinary skills and are prepared for jobs in the food service industry.
- Custodial – Students learn a variety of skills in the custodial and housekeeping trades, equipment maintenance and repair, and cleaning materials safety.
- Graphic Arts and Design Program - Students learn Computer-Aided-Drafting (CAD) skills that can prepare them for a career in CAD Technology. Students obtain certification in laser engraving, dye sublimation, solvent and UV printing using state of the art software and equipment.
- Landscaping and Horticulture – Students learn plant propagation, irrigation, and landscape maintenance techniques. Upon completion, students earn four college credits at Los Rios Community Colleges.

- Safety and Sanitation – Students learn kitchen safety and sanitary skills for working in a kitchen setting.
- Welding – Students are taught a variety of weld types, equipment maintenance, and job skills necessary to gain and maintain employment in the welding profession. Graduates of the welding class also earn three college credits at Los Rios Community Colleges. Upon completion, students earn up to three certifications from the American Welding Society.
- Wild Horse Program – The Wild Horse Program provides an environment for wild horses and incorporates a six-phase training curriculum for program participants through a partnership with the Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro Program. The program provides offenders work skills and sensitivity training in preparing gentled wild horses for public adoption.

Goal Alignment: Reduce recidivism and returns to custody.

Reimbursable Entities: Sheriff's Office; Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to inmates participating in any or all programs administered by the Sheriff's Office reentry services. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering services, costs associated with reentry facilities (trailers), equipment, and supplies, and costs for services provided by contractors and community-based organizations.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of unique reentry participants for that quarter, the number of offenders assessed during the quarter, and the number of offenders accepted into reentry programs during the quarter.
- Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of unique participants served by the contractor during the quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B2. Mental Health Diversion

Description: Mental health diversion supports defendants eligible pursuant to Penal Code Section 1001.36. To participate, a qualifying individual enters a plea of not guilty and waives the right to a speedy trial, and proceedings are suspended for the individual to complete a community-based mental health treatment program within 12 or 24 months, dependent upon the offense. Processes are established by the Sacramento Superior Court, and terms differ for misdemeanor and felony charges. SB 1223 expanded eligibility criteria for Felony Mental Health Diversion, effective January 2023. SB 1223 presumes a nexus between a mental health diagnosis and criminal charge if the diagnosis occurred within the prior five years. Tools for evaluating potential Mental Health Diversion applicants by indigent defense counsel include the PHQ-9 Depression Inventory, GAD-7 Depression Inventory, Mental Status Exam, and DAST-10 Drug Abuse Screening Tool. Behavioral Health staff use the CA ASAM for substance use disorder assessment and Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) to help clinicians make consistent and effective patient decisions related to intensity of service needs, level of care placement, and continued stay.

The County's Jail Population Reduction Plans, based on consultant research, estimated that expanding mental health diversion to more people charged with non-violent felonies would reduce the average daily jail population by 81 beds. Mental health diversion requires staff for indigent defense departments for case navigation and advocacy, behavioral health staff for increased capacity to conduct assessments and offer treatment services, and monitoring support through Probation. Although there are no long-term peer reviewed publications, O'Connell Research used a comparison group of felony defendants who were eligible for mental health diversion but declined services to those engaging in treatment and found, when controlling for multiple factors, mental health diversion reduced jail recurrence by 24%, which is a robust positive finding.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce use of jail housing; Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Human Assistance, Department of Health Services, Indigent defense departments (Public Defender's Office/Conflict Criminal Defenders), Probation Department, Superior Court, Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals seeking or participating in mental health diversion programs. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the programs as well as services and supplies.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of unique individuals for whom mental health diversion applications were submitted during the quarter, the number of unique individuals granted mental health diversion during the quarter, and the total number of unique individuals participating in mental health diversion during the quarter. Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of participants served by each contractor during that quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B3. Collaborative Courts

Description: Collaborative and specialized courts are dedicated courts created for certain types of offenders and vulnerable populations that have specialized needs and circumstances. These alternative courts reduce trauma for victims and provide offenders with services, such as mental health and drug or alcohol treatment, rather than jail time. Collaborative courts include Recovery Treatment Court (formerly Drug Court), Mental Health Treatment Court, Prop 36 Court, DUI Treatment Court, Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), Reentry Court, Reducing Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking (ReSET) Court, Chronic Offender Rehabilitation Effort (CORE, previously Chronic Nuisance Offender) Program, City Alcohol Related Treatment (CART), Serial Inebriation Program (SIP), and Homeless (Loaves and Dishes) Court. Mental Health Treatment Court is comprised of people likely to be at high or moderate levels of risk to re-offend as well as seriously mentally ill. Reentry Court clients receive a broad range of services in lieu of serving County Jail Prison (CJP) or State Prison terms. Recovery Treatment Court (formerly Drug Court) focuses on people with substance use needs at medium or high levels. The County's Jail Population Reduction Plans and consultant research indicated that increasing Mental Health Treatment Court capacity could avoid 77 jail beds on a given day.

Depending on the specific program, collaborative courts may require the involvement of the District Attorney, indigent defense departments, Department of Human Assistance, Department of Health Services, Probation Department, the Superior Court, and community partnerships. Behavioral Health staff use a mental health assessment, the CA ASAM for substance use disorder assessment, and the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) for patient decisions related to intensity of service needs, level of care placement, and continued stay. Probation staff serving collaborative courts use the LS/CMI to determine an individual's risk to reoffend and criminogenic needs.

Reentry Courts are found to have strong reductions in reconvictions and recidivism. Mental Health Treatment Courts have been found to have strong reductions in recidivism, as well as improvements in treatment engagement. Recovery Treatment Courts (Drug Courts) have been found to have strong reductions in recidivism, as well as drug/alcohol offenses, but less effective at reducing substance misuse overall.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce use of jail housing; Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Human Assistance, Department of Health Services, District Attorney; Indigent defense departments (Public Defender's Office/Conflict Criminal Defenders), Probation Department, Superior Court, Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals seeking participation in or participating in collaborative court programs. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of individuals accepted into each collaborative court (by program) during the quarter, and the total number of participants in each collaborative court (by program) during the quarter. Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of participants served by each contractor during that quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B4. Pretrial Needs Assessment and Support Services

Description: Indigent defense departments including the Public Defender's Office and Conflict Criminal Defenders administer a Pre-Trial Support Project (PTSP) program. This PTSP uses social worker students and law students to meet with individuals in custody prior to arraignment and conduct needs assessments. The need assessments include four evidence-based tools: (1) Brief Jail Mental Health Screen, (2) CAGE Substance Abuse Screen, (3) Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Trauma Assessment, and (4) Universal Housing Screen. Once an individual is assessed, this information is provided to the arraignment attorney and social worker. This assessment then becomes the foundation to identify individuals in custody for alternatives to incarceration such as collaborative courts, diversion, bail motions, and discharge planning and coordination. If released, social workers and community intervention specialists are assigned to the case to ensure linkage to services and to create a safe

discharge plan. Social Workers remain on an individual's case until there is a sustainable warm hand-off in the community through coordinated services to ensure public safety needs are met.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce use of jail housing; Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Health Services, Department of Human Assistance; Indigent defense departments (Public Defender's Office/Conflict Criminal Defenders); Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals with cases pending resolution. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies, including the rental/lease of monitoring equipment, laboratory/medical services, and phone charges.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program as well as the number of individuals assessed through the PTSP during the quarter, the number of individuals released from custody and assigned to a social worker during the quarter, the total number of cases supported by a social worker during the quarter, and the number of warm hand-offs to a community partner during the quarter. Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of participants served by each contractor during that quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B5. Jail Discharge Support: Benefit Assistance, Clothing, Transportation, and Housing Linkages

Description: Outreach to the justice-involved community conducted by the CCPAB, the County's Jail Population Reduction Plans, and the Sacramento County Community Review Commission [2023 Annual Review Report](#) all identified a need for Sacramento County to improve connections to services and resources prior to and during jail discharge processes. By initiating service connections during and prior to release, justice-involved individuals can receive assistance in obtaining legal documents needed for obtaining health care, employment, housing, government benefits, etc. The Community Review Commission recommended implementation of a clothing closet and safe transportation arrangements for individuals discharged from jail facilities, particularly those released during late night hours. Linkages to services could be further enhanced by staffing a 24/7 receiving center within safe walking distance of the Main Jail.

Human Service Assistants (Eligibility Specialists) are located at the jail facilities and the Probation Department's Adult Day Reporting Centers. The Human Service Assistants (HSA) focus on providing social service benefits and other service referrals. The HSA staff will screen for Medi-Cal eligibility and will accept and process applications for General Assistance (GA) and Cal-Fresh for offenders. If the HSA determines there are additional services needed (homeless assistance, Cal-Works, employment services, alcohol or other drug, mental health, or SSI application assistance), the appropriate referrals will be made to these services in coordination with social workers and reentry staff located at the jail facilities and Probation where staff process offenders transitioning from the jail or state prison to community

supervision with probation. HSA screening also includes Affordable Care Act and other social safety net benefits the offender populations can access.

The County contracts with providers for emergency and transitional housing beds with wrap around service assistance to AB 109 inmates leaving custody and Probation Department PRCS and Mandatory Supervision offenders. The intent of the program is to provide up to 90 days of emergency shelter for each County Jail Prison N3, PRCS, and Mandatory Supervision offender to address issues with homelessness. It is targeted to those AB 109 individuals most likely to be at risk for reoffense due to housing insecurity and homelessness. Those referred are at high-risk of homelessness or have a living situation that heavily contributes to the likelihood of reoffense. Examples include individuals who are literally sleeping in a vehicle, the streets, or another place not meant for human habitation; living with roommates with extensive recent gang or criminal activity; staying in a remote or rural area and lacking transportation to follow release requirements; and living in complexes or neighborhoods with significant illegal drug activity. Case management staff also work with transitional housing residents through their network of wrap around service providers to address a range of personal needs including (a) housing placement, (b) employment assistance, (c) transportation, (d) mental health services, and (e) other healthcare services. The staff also provide life skills counseling and referrals for identified alcohol and/or substance use services.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Health Services, Department of Homeless Services and Housing, Department of Human Assistance, Probation Department Sheriff's Office, Contractors/Community Based-Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to inmates upon release from custody, individuals in close proximity to County jail facilities, and individuals receiving services through Adult Day Reporting Centers. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies.
- Quarterly claims for benefit eligibility assistance should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of individuals screened for Medi-Cal eligibility during the quarter, the number of General Assistance (GA) and Cal-Fresh applications processed during the quarter, and the number of unique individuals referred for additional services (homeless assistance, Cal-Works, employment services, alcohol or other drug, mental health, or SSI application assistance) during the quarter.
- Quarterly claims for transitional housing should include the number of unique individuals provided with transitional housing beds and wrap around services during the quarter.
- Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of participants served by each contractor during that quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B6. Adult Day Reporting Centers

Description: The Probation Department's three Adult Day Reporting Centers (ADRCs) integrate evidence-based practices, conduct actuarial assessments, provide case planning based on criminogenic needs and

offer cognitive behavioral programming and support services. ADRC programs have shown great promise in helping to reduce the jail population and recidivism because they provide, over a longer period of time, intensive services that address offenders' needs in a holistic way, targeting long-term risk reduction.

The Adult Day Reporting Centers (ADRC) create a continuum of services, sanctions, and rewards/incentives that respond to offender needs while providing high intensity supervision. The program approach involves community-based organizations and probation officers who work together to couple service interventions and supervision. Program services are comprehensively structured, evidence-based, multi-pronged, and address different facets of an offender's presenting problems: behavioral self-control, substance misuse, educational and vocational needs, health and mental health, social services, benefit screening, family, and community support.

The ADRCs are for male and female offenders who have been assessed as having a high risk to reoffend and have been identified as having significant criminogenic needs. Depending on the offender's assessed needs, the four-phase program is structured to be completed in approximately nine months, but allows for instances of relapse, custodial sanctions, and other interruptions common to the delivery of rehabilitative services.

Each ADRC includes drug testing, cognitive-behavioral treatment classes, referrals to community-based organizations, and access to employment training, job placement assistance and participation in the Probation Department's Community Outreach Unit (work project crews) to provide restitution to victims. The programming for PRCS offenders returning from state prison and Mandatory Supervision offenders also includes Intensive Supervision caseloads. Each ADRC concentrates community supervision resources on the period immediately following the person's release from custody and adjusting supervision strategies as the needs of the person released, the victim, the community and the offender's family change. The ADRC staff and program providers facilitate offender's sustained engagement in treatment, mental health, and other supportive services. Job development and supportive employment are a key element of the programming and service linkage activities Probation staff undertake. Efforts are made to address obstacles that make it difficult for an offender to obtain and retain viable employment while under community supervision.

Offenders who report mental health treatment history or symptoms to ADRC staff are referred for assessments. They are also assessed for alcohol and drug issues and staff make referrals for treatment. The ADRC multi-disciplinary team will also monitor the treatment and progress of PRCS and Mandatory Supervision offenders who are already receiving mental health services in community settings. The program may also provide counseling and/or case management interventions for clients to support the effectiveness of the combination of outside mental health services and their ADRC treatment plan. The Probation Department collaborates with Behavioral Health Services to implement procedures for meeting PRCS and Mandatory Supervision offenders' psychotropic prescription medication needs when they are released from state prison or county jail. These services include prescribing, administering, dispensing, and monitoring of psychiatric medications. They also include the evaluation of the need for initial / ongoing medications, ancillary lab costs, and instruction in how to use the medication, and alternatives to medication.

Responding to violations with swift and certain sanctions is another key element of the case management and supervision activities carried out by the Adult Day Reporting Centers (ADRC) probation

staff. Many of the violations which occur among the AB 109 realigned population are addressed with graduated sanctions, inclusive of both custodial and non-custodial measures, and offenders are held accountable in the community without compromising public safety.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce use of jail housing; Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: Probation Department; Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals participating in Adult Day Reporting Center programs and services received at Adult Day Reporting Center locations. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering services, lease/rental costs and facility costs for ADRC locations and equipment, supplies, and costs for services provided by contractors and community-based organizations.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees staffing each ADRC, the number of unique offenders participating each quarter by location, and the number of offenders who began participating in an ADRC program during the quarter. Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter along with the number of participants served by each contractor during that quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B7. Pretrial Risk Assessment and Monitoring Services

Description: Probation conducts a Pretrial Safety Assessment (PSA) on individuals booked into custody and monitors individuals released to Probation's Pretrial Monitoring by the Superior Court at no cost to the client. Monitoring can include court reminder telephone calls, office visits, community visits, and GPS monitoring. From October 2019 through June 2023, Probation provided pretrial monitoring for nearly 6,500 pretrial defendants. As of July 2023, 546 clients were actively receiving pretrial monitoring through the Probation Department.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety; Reduce use of jail housing

Reimbursable Entities: Probation Department

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals with cases pending resolution. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services, equipment, and supplies.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of individuals assessed with a PSA during the quarter, the number of unique individuals released on pre-trial monitoring during the quarter by level (1-6), and the total number of unique individuals who received pretrial monitoring services that quarter by level (1-6).

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B8. Alternative Sentencing Programs (Home Detention and Work Release)

Description: The Sheriff's Home Detention Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program was expanded through implementation of the AB 109 Plan to accommodate up to 350 participants. The program offers a less disruptive way for qualified offenders to serve their court-sentenced jail commitments in the community. EM participants are in the program for a maximum of 12 months. Offenders selected for participation undergo intensive supervision and are allowed to seek and maintain employment, and participate in approved therapeutic and/or rehabilitation counseling programs. Active EM supervision systems are utilized to ensure offender compliance with set limits on their location, activities and communications. The Sheriff's Office contracts with a non-profit organization to provide cognitive behavioral change services to offenders participating in the Home Detention/EM program. The program's goal is to promote positive change in offenders thinking and behaviors by focusing on the elimination of criminogenic risk factors, providing guidance and probation/parole terms, directing role playing/activities on methods of avoiding crime, and promoting skill building in the pursuit of education, career, and fiscal/time management.

The Sacramento County Sheriff's Office also has a work project alternative to incarceration program. Participation in this program is either provided by a court order at the time of sentencing or offered to eligible inmates as an early release option. Program participants are not required to have a permanent home address and are not drug tested. Program accountability is focused on attendance and work performance. Offenders who participate through early release from the County Jail typically have approximately 60 days or less to complete their sentence. As of July 2023, the Sheriff's Office alternative custody programs, including the EM program, work project alternative, and alternative sentencing program, collectively averaged about [REDACTED] active participants.

Goal Alignment: Reduce use of jail housing

Reimbursable Entities: Sheriff's Office; Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to inmates on home detention or work release as an alternative to jail housing. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies, including the rental/lease of monitoring equipment, laboratory/medical services, and phone charges.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of unique offenders participating in work release and home detention during the quarter, and the number of participants who began participating in each program that quarter. Costs generated by contractors should include contractor hours and costs per quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B9. Expungement and Record Modification Services

Description: Expungement and record modifications services help remove barriers to job opportunities and critical services, promoting community safety and economic opportunity, and addressing racial and economic inequity within the criminal justice system. Recent changes in the law have increased demand

for record modification services (e.g. AB 1950 [shortened probation terms] and AB 1869 [eliminated many fines and fees]). A 2020 study published by the Harvard Law Review found that people who clear their records have extremely low recidivism rates and experience a sharp upturn in their employment opportunities and their wages (an average of 22% increase in income). Attorney positions in both the District Attorney and indigent defense departments develop and review record modification requests, Probation staff assist with recommendations, and Superior Court staff processes the filings. As of April 2022, the Public Defender's post-conviction relief program has a backlog of 1,600 cases with new requests for assistance every day. While SB 731 (going into effect July 1, 2023) will extend automatic and petition-based record relief for some, ongoing support for record modification services remains needed.

Goal Alignment: Reduce recidivism and returns to custody

Reimbursable Entities: District Attorney; Indigent defense departments (Public Defender's Office/Conflict Criminal Defenders); Probation Department; Superior Court

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses related to services provided to individuals requesting record modifications. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of employees dedicated to this program, the number of record modification inquiries submitted to an indigent defense department by a Sacramento County resident during the quarter, the number of record modification requests filed with the Court by an indigent defense department during the quarter, the number of record modification requests reviewed by the District Attorney during the quarter, and the number of record modification requests approved by the Superior Court during the quarter.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B10. Crime Lab Staffing

Description: The AB 109 Plan allows funding for Crime Lab staffing (a criminalist and a forensic lab technician) which allows the District Attorney to better respond in a timely fashion and manage the added toxicology workload including the drug testing of PRCS and Mandatory Supervision offenders and some felony probationers conducted by the Probation Department. Presumptive positive tests collected by the Probation Department are sent to the Crime Lab for confirmation. The Crime Lab also analyzes evidentiary samples from defendants arrested for alcohol and drug charges. Drug testing is an important tool in the effective supervision of these offenders.

Goal Alignment: Maintain and improve community safety

Reimbursable Entities: District Attorney

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement is limited to expenses associated with a criminalist and forensic lab technician. Reimbursable costs include salaries and benefits for the employees administering the program as well as services and supplies.
- Quarterly claims should include the number of drug tests administered for PRCS, Mandatory Supervision, and felony probation offenders.

Outcomes for Annual Program Evaluations:

B11. Additional Eligible Programs and Services as Determined by the CCP

Description: The CCPAB and CCP recognize that innovative ideas for additional programs and services may occur between the approval of the 2023 Plan Update and the approval of the 2024-25 FY Budget. For growth requests related to programs and services that do not clearly fall within one of the existing eligible expense categories, agencies may request approval from the CCP to determine eligibility for use of AB 109 funds. Requests for approval must demonstrate how the proposal will support one or more of the overarching goals in the approved AB 109 Plan 2023 Update.

Goal Alignment: Dependent upon proposal.

Reimbursable Entities: Department of Health Services, Department of Homeless Services and Housing, Department of Human Assistance, Indigent defense departments (Public Defender's Office/Conflict Criminal Defenders), Probation Department, Police Departments, Sheriff's Office, Superior Court, Contractors/Community-Based Organizations (administered by a County department)

Reimbursement Restrictions:

- Reimbursement limitations and quarterly claim requirements will be included with the proposal to the CCP.

Outcome Measures:

- Outcome measures will be included with the proposal to the CCP.

Use of AB 109 Planning Funds

Implementation of the AB 109 Plan is overseen by a county position dedicated to supporting the CCP and CCPAB, tracking and monitoring data, drafting AB 109 Plan updates and reports, and managing reimbursement claims. Among other tasks, this position supports the County's efforts to (1) track data and measurable outcomes related to the AB 109 Plan, (2) assess implementation of programs/treatment/services, and (3) identify and address racial disparity issues that preliminary data indicates exist. In July 2022, Sacramento County hired an analyst in the Office of the County Executive, Public Safety and Justice Agency to perform these roles. Planning funds may also be used for supplies and services related to CCP and CCPAB meetings and activities.

2024 Planning Priorities

To further improve future AB 109 Plan updates, increase accountability, and develop consensus around specific program and service changes and innovations, it is recommended that the CCP and CCPAB invest time, effort, and community engagement in the following areas:

- Develop a definition of community safety to promote shared understanding.
- Develop specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) objectives for each overarching plan goal.
- Develop a standard program evaluation for AB 109 funded programs and services.
- Improve data collection efforts and expand staff access to data resources, including the production of queries and reports to monitor recidivism and returns to custody.

- Increase transparency of AB 109 funding allocations and expenses.
- Evaluate the feasibility of dedicating a portion of AB 109 growth funding to proposals from Community-Based Organizations providing support services to the justice-involved population not otherwise connected to eligible program and service categories.
- Evaluate the feasibility and reasonableness of service or funding limits for each eligible program and service category.
- Explore restorative justice programs and elevate the voices of crime survivors in the planning process.
- Develop an understanding of racial disparities within the AB 109 population and individuals receiving services through AB 109 funded programs.
- Integrate and build upon information obtained through the working groups established as part of the County's Jail Population Reduction Plans.

Appendix A: Community Corrections Partnership Membership

Member	Name and Title (if applicable)
Chief Probation Officer (Chair)*	Marlon Yarber, Chief Probation Officer <i>Designee: Marc Marquez, Assistant Chief Probation Officer</i>
Sheriff*	Jim Cooper, Sheriff <i>Designees: Dan Donelli, Chief of Corrections; Mike Ziegler, Undersheriff</i>
District Attorney*	Thien Ho, District Attorney <i>Designee: Scott Triplett, Chief Deputy District Attorney</i>
Public Defender*	Amanda Benson, Public Defender
County Supervisor Designee	Eric Jones, Deputy County Executive, Public Safety & Justice
Dept. of Social Services*	Chevon Kothari, Deputy County Executive, Social Services
Dept. of Behavioral Health	Tim Lutz, Director, Dept. of Health Services
Div. of Alcohol & Drug	Tim Lutz, Director, Dept. of Health Services
Superior Court*	Hon. Michael Bowman, Presiding Judge <i>Designee: Kelly Sullivan, Chief Deputy Executive Officer</i>
Chief of Police*	Katherine Lester, Chief of Police <i>Designees: Adam Green, Deputy Chief; Norm Leong, Deputy Chief</i>
Employment	William Walker, Director of Workforce Development (SETA)
County Office of Education	Dave Gordon, Superintendent <i>Designee: Jacqueline White, Asst. Superintendent</i>

Victim Representative	Darby Geller, Victim Witness Program Manager
CBO - Rehabilitative Services	Mervin Brookins (Brother 2 Brother Mentoring)

*Indicates members of the Executive (Voting) Committee

Appendix B: CCP Advisory Board Membership

Member	Name and Title (if applicable)
Community Member (Chair)	Melinda Avey
Community Member	William B. Norwood
Community Member	Bill Pieper
Community Member	Muriel Strand
District Attorney's Office	Andrew Soloman, Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney <i>Alternate: William Satchell, Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney</i>
Probation Department	Robyn Howland, Assistant Chief Deputy <i>Alternate: Kelly Finnegan, Supervising Probation Officer</i>
Public Defender's Office	Joseph Cress, Chief Assistant Public Defender <i>Alternate: Alice Michel, Chief Assistant Public Defender</i>
Sacramento Police Department	Lt. Sameer Sood <i>Alternate: Lt. Robbie Young</i>
Sheriff's Office	Lt. Chris Baker, Reentry Services Unit <i>Alternate: Sgt. Matthew Hovermale, Reentry Services Unit</i>
Social Services (Vice Chair)	Nina Acosta, Division Manager, Forensic Behavioral Health
Superior Court	Michelle Jeremiah, Operations Division Manager

Appendix C: 2023-24 Budget Allocations and Approved Growth Requests

Staff will insert a chart of the 2023-24 budget allocations and detail the approved Growth Requests. This will not be completed until the revised budget is approved in September.

Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

DATE: July 31, 2023

TO: Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board

FROM: Laura Foster, Management Analyst II, Public Safety and Justice

RE: STAFF REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM #4

#4 - Discussion Regarding Community Workshop

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board (CCPAB) discuss and provide feedback on the proposed Community Workshop for Monday, August 21st from 6 – 8 pm in the Board of Supervisors Chambers.

Background:

The CCPAB desires to receive feedback, input, and recommendations from the community on the draft of AB 109 Plan 2023 Update prior to submitting the Plan to the Community Corrections Partnership for approval.

At the June 12, 2023 meeting, the CCPAB directed staff to identify a potential date for a workshop that could be held on a weekday evening in the Board Chambers at a time not conflicting with other community boards and advisory bodies.

Staff has identified Monday, August 21st at 6 pm as a potential option. The workshop will be considered a Special Meeting so that all CCPAB members can attend. Staff has also asked Probation staff to support the livestreamed element of the event. A draft flyer for the workshop is attached.

If supported, staff will update the flyer with the appropriate links and QR codes and will work with the County's Public Information Office to publicize the workshop.

Attachments:

ATT 1 – Draft Flyer

Join the Discussion!

CCPAB
**COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS
PARTNERSHIP
ADVISORY
BOARD**

The Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board (CCPAB) seeks input from the community on Sacramento County's draft AB 109 (Public Safety Realignment) 2023 Plan Update.

Join us in person or via Zoom:

Monday, August 21, 2023 @ 6 pm

Board of Supervisors Chambers
700 H Street, Sacramento

Remote Participation Link: ***Insert Link Address Here***



The CCPAB will accept input on the draft Plan through September 3, 2023.

Send feedback and recommendations to

SacCountyCCPAdvisoryBoard@SacCounty.gov



Frequently Asked Questions

What is AB 109 (Public Safety Realignment)?

In 2011, the California Legislature and Governor passed sweeping public safety legislation that effectively shifted responsibility for certain populations of offenders from the state to the counties. The California Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011 (known as AB 109) allows for non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenders to be sentenced or placed on community supervision at the local County level. AB 109 required each County to have a Community Corrections Partnership to develop an AB 109 implementation plan to address responsibilities for realigned offenders going through the local justice continuum. The Community Corrections Partnership must update its plan annually to be eligible for continued funding.

What is the CCP Advisory Board (CCPAB)?

The CCPAB advises the Sacramento County Community Corrections Partnership on its annual plan updates regarding public safety realignment to maximize the effective investment of criminal justice resources. The CCPAB's recommendations are based on community input and ongoing data collection, evaluation, and analysis aimed at maintaining and improving community safety, reducing recidivism, and decreasing the use of the jail through expansion of community based treatment and support services.

Who are the CCPAB's Members?

The CCPAB was developed to promote community engagement and encourage public input into the plan. The CCPAB consists of four appointed community members, including justice-involved individuals, as well as a collaborative group of representatives from Sacramento County justice system agencies.

When does the CCPAB meet?

The CCPAB typically meets monthly on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Board of Supervisors Chambers (700 H Street, Sacramento) from 10:30 am - Noon. Meetings are also live-streamed over Zoom for members of the public. Periodically, the CCPAB will host community workshops in person and over Zoom to seek additional input and feedback on its planning efforts.

Learn more about the CCPAB by visiting:

<https://saccoprobation.saccounty.gov/Pages/CCPAB.aspx>

Poverty Is A Profit Center

In two extremely disturbing books, **Injustice Inc.: How America's Justice System Commodifies Children and the Poor**, * and **The Poverty Industry: The Exploitation of America's Most Vulnerable Citizens**, ** law professor Daniel L. Hatcher blows the whistle on deep and long-term government corruption on the part of state and local governments.

Readers may remember the 2008 "kids for cash" scandal and trials, after the discovery that two Pennsylvania judges were getting kickbacks in return for imposing harsh adjudications on juveniles to increase occupancy at for-profit detention centers. +

Far beyond that kind of embezzlement, Hatcher documents how state and county courts and various safety-net agencies nationwide have for years been committing massive fraud just like this for the benefit of criminal justice budgets and general funds, instead of just for individual fraudsters. They are harming thousands, perhaps millions, of poor people, both economically and emotionally, skimming off \$\$billions that federal rules say should be spent on the poor. And yes, some of this is happening in California. Is it happening in Sacramento?

There are corporations called "revenue maximization consultants" which specialize in identifying and rationalizing many ways of extracting cash from the misfortunes and exploitation of the poor, and assisting government agencies, who are supposed to be helping the hapless, in adding cash to their budgets. These corporations typically take a commission on the money such agencies can scam from the poor, and the doubtless well-paid corporate staff are able to mine voluminous and legalistic government regulations for all the ways that the rules can be twisted for this generally illegal goal.

Conveniently, the well-off are exempt from many of the regulations that punish the poor. Given the recent Supreme Court decision about affirmative action, one cannot help wondering if such disparity based on economic status violates the 14th Amendment.

There are more than a few scenarios. The foster kid scam is when CPS takes a poor kid away from a poor mom who is "neglecting" per. ('Per' is a term for gender neutral third person singular.) Then the foster agency 'adopts' some of the federal safety-net revenue that should support the poor foster kid. Plus, if foster agency staff notice some other source of revenue the kid might be due, such as SSI stipends, the revenue maximization consultants assist the agency in taking a bite of them too. Of course, the kid is clueless, and as a foster kid also twice as likely to have PTSD as a vet.

Then there's the child support scam where an agency might strong-arm a poor mom to sue a poor father for child support he is supposed to pay from some essential but less-than-living-wage job but when most of his paycheck is garnished he ends up homeless and then jobless plus then he also faces the court debt and fines from not paying the child support which means the only realistic option is working under the table or black market. Or suicide. Not family friendly.

Now to be clear, it's generally the agency officers and state politicians who, comfortably distant from the societal carnage, seek to protect revenues while cutting taxes—or just scramble to deal with cuts that are forced on them. It's not the actual outreach and administrative staff who are to blame. It's the system.

The books go into other scams in bureaucratically gory detail. Unfortunately, it seems that the federal government lacks the resources to monitor and enforce compliance to standards such as fiduciary responsibility, although there have been a relatively small number of successful lawsuits. Since Hatcher's first book came out in 2016, one would think there would have been more of them by now.

These corporations include:

Maximus <https://maximus.com/>

Wellcare <https://www.wellcare.com/>

PCG <https://www.publicconsultinggroup.com/>

Health Management Solutions <https://www.hmsconsultants.com/>

Centene Corporation <https://www.centene.com/>

In **Poverty, by America**, Matthew Desmond describes the many ways that the rules of the US system help the rich and hurt the poor. “Every year, the richest American families received almost 40% more in government subsidies than the poorest American families.” But tax breaks just don't get the same attention as direct payments. Functional innumeracy is widespread.

The ‘poverty industry’ is simply the many ways opportunists, public and private, make bank off people who have few other options and virtually no meaningful recourse. The poor are confronted by online mazes of red tape in order to get any assistance, and are often disqualified due to common problems like debt, criminal record, etc. When it's effectively a crime to be poor, let alone homeless, economic security looks like a fantasy.

“[A]cross America, the debate about addressing the affordable housing crisis and fostering inclusive communities has turned into a debate about gentrification, one pitting low-income families who have stable housing against low-income families who need it.”

“Meanwhile, the housing market now recoups many of the gains workers make. After wages began to rise in 2021, following worker shortages, rents rose as well, and soon people found themselves back where they started or worse. It's an old pattern. Since 1985, rent prices have exceeded income gains by 325%.”

“Imagine what your life would be like if we abolished poverty. You'd go to bed at night worrying far less about being victimized by crime, for a country that shares its wealth is a much safer country.”

Footnotes

+ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kids_for_cash_scandal

* <https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520396050/injustice-inc>
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?526518-1/injustice-inc-americas-justice-system-commodifies-children-poor>

** <https://nyupress.org/9781479874729/the-poverty-industry/>
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?411928-1/the-poverty-industry>

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/675683/poverty-by-america-by-matthew-desmond/>
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?526546-1/after-words-matthew-desmond>

Submitted by Muriel Strand
Community Member, CCPAB