



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Manager



Date: May 14, 2014
Board Meeting Date: May 20, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: John L. Maltbie, County Manager

Subject: County Manager's Report #9

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept this informational report.

BACKGROUND:

This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

DISCUSSION:

Public Safety

Evidence Based Incentives and Sanctions Training

Public Safety Realignment shifted responsibility for people convicted of certain non-serious, non-violent, non-sex felony offenses from state prisons and parole to county jail and probation. This as you know has posed a tremendous challenge to our Probation Department and its partners in public safety.

That is why I am pleased to report that, under Probation Chief John Keene, all probation officers and command staff in the Post Release Community Supervision Unit have completed an evidence-based training in sanctions and rewards. The training was provided by the Chief Probation Officers of California.

The training provides for a consistent framework of sanctions and rewards across the Post Release Community Supervision Unit. It emphasizes the application of consistent and immediate sanctions when necessary and the use of rewards such as gift cards for food or clothing to reinforce positive behavior. The eight-hour course is one in a series

of courses provided by the state to assist counties in supervising individuals who in the past were the responsibility of state parole.

Probation currently supervises approximately 400 individuals in the Post Release Community Supervision Unit. It is too soon to measure the impact of the training but Chief Keene believes the application of consistent, evidence-based practices across the Unit will reduce recidivism and improve public safety.

Human Trafficking Day of Action

On May 10 approximately 30 volunteers took concrete steps to raise awareness that slavery occurs in our community and to highlight telephone hotlines that can be used by both victims of human trafficking and those who suspect it.

The volunteers, recruited by the County Manager's Office, the Commission on the Status of Women and other partners, attended a morning training held in Room 101 of 455 County Center. The focus was a state law that requires certain establishments to display a poster with the number for the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, 1-888-373-7888, and the California Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, 1-888-539-2373. (San Mateo County's poster is in English, Spanish and Chinese.)

These establishments include certain bars, adult businesses, urgent care centers and emergency rooms, transit stations, farm labor contractors and privately operated job recruitment centers, among others. Following the training, the volunteers fanned out across San Mateo County to check whether required establishments were displaying the poster. We will report the results to you when they are available.

This important event could not have occurred without dedicated volunteers who are working with counties across the Bay Area to send the message that slavery in any form will not be tolerated.

Health and Human Services

CalFresh

On Monday, May 12, the Human Services Agency, the City/County of San Francisco and Sparkpoint at Skyline College partnered to hold the first "CalFresh-in-a-Day" event.

Held at Skyline College, the three agencies were able to bring food assistance services, such as a cooking demonstrations and CalFresh EBT card processing, directly to students. Throughout the day, Benefits Analysts were on site to assess CalFresh eligibility, help process applications and issue benefits cards. Eight San Mateo County and two San Francisco County residents applied for and received their benefits and EBT Cards on the same day. Staff from the Human Services Agency facilitated San Francisco County in printing EBT Cards at the Daly City office. Additional students submitted applications and are awaiting a response.

More than 30 students received a bag of food from the Skyline College Pantry supplied by Second Harvest Food Bank, and a bag from Human Services with fresh vegetables and ingredients to make a veggie roll-up that was being demonstrated by the Health System's nutritionist.

“Sweet Cases” Help Ease a Difficult Transition

Several local agencies have worked together to provide a care package that social workers will have on hand in the event that the difficult decision to remove a child is made, and the child is unable to secure essentials from their homes.

Called a Sweet Case, the Belmont Chapter of 4-H, Together we Rise, and Help One Child have made special duffle bags and toiletry kits for social workers to have in their cars. The duffle bags are hand-decorated or hand-made, and include a pillow pet or a hand-made baby blanket, as well as basic necessity items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and body wash.

Performance

County Ethics Training

In February 2013, your Board approved an enhanced whistleblower process that included offering ethics training for County employees. A new 30-minute online ethics training has been created and will be launched to all employees in June.

Some of the topics covered in the customized course include expectations of public sector employees, maintaining a discrimination-free workforce, avoiding conflicts of interest, links to County policies (including Code of Ethics Policy), and reporting information (e.g., County's whistleblower hotline). After the roll-out of the initial training, the course will be offered every two years to all employees and to all new employees.

Measure A Oversight Committee

The Measure A Oversight Committee met for the second time on May 8 at the College of San Mateo, College Heights Conference Room. Staff reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Committee and provided status reports on Measure A receipts, projections, spending and performance.

The Committee set its next meeting for Thursday, October 23, at 6 p.m. at CSM's College Heights Conference Room.

The Committee's mission is to ensure the completion of, and review the results of, an annual audit performed under the auspices of the Controller's Office of the Measure A sales and use tax revenues received by the County.

In addition, the Committee will develop recommendations for the County Manager's consideration regarding appropriate metrics by which the County can assess the impact of Measure A funds on programs and services funded in whole or in part by Measure A

proceeds. The performance for funded initiatives is being tracked at <https://performance.smcgov.org/>

News, Events and Updates

Voting Underway for June 3 Primary

Voters can now cast ballots for the June 3 Statewide Direct Primary Election at either of two locations.

The Voting Centers for the June 3 election are located at:

- 1) Registration and Elections Division, 40 Tower Road, San Mateo
- 2) 555 County Center, First Floor, Redwood City

Hours of operation for the two Voting Centers are as follows:

Monday, May 5 to Monday, June 2 (Weekdays): 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 31: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, June 3 (Election Day): 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voters from any precinct in the county may come to one of the two Voting Centers to cast a ballot or drop off a voted mail ballot. To cast a non-mail ballot, a voter may choose between an electronic voting machine or a paper ballot.

For additional assistance, anyone can contact the Registration and Elections Division at 650-312-5222 or at registrar@smcare.org.

Jobs for Youth Breakfast

The 32nd Annual Jobs for Youth Annual Awards & Fundraising Breakfast will take place on Thursday, May 22, from 7:30 to 10 a.m. at the Foster City Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The cost is \$45 per person, or \$400 for a table of 10.

For reservations, contact Ruby Tomas at 650-802-3371 or at rtomas@smcgov.org.