

ATTACHMENT V
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

For the Agenda of:
February 5, 2008

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Criminal Justice Cabinet
Subject: Report Back on Sacramento County Mental Health Court
Supervisorial District(s): All
Contact: Honorable Talmadge Jones, Superior Court (ret.)
Lynn Wynn, Principal Administrative Analyst

Overview

On September 13, 2007, the Board of Supervisors requested a report back on the Sacramento Mental Health Court. This report gives an update of the current status of the program and the evaluation criteria that will be used to measure its effectiveness.

Measures/Evaluation

The Superior Court has been collecting data since the Mental Health Court began in February 2007 and will be conducting a preliminary evaluation of the program.

Fiscal Impact

The Board of Supervisors approved funding during Fiscal Year 2006-07 Final Budget for the Departments of Health and Human Services and Probation in order to participate in a pilot program for a mental health court. The Criminal Justice Cabinet approved \$20,000 from their budget allocation to fund an evaluation/analysis of the program.

BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Mental Health Court (MHC) is a collaborative, interdisciplinary team, and includes the Sacramento Superior Court of California and the following Sacramento County departments: Sheriff (Jail Psychiatric Services), Probation, District Attorney, Public Defender and Department of Health and Human Services Division of Mental Health (DHHS-DMH).

During Final Budget Hearings on September 14, 2006, the Board approved the concept of the Mental Health Court Pilot Program and funding for Department of Health and Human Services and Probation in the amount of \$192,470 and \$102,465 respectively. The Board requested additional information prior to the expenditure of any General Fund appropriations on the pilot program.

On January 23, 2007 the Sacramento Superior Court conducted a workshop that addressed the Board's concerns. During mid-year budget hearings on January 31, 2007 the Board approved the expenditure of the General Fund appropriations and the creation of a new position with the Probation Department.

On September 13, 2007, the Board received a report back on the preliminary results of the program for each of the member departments.

On November 6, 2007, by Resolution Nos. 2007-1298, 1299, 1300 and 1301, the Board authorized the Sheriff to accept grant funds of \$766,896 from the State Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR), which funded the addition of four limited term positions to the Sheriff and Probation Departments, contracts with Elk Grove Adult and Community Education, Change Counseling and Man Alive, three vehicles to the Sheriff and Probation fleets and authorized solicitation of bids for services.

Both the Sacramento Mental Health Court and the Sheriff's MIOCR program are supported by the Criminal Justice Cabinet (Cabinet).

DISCUSSION

Since it began on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2007, the Sacramento Mental Health Court (MHC) has begun sending consumers through the treatment provider Services As Usual managed by DHHS-DMH and is waiting for the implementation of the Sheriff's State Mentally Ill Offender and Crime Reduction Act (MIOCR) funded through State grant monies which will be another treatment provider.

There have been a total of 75 referrals since the MHC program's inception. Currently there are eleven consumers in the program utilizing Services as Usual and three more have been accepted effective January 2008. The first consumer admitted in February was removed from the program in December due to the failure to comply with the rules of the program and several additional arrests. The remaining 61 referrals were not accepted due to violence in their background, they were already participating in a different program (Proposition 36) or the defendant refused to participate.

To date, the MHC program has expended \$125,199 from the designated FY 06-07 funds. The approved additional Probation Officer has been hired. The department has expended \$43,266 in FY 06-07 and \$49,917 in FY 07-08. DHHS-DMH has hired one out of the two additional Mental Health Services Coordinator/Peer Advocate positions approved and has expended \$32,016 in FY 07-08.

With regards to the new MIOCR grant, effective December 3, 2007, the Sheriff went into grant award status with California Corrections Standard Authority Mentally Ill Offenders Crime Reduction (MIOCR) funding with the effective date of January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. No consumers have been referred to SMHC since the program is still being developed. Below is a list of accomplishments to date:

- In January 2007 Sacramento County Probation staffed a Supervising Probation Officer for the Mental Health Court's six-month implementation period to end June 30, 2007.

The Supervising Probation Officer was responsible for setting up protocols for program. Grant funds will reimburse Probation \$59,857 for the position for implementation costs.

- Sacramento Sheriff Department has been approved by the Board of Supervisors to implement Sacramento Sheriff's Work Release's Center for Corrections Alternative Programs (CCAP). The MIOCR treatment component will come under CCAP.
- As of Nov 6, 2007 Sacramento Sheriff's Department hired the CCAP program director. The Sergeant is funded through other sources (offender reimbursement). SSD has hired one dedicated deputy under MIOCR funding.
- SSD solicited for bids for the mentally ill treatment services. Strategies for Change, a community based organization has been chosen as the subcontractor for the grant award funds. SSD is going to the Board of Supervisors on January 29, 2008 for authorization to enter into an agreement with Strategies for Change. SSD has entered into additional contracts to provide service to the mentally ill with the following agencies: Elk Grove Unified School district for program management; Sacramento City Unified School District for educational instruction; ManAlive for men's accountability; and Change Counseling for relapse prevention.
- Strategies for Change has identified the location of treatment - 4343 Williamsborough Drive in Sacramento.
- SSD is finalizing procedures, assessing viable candidates and the CCAP Committee is meeting weekly at the Work Release Facility.
- SSD is anticipating beginning services for the mentally ill offenders on February 1, 2008.

MEASURES/EVALUATION

At the end of the first ten months (Feb – Dec 2007) eleven consumers are in the MHC program. The table below illustrates the basic kind of information that has been tracked to date. Charts and graphs are also attached as reference.

Description	No.	Comments
Sex:		
Male	7	
Female	4	
Age (average):		
Male	31.0	
Female	34.5	
Race:		
African-American	4	
Hispanic	3	
Caucasian	4	

Diagnosis:		
Bipolar	6	
Psychotic	2	
Schizophrenia	3	
Total # arrests prior to MHC:	202	
Total # arrests since MHC:	6	(2 defendants)
Total # Inpatient admits prior to MHC:	126	
Total # Inpatient admits since MHC:	6	(2 defendants)

In December 2007, the Cabinet in coordination with the Court selected Tracy Herbert, Ph.D, Research, Evaluation and Performance Outcome Manager with DHHS-DMH, to be responsible for the evaluation of the program. There will be a preliminary evaluation of the first year of operations of the MHC program. The purpose of the preliminary evaluation is to determine the appropriate performance measures to gauge success at the two year mark, when there will be a sufficient number of consumers participating with both treatment providers for reliable statistical analysis. Determining the performance measures now will enable processes to be put in place to gather the appropriate data with reliability and validity. Tracy Herbert will work with the member departments in a collaborative effort that will define the measures of success and cost effectiveness/avoidance. Performance measures to be considered include reductions in the following variables (when compared to a timeframe prior to participation in the programs):

- the number of days spent in jail
- the number of arrests
- the severity of crimes committed
- the number of psychiatric hospitalizations
- the number of days hospitalized
- the number of psychiatric crisis stabilizations
- alcohol and other drug involvement

The results of the preliminary evaluation will be reported to your Board at a later date.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

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Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

TERRY SCHUTTEN
County Executive

LINDA FOSTER-HALL, County Budget Officer
Office of Budget and Debt Management

By:

NAVDEEP GILL, Chief Operations Officer
County Executive's Office