



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

Robert L. Green  
*Director*

### **PRRS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING** **December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 7:30am**

**Committee Members Attendance:** Thomas DeGonia, Co-Chair; Robert Green, Director DOCR; Angela Talley, Chief; Ben Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Programs and Services; Ivan Downing, Deputy Chief of Security and Facilities; Tyrone Alexander, Reentry Services Manager; Madhuka Lee, PRRS Administrative Aide, Sidney Katz, Councilmember; Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Government Relations; Matt Higgins, Councilmember Berlines Aide; Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Councilmember Chief of Staff; Bernita Johnson, Welcome Home Program; Viviana Stevens, PRRS Work Release Coordinator; Michael McGregor, PRRS Case Manager; Jaime Sherls, PRRS Case Manager; Kent Mason, Founder of PRC; Warren Testerman; Four (4) 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:

- New County Executive, Marc Elrich, was sworn in on December 3, 2019
- Marc Elrich announced, 8 Directors to remain under his leadership. Director Green will remain as DOCR Director.
- Program has vacancies with female Resident Supervisor positions.
- Vacancies in the custody and security positions is Statewide
- Female RS will continue to be drafted until fully staffed
- Re-advertising for Mental Health Therapist position
- Kitchen Project- we are 15 days behind schedule due to weather delays
- Refresh project and ADA room renovations for Medical and Units 1 & 4 are still on track-
- October 2018 PRRS eliminated Pre-Placement Unit. One Work Release Coordinator and two Case Managers are assigned to each Unit
- PRRS Annual Gift Giving Christmas party will be held on December 15, 2018
- Chief Angela Talley; Deputy Chief of Programs and Services Ben Stevenson met with Administrative District Court Judge Mitchell on September 7, 2018 to review blanket approval process.
- During the last 3 years there has been high turnover of judges in District and Circuit Courts. Need to continue to meet to collaborate and educate about PRRS program.
- Plans to meet with Administrative Judge for Circuit Court-Judge Greenburg in the future
- We had three (high relapse cases) Drug Court residents escape
- Ten residents graduated from Drug Court on November 14, 2018

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#### Pre-Release and Reentry Services Division

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### **PRRS- Programming/Screening tools/Vivitrol**

- PRRS is seeking to introduce additional programming starting next year to include: health, hygiene, substance abuse, employment soft skills, financial management, and life skills
- Management considering reintroducing psychological assessments to better assist in addressing the needs of residents/ potential residents
- Pharmacological approach to addressing drug addiction, specially to Opioids and alcohol
  - First injection will be given at MCDC prior to transfer
  - The goal is to successfully manage our residents with their addictions

### **Hot Topic Discussion: Expansion of Drug and Alcohol Testing:** Discussion/Questions Division Chief Angela Talley

- Increased drug testing will begin to include Fentanyl and ETG alcohol tests

### **PRRS Residents**

- Residents expressed positive feedback of PRRS
  - One resident stated “This program works”
  - Another resident talked about how helpful the structure and the accountability has been for him. He is very thankful for PRRS and all the programs we offer, specially Thinking for Change and Relapse Prevention
  - Another resident asked if they can have county jobs
  - Another resident stated, PRRS helped him to be a better father to his children. He also expressed how grateful he is for our program

### **PRRS Staff Members**

- Ben Stevenson stated we have a vibrant GED program
- Michael McGregor stated the importance of having a fulltime family Therapist at PRRS- unfortunately most of our residents are going back to dysfunctional families when they leave PRRS.
- Bernita Johnson-will be coordinating gift donations for residents’ kids. Residents will participate by wrapping gifts for their children on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.