



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Robert L. Green
Director

PRRS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING **September 6, 2018 @ 7:30am**

Committee Members Attendance: Thomas DeGonia, Co-Chair; Angela Talley, Chief; Ben Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Programs and Services; Ivan Downing, Deputy Chief of Security and Facilities; Tyrone Alexander, Reentry Services Manager; Tina Michaels, Pre-Trial Manager; Dominique Fontaine, PRRS Administrative Aide; Patricia Taylor, Former PRRS Work Release Coordinator; Sidney Katz, Councilmember; Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Government Relations; Bernita Johnson, Welcome Home Program; Viviana Stevens, PRRS Work Release Coordinator; Jaime Sherls, PRRS Case Manager; Andre Stepp, Resident Supervisor III; Amnetty Marmolejos, Resident Supervisor; Two (2) current PRRS Residents attended

Welcome and Introductions: Brief introduction of all attendees.

PRRS Division Chief's Report: Angela Talley highlighted the following items during the Report to the Community Advisory Committee:

- PRRS currently has four (4) Resident Supervisor vacancies. Correctional Officer staff shortages is statewide. PRRS is advertising a female only solicitation that closes on August 17, 2018
- Female officers will continue to be drafted until fully staffed
- Mental Health Therapist to begin on October 15, 2018
- Federal Bureau of Prisons unannounced inspection on May 9th, 2018 -Full Compliance with no deficiencies noted
- Grand Jury visit conducted on June 19th, 2018- awaiting final report
- New PRRS Dietary Kitchen Project has begun- No impact to Dietary operations.
- Construction resulted in immediate loss of the courtyard and outside classroom. Exercise bikes have been purchased for each unit and are available for recreational use
- Recreation trips will continue with interns to various county parks, museums and other leisure activities
- Refresh project and ADA room renovations for Medical and Units 1 & 4 will run simultaneously with Dietary project.

PRRS- Today

- Pre-Trial Move to PRRS – Shared facility enabled both programs to more easily share case information, identified potential candidates that could benefit from PRRS services.
- Technology Development-GPS has allowed PRC to reassess cases that previously could not be considered due to accountability issues.
- Specialty Courts-Drug Court and Mental Health Court partnerships
- Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) has changed the length of time residents are in our facility

Pre-Release and Reentry Services Division

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Hot Topic Discussion: Elimination of Pre-Placement Unit: (Division Chief Talley)

- PRRS program's previous model assigned residents to one housing unit where they worked with a treatment consisting of a Work Release Coordinator, Case Managers and Resident Supervisors.
- In 2015 PRRS established the Pre-Placement Unit to centralize employment services and work release coordinators on Unit 2. After securing employment, PRRS residents were moved from the Pre-Placement Unit to another housing unit.
- The constant movement of residents from one unit to another created inefficiencies in our service delivery to residents and created barriers in our ability to properly manage resident flow and security operations.
- Staff fully support the elimination of the Pre-Placement Unit and believe residents will be better served being assigned to one Work Release Coordinator and Case Managers on their respective housing unit.
- Security operations will also be enhanced as permanent housing assignments reduces offender flow and loitering in hallways, improves classification procedures and our ability to maintain keep separates and increases our ability to hold residents accountable for contraband and damage to property.
- The Pre-Placement Unit will be eliminated beginning October 1, 2018.

Feedback from Residents

- Residents expressed positive feedback of PRRS eliminating the Pre-Placement Unit
 - Expressed desire to see more programs/services to assist residents with finding lasting employment and life skills
 - Support stricter consequences to violations and believes residents in PRC need to remember that this program is a privilege and not a right
 - Agreed that eliminating room moves allow staff to pinpoint residents that are damaging rooms and expressed issues with smoking in the facility

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

**2018 CAC Quarterly Meeting Dates:
Theme for the Year: Forty Years Forward**

Thursday, December 6th, 2018

PRRS-Moving Forward

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