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ISSUE 4 ■ 2nd Quarter ■ April 2014



San Bernardino County Probation

Day Reporting & Reentry Services Centers

Central Valley*High Desert*West End

A COLLABORATION OF EFFORT OF COUNTY AGENCIES, COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS, AND FAITH BASED PARTNERS

PROVIDER REPORT:

Assisting the Homeless with Resources and Services

"There is a lot that happens around the world we cannot control..., but when we know where the hungry, the homeless and the sick exist, then we can help." -Jan Schakowsky

Put in place as a help to Probation homeless clients, the Homeless Support Officers (HSOs) represent the balanced approach to providing reentry services to homeless Probation clients. Probation Officers Kathleen Cox, Clover Clinton, and Ann Hill are the DRRSC Homeless Support Officers, who are available at each of the regionally located Day Reporting and Reentry Services Centers (DRRSC). They provide homeless services to Probation clients, who are experiencing an episode of homelessness or are at risk

Probation Officer II Kathleen Cox

homeless. The HSO offers assistance with locating emergency shelter, short-term housing, placement in community based housing programs, or probation funded transitional housing programs. Clients are provided with items such as blankets, food, homeless resource information, and/or transportation assistance. The HSO works with other DRRSC providers: the Department of Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Transitional Assistance to provide mental health services, Cal Fresh and Medi-Cal benefit assistance, referrals to health care providers and housing support. Their primary goal is to assist clients with finding permanent supportive housing by providing referrals to housing providers, necessary treatment programs, and transitional resources. Since 2012 Homeless Support Officers have provided assistance to more than 300 clients reporting episodes of homelessness, clients at risk of being homeless, and pre-release clients detained at local county jails or state prisons.



Outreach

SPOTLIGHT: *Medi-Cal Outreach and Enrollment Program*

Under the leadership of the County of San Bernardino Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Probation will participate in an allocation funded Medi-Cal Outreach and Enrollment program. The allocation in the amount of approximately \$1.3 million dollars was awarded to HHS by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The allocation will provide funding for services beginning March 2012 thru December 2016.

Funding was awarded to HHS pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 82, which required DHCS to accept an allocation from the California Endowment for Medi-Cal enrollment assistance. There are three core program goals: Provide

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Medi-Cal Outreach and Recruitment Program

Medi-Cal outreach and enrollment activities, ensure the needs of the target populations are understood, and provide information and assistance using culturally and linguistically appropriate methods. Services provided as part of the San Bernardino County program will focus on persons who are in county jail, persons who are on county probation or under Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), and young men of color.

Through the Medi-Cal Outreach and Enrollment program, HHS and its partners will contract with local Community-based organizations (CBOs) to conduct Medi-Cal outreach and enrollment activities. The Transitional Assistance Department (TAD) will provide CBOs with related training. In turn, the CBOs will provide training to their staff. Probation will coordinate access by CBO(s) to Day Reporting and Re-entry Services Centers located in the Central, High Desert, and West End regions to conduct their outreach and enrollment activities.

This May is Mental Health Month:

Mind Your Health Recognizes Importance of Mental Health to Overall Health

Source: <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/download-may-mental-health-month-toolkit>



May is Mental Health Month. The 2014 Mental Health Month theme is "Mind Your Health." Activities and materials for the month are geared towards building public recognition about the importance of mental health to overall health and wellness; informing people of the ways that the mind and body interact with each other; and providing tips and tools for taking positive actions to protect mental health and promote whole health.

Mental Health America has developed a series of fact sheets available on its website (<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may>) on steps anyone can take to improve their overall mental health and well-being and on how to get help when needed. These are:

- Alcohol Use and Abuse
- Building Social Support
- Supplements: Weighing Benefits and Risks
- Healthy Diet: Eating with Mental Health in Mind
- Stress: Coping with Everyday Problems

Rest, Relaxation and Exercise

Mental Health America states, "Just as Americans have learned there are things they can do to reduce their risk of heart disease and chronic illnesses, we want to help people learn what they can do both to protect their mental health in tough times and also to improve their mental well-being throughout their lives."

For more information on May is Mental Health Month, visit Mental Health America's website at www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may.



2014 First Quarter Update

Assembly Bill 109:

By the Numbers

San Bernardino County Probation
Research and Analysis Unit

Julie Hovis, Division Director II

Since 10/1/2011; 7,163 persons have been released to Post Release Community Supervision. This number is 35% higher than what was projected by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). In addition to cases released from CDCR, cases are also received from the Court and other counties, 540 cases, bringing the total number of cases to 7,703. Currently there are 2,247 offenders under active supervision as of March 31, 2013.

HIGH DESERT UPDATE: Day Reporting & Reentry Services Center

Supervising Probation Officer Leo Stager

Victor Valley Rescue Mission and Feed My Sheep Sponsor the First DRRSC Food Distribution Program

As our nation's largest and most comprehensive nutrition assistance program, the Food Stamp Program, provides an average benefit of \$78 per month to almost 2 million people in California. The most basic criteria is that a household must have an income below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), which represents an income of approximately \$2,295 for a family of five. San Bernardino County has a population of approximately 1.6 million and statistics suggest that 15.8% of county residents live in poverty (<http://cfpa.net/GeneralNutrition/CFPAPublications/CountyProfiles/2003/SanBernardino.PDF>, retrieved on March 29, 2014). For poverty and hunger to be effectively addressed efforts must be made on every front

The High Desert Day Reporting and Reentry Services Center (DRRSC) is the first DRRSC to step up to the plate. The High Desert site is coordinating food distribution services directly to DRRSC clients. Through the sponsorship of the Victor Valley Rescue Mission and the Feed My Sheep organizations, the High Desert DRRSC hosted their first food distribution on Friday, March 28, 2014. Twenty-two families received groceries. The Victor Valley Rescue Mission was established in 2000 and became part of the Rescue Mission Alliance in 2008. Their outreach efforts include hot meals, clothing, blankets, hygiene kits, food pantry, and a direct link between hospital, clinic, and other health related and community based services. Feed My Sheep is a registered 501 (c) 3 charitable organization serving the Southern California High Desert region by providing assistance with food and other basic human needs. Food distribution services will continue at the High desert site each month. Similar partnerships will be implemented at the Central and West End DRRSC sites in summer 2014.



DRRSC Sites Accepting Food Donations
April 30, 2014 thru May 9, 2014

HELP STAMP OUT HUNGER

To help with efforts to address poverty and hunger, all of the DRRSC sites will accept food donations, beginning Wednesday, April 30, 2014 thru Friday, May 9, 2014. Their efforts will be in support of the 22nd Annual National Letter Carrier's Food Drive (NALC), which is held on Saturday, May 10, 2014. The NALC food drive went national in 1993. Since that time their drive has collected nearly 1.3 billion pounds of food. Food donations can be delivered to any of the three DRRSC sites. Each DRRSC site will partner with one local U.S. Postal branch in their area. All donations to local DRRSC sites will be delivered to their local postal services partner site on Friday, May 9, 2014. Contact your local DRRSC Program Supervisor to participate or to receive additional information.

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WAYS TO
HELP THE
HOMELESS

1. RESPECT THE HOMELESS AS INDIVIDUALS
2. PROVIDE A LIST OF SHELTERS & RESOURCES
3. GIVE FOOD
4. DONATE BLANKETS & CLOTHING
5. VOLUNTEER AT SHELTERS OR SOUP KITCHENS
6. TEACH ABOUT HOMELESS SERVICES
7. RESPOND WITH KINDNESS

Making Moves Community Partnerships Are Vital to Promoting Reentry Success:

Aztecs Rising Partners with Probation

Aztecs Certified Wildland Firefighters Program

Aztecs Rising promotes peace, self-sufficiency and quality of life for youth, adults, and families through gang intervention, violence prevention, case management and job readiness services. As part of their efforts Aztecs Rising provides unique educational and employment development programs that give young adults an opportunity to work while learning

environmental care. One of the Aztecs programs assist young adults in becoming certified Wildland Firefighters. Participants have the opportunity to receive firefighter training and to give back to their community by participating in various community service events. On February 28, 2014 Aztecs Rising held a recruitment orientation event for their Certified Wild-

land Firefighters program at the Central DRRSC. The orientation was open to clients from parole, probation and other reentry populations. Fifty-four potential recruits attended the orientation. Fifteen probation clients were recruited to the program. Ten Probation recruits have remained with the program and are now in their second month of training.

TO VOLUNTEER WITH YOUR LOCAL DAY REPORTING AND REENTRY SUPPORT CENTER CONTACT THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT YOUR LOCAL SITE FOR INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS.

TO PROTECT THE
COMMUNITY...



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West End Day Reporting and Reentry Services Center
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APRIL, MAY
& JUNE EVENTS

*Day Reporting &
Reentry Services Centers
and Community Events*

April

EVENTS & SUGGESTIONS

Tues., April 15 (10:00 am- 2:00 pm):
Military Sexual Trauma/Post Traumatic
Stress Disorder Awareness Day.
Community Living Center Patio.

May

EVENTS & SUGGESTIONS

Mon., May 5 (6:30 pm-7:30 pm):
Inland Empire National Association of
Social Workers, DRRSC presentation.
Earn 1 CEU.

Thurs., May 22 (2:00 pm- 6:00 pm):
DBH Expo. County of San Bernardino
DBH. Exhibits and presenters.
850 E. Foothill Blvd., Rialto, CA.

June

EVENTS & SUGGESTIONS

Tues., June 10 (9:00 am- 11:00 am):
DRRSC Provider Quarterly Meeting at
the Victorville DRRSC.

Ongoing gently used clothing donations
accepted at DRRSC sites