

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett County Executive

Robert L. Green *Director*

PRRS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING March 9, 2017 @ 7:30am

Committee Members Attendance: Diane Scott-Jones, Co-Chair CAC; Tom DeGonia, Co-Chair CAC; Robert Gree, PRRS Director; Angela Talley, PRRS Chief; Ivan Downing, Deputy Chief of Security and Facility; Tyrone Alexander, Reentry Manager; Joanna Henriquez, PRRS Administrative Aide; Brittany Payne, Fritz Jadotte, Jaime Sherls, PRRS Case Managers; Godfred Ababio, PRRS Resident Supervisor; Marcia Durant, PRRS Nurse; Sidney Katz, Councilmember; Bill Sollod, Parole & Probation; Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Chief of Staff; Mara Parker, Legislative Aide; Councilmember Elrich; Carlos Aparicio, Community Services Manger – City of Rockville; Kate Bouwkamp, Community Services Coordinator – City of Rockville; Edward Powell, Responsible Fathers Program – HHS; Patricia Prather, Peer to Peer Recovery Services; 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 Chief's Report to the Community Advisory Committee:

- Resident Supervisor vacancies are being filled. An additional RSIII was created and filled. Position will address gaps in coverage and reduce overtime.
- Recruitment efforts to hire a Bilingual Case Manager are in process.
- Announcement for newly created part-time Therapist at PRRS will be posted soon. The position will require the therapist to be at our facility 20 hours a week.
- PRRS Program Specialist position was abolished and current Program Specialist Karla Rhodes move to Pre-Trial Services to fill their current Program Specialist position.
- Ivan Downing, Chief of Security and Facilities will now lead PRRS through accreditation. Our next scheduled audit MCCS-State audit, October. 31st-November 3rd.
- Three (3) major projects to begin this year: Dietary Project to begin in July, Roof Replacement to begin in August, and Energy and ADA Upgrades (new plumbing, new lighting, AC's, heater) to begin Spring/Summer.
- New lockers for Pre-Trial clients have been installed and protocols established for their use. Goal to reduce contraband and limit amount of entering the facility.
- New metro scanners have arrived and will be used once staff training is complete. They will be able to detect cell phone and help prevent contraband from entering the building. Since last year, there has been a 50% decrease in residents being transferred back to the jail for violations. We hope that with these new security measures, the number will continue to drop.
- New GED instructor began in January.
- Bail Reforms: The rule change where a commissioner can determine whether a defendant can afford to make bail has passed. Pre-Trial Services expects to see a higher volume of clients soon.

Focus Topic: Building and Sustaining Positive Community Relationships Questions/Discussion: Family Relationships

Edward Powell, Responsible Fathers Program – HHS

- -Responsible Fathers is a program run by Child Welfare Services, HHS.
- -The program provides workshops. Eight (8) one and half hour classes that cover topics that range from their role in the family, to the steps needed to transition from boyhood to manhood are covered.
- -They also receive anger management referrals.
- -PRRS residents do participate, but not as many as in the past.
- -The participant must be a Montgomery County resident.

Carlos Aparacio, Community Services Manager – City of Rockville

- -Regional Youth Services provides services for children and families.
- -The program focuses on early intervention and prevention.
- **-Referral source are low-income families who receive** reduced and free lunch and those with incarcerated parents.
- **-Program works with** the parent to understand the child's development and how to interact with the child.
- -They have begun a Parenting Class at PRC to serve those residents who have children.

Kate Bouwkamp, Community Services Program Coordinator - City of Rockville

- -ACT Raising Safe Kids Program is a parenting classes that runs in an 8 week cycle. Promotes positive parenting.
- -The classes are typically open conversations. They are unbiased and not judgmental. ----
- -They set realistic parenting expectations for participants.
- -Participants in the PRC Parenting Class are identified during the screening process and class participation is included as part of their reentry plan. Residents have given positive feedback of the classes so far.

PRC Case Managers – Sponsor Groups

- -Sponsor groups at PRC are run by Case Managers and meet twice a week.
- -Residents choose who they want as a sponsor to help them in their reentry plan and be a positive support system during their stay at PRC and when they are released into the community.
- -Case Managers work closely with sponsors to get better insight of the resident and communicate regularly about their progress and concerns.
- -Sponsors find support and comfort with other sponsors at these meetings who are dealing with similar issues.

Suggestions/Comments by PRC Residents and Attendees

- **-Enjoy** the parenting class provided by the City of Rockville. Suggest that the Abused Persons Program should be incorporated to include the female component.
- -A support group for sponsors may be beneficial to have.
- -Ex-residents who completed the program successfully should come back to PRC to speak to current residents about their experiences in the program.

Pre-Release and Reentry Services Division

Meeting adjourned at 9:00am.

2017 CAC Quarterly Meeting Dates:

Theme for the Year: Building and Sustaining Positive Community Relationships

Thursday, June 8, 2017: Personal and Peer Relationships

Thursday, September 7, 2017: Community Relationships (Mentors, Sponsors, Faith Based)

Thursday, December 1, 2016: Professional Relationships (Employers, Providers)