



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Manager



Date: September 12, 2014
Board Meeting Date: September 30, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Mike Callagy, Deputy County Manager

Subject: David Lewis Community Reentry Center, East Palo Alto

RECOMMENDATION:

- A) Resolution approving an allocation from the AB 109 Realignment Trust Fund to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services to provide reentry services to formerly incarcerated individuals through the David Lewis Community Reentry Center in the City of East Palo Alto in an amount not to exceed \$214,000
- B) Introduce an ordinance amending the salary ordinance to add three new positions, including one Senior Community Worker – Unclassified, one Community Worker Series – Unclassified and one Office Assistant Series – Unclassified, and to waive the reading of the ordinance in its entirety.

BACKGROUND:

Assembly Bill 2436 (Chapter 779, Statutes of 2006) established a partnership between the East Palo Alto Police Department (EPAPD), the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and community organizations to implement a three-and-one-half year pilot parolee reentry program in East Palo Alto. The pilot reentry program, which operated from 2007 to 2010, yielded positive results providing, among other services, case management, advocacy and supportive services, and personal development classes.

Former East Palo Alto Police Chief Ron Davis worked to secure continued funding from CDCR and to establish a new Caltrans employment program to compliment the services provided by the reentry program. Unfortunately, he was unable to do so before his departure in November 2013. Since then, reentry program staff continued to provide services to clients and the City of East Palo Alto was able to extend the operations of the reentry program by providing an additional \$50,000 from EPAPD. On May 6, 2014, your Board approved emergency funding in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for the continued operation of the Center through September 2014. The David Lewis

Community Reentry Center and the City of East Palo Alto have looked for alternative ways to fund this reentry program, but have been unsuccessful.

DISCUSSION:

The cities of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park combined have the highest concentration of clients on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) in the County. In fact, as of August 2014, twenty-seven percent of the County's PRCS Probation Department caseload and 15 percent of its 1170(h) caseload (those sentenced to serve their time locally rather than in state prison) lived in these two cities.

Given the high concentration of AB 109 clients (both PRCS and 1170(h)s) living in and around the cities of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, there is a great need for a local reentry resource center. Stakeholders from the cities of East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, and the County, have met to discuss the development of a unique joint city/county partnership. This partnership will consist of the establishment of a satellite Service Connect program office at the David Lewis Community Reentry Center that will provide direct services to a unified reentry population in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

The David Lewis Community Reentry Center, located on University Avenue in East Palo Alto, has been a valuable community asset serving the needs of the County's reentry population. The proposed new model will merge the existing resources of Service Connect with the established reputation of the David Lewis Community Reentry Program to form a unique partnership focused on reducing recidivism. This new partnership will provide an array of evidence-based services, including task-oriented case management, supplemental case management, peer counseling, and support groups targeted to the needs of formerly incarcerated persons, including the recently realigned populations determined to be at moderate or high-risk to reoffend.

The County of San Mateo will utilize existing AB 109 funding to hire the current David Lewis Community Reentry Center Coordinator and Case Worker, and a half-time clerical Extra Help position as Permanent-Unclassified employees. This staff was previously employed by the City of East Palo Alto. Furthermore, the program will be managed by an existing County of San Mateo Clinical Services Manager, who will be co-located at the David Lewis Community Reentry Center. Additional existing County resources in the form of Service Connect social workers, job specialists, and probation officers will also be provided space at the Center so a coordinated and comprehensive service delivery model can be established in the community.

City of East Palo Alto officials are expected to ask their City Council for approval of an agreement that will provide in-kind services for the program, including providing the building rent free, ongoing maintenance costs to run the Center and tenant improvements. The City of Menlo Park will also explore funding operating costs not to exceed \$25,000. In order to comply with County reporting and outcome measurement standards, the David Lewis Community Reentry Center staff will adopt Medi-Cal documentation practices and will use Social Solutions Efforts to Outcomes electronic data collection system to track all services to the population.

Approval of this action contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by incorporating the David Lewis Community Reentry Center into the County's Service Connect model focused on reducing recidivism among criminal justice involved populations.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution and salary ordinance amendment as to form.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2014-15 Projected
Number of inmates who are assessed with the Correctional Assessment and Intervention System (CAIS) tool	1,200
Percent of inmates receiving comprehensive needs assessment by a Correctional Health reentry clinician	100%
Percent of those participating in the 550Jobs! program who secure employment	65%
Percent of supervisees sent to AOD programs who successfully complete them	68%
Percent of Probation supervisees who successfully complete supervision	30%
Percent of participants re-incarcerated within 1 year of release from custody	20%

FISCAL IMPACT:

With your Board's approval, \$214,000 in existing AB 109 state funding will be allocated from the AB109 Realignment Trust Fund to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and included in the County's FY 2014-15 Adopted Budget to staff and provide rehabilitative programming for the newly realigned populations at the David Lewis Community Reentry Center in the City of East Palo Alto (Attachment #1). There will be no Net County Costs. The positions will be added in Behavioral Health and Recovery Services where they will also be supervised. The full annualized cost of the 3 positions and the center's operating costs is estimated to be approximately \$275,000 starting in FY 2015-16.