

Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention  
*Minutes of September Meeting*  
Second Chance STRIVE Building  
6145 Imperial Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92114  
Thursday, September 20, 2012

WELCOME

Welcomed by Ricky Valdez, Youth Program Director at Second Chance, and JOLT students.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Rosa Ana Lozada at 5:35 PM.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

1. Commissioner Dana Brown
2. Commissioner Danny Villareal
3. Commissioner Rosa Ana Lozada
4. Commissioner Alicia DeLeon Torres
5. Commissioner Christopher Yanov
6. Commissioner Fred Sotelo
7. Commissioner Superintendent William Kowba
8. Commissioner Pastor Archie Robinson
9. Commissioner Mack Jenkins
10. Commissioner Carol Williams
11. Commissioner Joyce Abrams
12. Commissioner Bonnie Dumanis
13. Commissioner Chief Lansdowne

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Public Comment slips.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the July 19th minutes, and Commissioner Kowba seconded it. It passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM A

The Commission's 2012-2013 Strategic Action Plan focuses on applying a coordinated and comprehensive public health approach. The Plan represents a coming together of the Commission's efforts in that it includes suppression, prevention, and intervention components. The report summarizes and provides examples of how the Commission has exemplified a comprehensive approach in each component area. The Commission's efforts use best practices from a variety of strategies. This is important because effective

prevention and intervention efforts require multiple strategies. The 2012-2013 Plan has five priority areas: (1) employment, (2) the continuation of integrated services and systems, (3) youth activities, (4) early intervention, and (5) collaborative accountability. Collaborative accountability is a new focus area for the Commission. Rosa Ana Lozada acknowledged everyone who worked on the Plan, including: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Villareal, Barbara Warden, Assistant Chief Shelley Zimmerman, Lieutenant Moody, and Lynn Sharpe-Underwood. In addition, Joyce Abrams will be added to the list of people who contributed to the document.

**Recommended Action:**

Adopt the Strategic Action Plan.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Dumanis.

Discussion: Priority items will be for the 12-month period beginning from the date the Plan is accepted.

Commissioner Yanov, Commissioner Sotelo, and Commissioner Jenkins abstained.

Lynn Sharpe-Underwood will send the Plan electronically for all Commissioners to read and review.

**ACTION ITEM B**

Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Robinson updated the Commission on the three communities working with the Compassion Project and the San Diego Police Department on violence prevention. Commissioner Brown reported on a document she created with the community. The document stems from efforts at community education, training from National Conflict Resolution on communication skills, and reaching out to other members of the community. Commissioner Brown suggested the resident-driven document is a good model for systematic and sustainable change that will heal communities impacted by violence. Five themes emerged in the restorative practice groups: (1) activities, (2) information and resources, (3) relationship building, (4) safety, and (5) systems and policy change. The residents have chosen their priorities for each of the five areas. Commissioner Robinson added that communities want to help themselves. Community members have been walking the streets. Community efforts to patrol local neighborhoods is bringing people together, and helping people win their communities back. He emphasized the transformative effect of people knowing their neighbors. It is vital to change how people see the community in order for people to want to win their communities back.

**Recommended Action:**

Establish a community action Ad Hoc Committee to report back in January on a draft Template for Action.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dumanis and seconded by Commissioner Lansdowne.

Discussion: The work is grounded in evidence-based practices. It behooves the Commission to seriously consider community driven work as an effective prevention and intervention strategy. It is important to train community members to be peer educators, so this approach can spread to other communities. Residents are excited by the prospect of having a voice in changing punitive practices. Commissioner Brown and Kurt Smith are doing asset mapping in order to mobilize resources in local communities. The work being done in these communities is a long-term strategy for systems change. Rosa Ana Lozada pointed out what is unique about these efforts is they are about action and accountability. Clear action is what makes a difference.

The Action was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jenkins, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Lansdowne, Commissioner Abrams, and Commissioner Lozada were interested in participating in the Ad Hoc Committee.

#### CURRENT INFORMATION SCAN

- *Gang Crime Statistics*- Lieutenant Moody
  - From January 2012 to date:
    - There have been 15 gang related homicides year to date. Last year at this time there were 6 gang related homicides.
    - There have been 8 attempted homicides year to date. Last year at this time there was 6 attempted homicide.
    - There have been 124 assaults with a deadly weapon year to date. Last year at this time there were 113 assaults with a deadly weapon.
    - There have been 12 shootings at a house or vehicle year to date. Last year at this time there were 5 shootings at a house or vehicle.
    - There have been 75 robberies year to date. Last year at this time there were 60 robberies.
    - There have been 33 incidents of auto theft year to date. Last year at this time there were 15 incidents of auto theft.
    - There have been 375 other gang related crimes year to date. Last year at this time there were 391 other gang related crimes.
    - There have been 642 total gang crimes year to date. Last year at this time 596 total gang crimes.
  - Overall crime trends for 2012:
    - Nine jurisdictions have seen increases in crime. In some areas, there has been 150% increase in crime. The increases have been sustained over the last 8 months.
    - For the city of San Diego, this is the first time there has been an increase in every category of crime. It is really unusual to see a significant change across all categories of crime.

- There has been a change in the San Diego's ability to manage crime.
  - The number of people to manage crime issues has been downsized.
  - There is not the same level of support from social services.
- It is important to re-examine how we manage crime.
- In the last three years there has been a significant increase in the number of individuals with serious mental illness and/or depression. The numbers will top 13,000 this year, which is the highest recorded incidence of mental illness in San Diego. An increase in the number of mentally ill individuals is leading to unique challenges.
- The Mental Health Services Act has provided funding to identify economic and social disparities related to the incidence of mental illness. A brief summary of reports on the topic should be added to the November Agenda.
  
- *County Realignment* – Chief Jenkins
  - The Probation Department is now managing 2,800 shifted offenders.
  - Offenders are released from prison with a three year supervision term, however:
    - After three months, Probation has the discretion to discharge them early if they have met there goals; and
    - After twelve months, Probation is required to discharge them if they have not been subject to any re-arrest.
  - The Probation Department has been using a “deep dive” approach to identify the service needs of post-release offenders.
    - Probation is working closely with a behavior health screening team. Risks-needs assessments are conducted as part of re-entry in order to identify specific service needs.
    - Common needs are substance abuse and criminal thinking problems. Criminal thinking drives criminal behavior. Cognitive-behavioral interventions are needed to correct criminal thinking.
  - The Probation Department is applying for a technical assistance grant to supplement the services it has been providing youth. The focus of the grant is delinquent youth who have a child welfare history.
    - There has been 22% reduction in the number of youth on probation;
    - However, the youth on probation are higher risk and higher need.
  - 78 positions have been filled. By the end of the fiscal year all 108 open positions should be filled. Probation has been ensuring there is a mixture of new and experienced officers in each department.
  
- *Reentry Report* – District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis
  - The county has been working closely with 211 to develop a re-entry web. The focus is on the women and families of offenders in jail, so they can prepare for family members' return home.

- A new program will provide inmates the opportunity to call 211 and download a case plan for re-entry that they can begin working on while incarcerated. Despite funding difficulties, Probation and 211 are committed to assisting inmates throughout the duration of their prison sentence and to providing appropriate services upon re-entry.

#### COMMUNITY REPORTS

- **San Diego Youth Development Office:** presented by Ian Gordon
  - The YDO is a newly formed entity. In 2006, representatives from the San Diego Organizing Project, San Diego Police Department, San Diego Probation Department, and San Diego Unified School District got together to discuss ways to respond to an increase in youth crime. In 2011, the YDO secured funding from the California Endowment.
  - The YDO is dedicated to making San Diego's youth a priority by targeting and leveraging resources from government, non-profit, business, and community-based organizations. It emphasizes the need for youth organizations to collaborate and convene in prevention and intervention efforts. It does not provide direct services; instead, the YDO is committed to assessing community needs in order to influence policy on youth development.
  - The YDO is housed at the San Diego Workforce Partnership. It is comprised of a Director who implements strategic plans, a Steering Committee that provides oversight, and an Operations Committee that guides the work. There is currently no LGBT member on the board.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- The Executive Director Report was provided in the commissioners' files.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Reality Changers is having a College Festival in City Heights
- 4th Annual Passport for Life
- Parents Institute of Quality Education invited Commissioners to 25th Anniversary Celebration to honor parents who have successfully complete their program
- Next meeting is November 15th, 2012 at 5:30 PM.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.