

Los Angeles County
Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Work Group
Recommendations to Reduce Incarceration and Increase Diversion
for Justice-Involved Populations
from the ATI Community Engagement Workshops
11/5/19

Prepared by:

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In Collaboration with:

Prototypes, HealthRight 360, Inc.
 San Gabriel Valley Center (California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc.)
 Community Coalition
 Homeboy Industries
 Paving the Way Foundation
 Ascent, Good Seed Community Development Corporation
 -and-
 Participants of the community engagement workshops

Purpose

The County of Los Angeles’ ATI Community Engagement Ad Hoc Committee organized a series of community workshops in September and October of 2019 to elevate the voices of formerly incarcerated people and families with a loved one in custody. At these workshops over 400 people shared their experiences and perspectives about services, supports, and policies that would promote alternatives to incarceration and prevent incarceration. In addition, we held two feedback sessions with a total of 32 people, one with women and one with men, who are currently in custody in County facilities (Century Regional Detention Facility and Men’s Central Jail).

We selected communities that have been identified through the Million Dollar Hoods and Advancement Project reentry services assessments as areas where there are significant needs and gaps in resources available to prevent and address high rates of incarceration. In partnership with the following community-based organizations, we held community workshops in these locations:

Community-Based Host Organizations	Locations
• Prototypes	Pomona
• San Gabriel Valley Center (California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc.)	El Monte
• Community Coalition	South Los Angeles
• Homeboy Industries	East Los Angeles
• Paving the Way Foundation	Lancaster
• Ascent, Good Seed Community Development Corporation	Long Beach

Our recommendations are informed by the findings/feedback that we collected during these eight workshops. The community engagement feedback that we received supports 21 current ATI roadmap recommendations, suggests modifications to two existing recommendations, and shapes four new recommendations.

Table 1: Number of Modified and New Recommendations Per Intercept

Intercept 0	4
Intercept 4	1
Intercept 5	1
Total:	6

Intercept 0

Recommendation	Modification to Approved or New
#2. Create and expand decentralized, coordinated field services and hubs (ex: MLK Behavioral Health Center) in strategic locations across the 8 Service Planning Areas (especially SPA 1, 3, and 7) where people, their families, and support network can seek referral and/or immediate admission 24 hours a day to a spectrum of trauma informed services that include but are not limited to mental health including Psychiatric Urgent Care Centers; supportive housing via a coordinated entry system; and substance use disorder services such as withdrawal management, medication assisted treatment (MAT) and recovery intake centers (i.e., sobering centers).	Modification to Approved
#14. Remove barriers to treatment, employment and affordable housing, including recovery housing, based on stigmatization and discrimination due to record of past convictions through local and state legislative intervention, or updating County policies.	Modification to Approved
Provide comprehensive community-based reentry services across the county including but not limited to: job training and placement, specialized training to build a pipeline to employment in reentry programs (with career pathway options), advocacy to change rules that bar formerly incarcerated individuals to apply for certain professional certifications, assistance to find housing, temporary financial aid for basic needs (e.g. food, clothing, transportation), assistance to secure legal identification and to enroll in benefit programs (e.g. Medi-Cal, General Relief, SNAP), life skills classes (budgeting, etc.), and connections to mental health and substance use treatment services.	New
Facilitate individuals’ ability to comply with court requirements and clear their record by providing financial assistance to individuals released to assist with costs associated with court requirements (e.g. restitution fees, mandated classes, etc.), creating a mechanism for people to have these costs waived due to financial hardship, and increasing access to legal services such as free expungement	New

Intercept 1 - no changes

Intercept 2 - no changes

Intercept 3 - no changes

Intercept 4

New Recommendation	Approved vs. New
Conduct mental health assessments for all individuals as expeditiously as possible once they are incarcerated, offer individual counseling/therapy to all individuals in need, and for those who qualify for diversion, provide services to stabilize their mental health before linking them to community based-care.	New

Intercept 5

Recommendation	Approved vs. New
Ensure that all individuals before they are released from incarceration receive their California ID, Social Security Card, birth certificate, and other documentation needed for obtaining health care, , employment, housing, government benefits, etc. and inform them how to receive fee waivers.	New

Intercept 6

Feedback from the community workshops will be shared with the intercept 6 implementation team.

Infrastructure

No changes