

ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION WORK GROUP 1ST MEETING

Thursday, February 28, 2019

California Endowment

1000 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



- ▶ Guiding questions:
 - What values do you hope will guide the alternatives to incarceration work group?
 - How can we contribute to building a different form of justice across Los Angeles County?

WELCOME AND BRAINSTORM EXERCISE



INTRODUCTIONS

Please Share:

Name

Organization/Agency

What is your grand idea that you'd like to bring to this work group?



PURPOSE AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

Purpose: To provide the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors a *Road Map*, with an action oriented framework and implementation plan, to scale alternatives to incarceration and diversion so care and services are provided first and jail is a last resort.

Guiding Questions:

- How can we contribute in building a different form of justice across Los Angeles County?
- What resources are required to build, at the necessary scale, the services needed to implement this new form of justice in Los Angeles County?



PROCESS CHARACTERISTICS AND GOALS

Process Characteristics: Inclusive, aligned, innovative...

Guiding Principals: Care First-Jail Last, Prevent Entry into the Justice System Altogether, Community Based, Regional Services, Housing is Key to Stabilization, Individualized Care, Right Size the Community Continuum, Don't forget about employment, Holistic, Human Centered....

Goals:

- Develop a vision, values, process and structure to guide the creation of a comprehensive plan to build a more effective justice system
- Utilize emerging data and recommendations from the range of studies and assessments currently being conducted to expand diversion and community treatment opportunities for justice-involved individuals
- Create a roadmap for expanding alternatives to incarceration and diversion while preserving public safety
- Analyze legislative and policy changes needed to advocate for the roadmap's full implementation.
- Coordinate with related efforts to ensure that they are aligned with the County's goal of diverting people into treatment and not incarceration



PRODUCT AND TIMELINE

What we hope to produce for the Board of Supervisors through our process:

- *Interim Report*: 3-month report focusing on safe alternatives and diversion of those with clinical needs
- *Final Report*: At 9-months a report that looks at the broad population in jail and opportunities for safe alternatives and diversion



LOCAL EXAMPLE

- How ODR Housing Program has worked.
- How it has evolved over time



THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON NEW YORK CITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND INCARCERATION REFORM

Process Lessons

Commission Launch

- In 2/2016, New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito called for an independent commission to review the NYC criminal justice system and explore **“how we can get the population of Rikers to be so small that the dream of shutting it down becomes a reality.”**
- **Timeline:** 1 year
- **Funding:** Exclusively philanthropic
- **Composition:** 27 commissioners total
 - Chaired by former NYS Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman
- **Subcommittees:**
 - Examining data + research
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Exploring national models and best practices
- **Frequency:**
 - Monthly Committee Meetings
 - Monthly Subcommittee Meetings



Community Input

- **6 Community Roundtables**

- Occurred in each borough with close to 650 participants
- Community shared hopes, concerns and recommendations

- **3 Faith Breakfasts**

- Gathered feedback from over 75 faith leaders across 3 boroughs

- **Other meetings and discussions**

- Involved families of incarcerated individuals, CBOs, civil rights advocates, faith-based leaders, corrections officers, and the business community.

- **Public Website**

- Hundreds visited to provide input online



Adopted Strategies

SMALLER

1. Reduce the number of lower-risk people in jail by providing judges with an updated risk assessment tool
2. Make it easier for people to pay bail
3. Expand diversion programs for low- and medium-risk defendants
4. Replace short jail sentences with programs that reduce recidivism
5. Reduce the number of people with mental illness and substance use disorders in the jails
6. Reduce the number of women in city jails
7. Reduce the number of State technical parole violators in NYC jails
8. Speed up case processing times
9. Develop additional strategies to reduce the jail population further

SAFER

10. Improve city jails to ensure they are safe, secure and humane
11. Complete movement of all 16- and 17-year-olds off Rikers Island
12. Expand housing for individuals with mental illness
13. Use technology to reduce violence and support DOC operations
14. Improve officer safety through a new training academy and fully staffed DOC


FAIRER


15. Reduce recidivism through programming and reentry planning
16. Foster connections to families and community by improving visiting options
17. Continue to create alternatives to punitive segregation
18. Expand supportive services for DOC officers


Adopted Strategies

**SMALLER
SAFER
FAIRER**

**A roadmap
to closing
Rikers
Island**







The City of New York
Office of the Mayor

GOAL TYPES:	OVERALL	SMALLER	SAFER	FAIRER
YEAR ONE	Launch Justice Implementation Task Force	Launch new programs to reduce the jail population safely	Provide full camera coverage in all city jails to enhance safety	Continue reducing the use of punitive segregation
YEAR TWO	Launch new risk of flight assessment tool	GOAL* Reduce the number of state parolees in city custody	GOAL* Move adolescents off Rikers	Launch new universal reentry system and Jails to Jobs Program
	Continue efforts to reduce case processing time			Expand supportive services for corrections officers
		YEARS THREE TO FOUR	Continue to increase diversion and reduce case processing delay	Implement new tracking tool to monitor movement in city jails and enhance safety
	YEAR FIVE	GOAL* Population reduced to 7,000	Complete expansion of mental health housing units	Complete renovations of existing facilities on and off Rikers Island
		YEARS SIX TO NINE	Continue strategies to reduce how many people enter jail and how long they stay	Continue strategies to address violence and chronic recidivism
YEAR TEN	<p>GOAL* Close Rikers Island for good. Only possible with the commitment of all parts of the criminal justice system working together to reduce the size of the jail population to 5,000 and with the partnership of neighborhoods and their elected officials.</p>			

*Requires action from parties other than the City.



- ▶ Areas for Consideration
 - ▶ Subcommittee Formation
 - ▶ Alignment with Other Efforts
- ▶ Future Meetings at The California Endowment:
 - ▶ March 21: Second Workgroup Meeting from 1-3pm
 - ▶ April 11: Third Workgroup Meeting from 1-3pm
 - ▶ May 2: Fourth Workgroup Meeting from 1-3pm
 - ▶ May 23: Fifth Workgroup Meeting from 1-3pm
 - ▶ Monthly TBD starting in June

NEXT STEPS AND MEETING SCHEDULE



PUBLIC COMMENT AND THANK YOU

