

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
CORRECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 8, 2014

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This meeting of the Santa Fe County Corrections Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Frank Susman at approximately 3:03 p.m. on the above-cited date at the Youth Development Center, 4250 Airport Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum with the following individuals present:

Members Present:

Frank Susman, Legal Community
Mary Ellen Gonzales, Restorative Justice
Maria Cristina Lopez, Immigrant Advocacy Community
Capt. Dale Lettenberger, Law Enforcement - Investigative Bureau
Capt. Adan Mendoza, Law Enforcement
Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz, Mental Health Community
Dr. Steven S. Spencer, Medical Community/Substance Abuse
Judy Williams, Community at-large

Member(s) Excused:

Michelle George, Juvenile Justice

Staff Present:

Pablo Sedillo, Public Safety Director
Mark Gallegos, Warden
Mark Caldwell, Deputy Warden
Renee Fernandez, Interim Youth Service Administrator
Stacy Byard, Re-entry Specialist
Aaron Garcia, Adult Detention Facility Sergeant
Tila Rendon-Varela, Committee Liaison

Others Present:

Ben Baur, Public Defender's Office (pending confirmation)
Maura Taub
Dimitria Martinez

I. Approval of Minutes: April 17, 2014

Ms. Gonzales moved to approve the minutes and Captain Lettenberger seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair Susman introduced Maura Taub, who in turn introduced Dimitria Martinez. She said, "I have never had an experience of working with an institution that has been so open and so helpful." She reminded the Committee that they have been working on improving the library. Ms. Martinez stated she has begun doing a poetry workshop with girls at the Youth Facility. She distributed samples of the work produced. [Exhibit 1.] Mr. Sedillo said the kids are enthusiastic about have good role models and people who appreciate them. He thanked them for their efforts.

Ms. Williams asked if there would be a similar effort in the adult facility. She mentioned Wisconsin has a program of teaching literature to inmates. Ms. Fernandez said they occasionally have poetry or creative writing classes. Ms. Gonzales stated she has a friend, Regina Resse, who would like to get involved in storytelling at the jail.

Director Sedillo stated the jail is now putting out a newsletter written by the inmates. The warden added there was an art contest recently featured in the newsletter. He added there are murals in the facility done by inmates.

Chair Susman noted that it was National Corrections Officers Week, and Ms. Gonzales made a motion to thank the corrections officers. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Lopez and passed unanimously.

II. Nominations and Election of a Committee Vice Chair

Chairman Susman asked if there were any nominations or barring that, was anyone willing to serve? The Chair said the duties are minimal and would be required only in his absence. Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz stated she would be willing to serve. Her name was placed in nomination by Ms. Lopez and Ms. Gonzales seconded. By acclamation Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz was elected Vice Chair.

III. Introduction of Re-entry Specialist

For the benefit of those who missed the last meeting, Stacey Byard reviewed her job description and involvement in competency hearings, Medicaid enrollment, opioid overdose preventing and Narcan training. She described it as more intense case management and preventing recidivism. In addition to enhancing current programs she is working to bring in more volunteers to help with job training.

Chair Susman inquired as to whether Ms. Byard anticipated new programs at this time or merely strengthening the current programs. She indicated that currently her focus was on the latter.

Dr. Spencer stated he spent some time out at the facility with Ms. Lisa Leiding and Ms. Byard and was impressed with the operation. He intends to put Ms. Byard in touch with the chair of COCHS (Community Oriented Correctional Health Services).

IV. Addressing Principal Assignments:

- i. Review and assess of County's Community Reintegration Model and make recommendations (to the appropriate parties)**
- ii. Review and assess the County's policies as they relate to families and individuals, who interact with County Corrections, Correctional staff and law enforcement when visiting the facilities and make policy and procedural recommendations (to the appropriate parties)**
- ii. Make recommendations (to the appropriate parties) about how to assist members of the community impacted by the incarceration of a friend or family understand what to expect and how to obtain information from facilities**

Chair Susman noted that Community Days on the Plaza was being held this week and suggested that next year the Department of Corrections should consider having a booth to becommnity-friendly, to allow the public to learn more about its operations and to ask questions.

Ms. Gonzales asked about measurable outcomes and Ms. Byard stated data collection is within her purview, although the successful cases don't return.

Stressing the importance of openness and communication, Warden Gallegos said they are drilling down on the issue of mental health and looking for other resources, such as civil commitments to the State Hospital.

Referring to data collection, Deputy Warden Caldwell indicated they distribute surveys to gauge how the programs are doing.

Director Sedillo recognized Community Services Director Rachel O'Connor for continuing the grant-funded re-entry specialist position. He emphasized this is a non-traditional correctional setting and they are not interested in warehousing people. The hand-off of the inmate into the community is all-important.

Chair Susman asked if there was a significant difference in the handling of first-time versus repeat offenders. Ms. Byard said there was: First-timers are considered high risk and their mental status is monitored closely. Additionally, information about the logistics of incarceration such as contacting family, childcare, *etc.* helps calm anxiety. However, there is a continual struggle by reason of the lack of community resources.

Ms. Lopez asked about Spanish-speaking first-time offenders. Ms. Byard said there are many employees within the facility that speak Spanish and they make sure inmates understand the court process and what to expect. Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz mentioned there is a free, simultaneous translation service that can be accessed over the phone. Warden Gallegos said

there are a number of different languages they have to deal with including Russian, Chinese and sign language.

Chair Susman asked what volunteers are most needed and Ms. Byard said anything that could aid in getting a job – teaching interviewing skills or résumé-writing skills, for instance. There are businesses that are willing to consider hiring those leaving the facility.

Director Sedillo pointed out that of the 250 people on electronic monitoring an alarming 61 percent are unemployed.

Reviewing the CQI report, Ms. Williams noted that many classes are lacking teachers. In response to a further question, Ms. Byard said she is working on a questionnaire to ascertain what is most needed for a given inmate – housing, employment, drug treatment, etc. Ms. Williams said the County will be looking into how to use the indigent funds via community-based services, such as community-based case management. Ms. Byard said once people are released from the facility they tend to have to rely on family and friends to keep appointments for treatment.

Dr. Spencer spoke of electronic health records as another hurdle to be surmounted. He lauded the cooperation of Walgreen's in providing Narcan. He agreed as to the importance of communication and noted the number of groups with similar missions, such as the Health Policy and Planning Commission, It Takes a Village and this Committee. Ms. Gonzales added the Juvenile Justice Board is also involved, but has lost its funding. Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz said providers are going to be meeting about putting together a continuum of care and mentioned the organizations Common Ground, Solace and charter schools.

Mr. Baur indicated he recently attended a Legislative Criminal Justice Subcommittee meeting that had a presentation on mental health. Many of the ideas presented are those being launched in Santa Fe. The jail is one of the driving forces as far as "intercept points," He stressed the importance of seeing an attorney in terms of mental health. There is a possibility of changing treatment laws to ensure more people are helped.

Director Sedillo added that many of their concepts are innovative and experimental.

Ms. Lopez asked about ICE holds. She spoke of the effort to establish policies to not deal punitively with unpaid traffic tickets, lack of a Social Security number and other minor infraction. Now ICE is only called in cases of serious crime. This is innovative and helps keep families together. Very few communities are this progressive.

Dr. Spencer asked about the possibility of inviting a reporter to the meetings. Ms. Byard stated a journalist was present at the last opioid prevention class, so there is some interest. Chair Susman pointed out the meetings are open. Mr. Baur said unless there is something specific and interesting happening it might be counterproductive.

Warden Gallegos spoke of the progress made in the past two years. Great strides have been made in working with law enforcement and the judicial system. "We manage human

beings.” Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz added that incarceration is a time where there is a chance to effect change in a person’s life.

Ms. Lopez asked about relating to the families. Ms. Byard said much is done through case management and keeping the lines of communication open. Warden Gallegos spoke of explaining things to the family and dealing with family dynamics. Visits are used as a behavior management tool.

In response to a question about frequent calls, Warden Gallegos said there is a great deal of misinformation and confusion about what is going to happen. Judges are now coming in on Sunday to do arraignments. Deputy Warden Caldwell said sometimes threats to call Larry Barker turn to accolades, after talking to family and putting their mind at ease. Ms. Byard indicated logistical concerns have to be tackled: Childcare, power of attorney, impounded vehicles and things of that nature. She said they try to return all calls the same day. They help inmates write to family and work with CYFD.

Dr. Spencer asked if it was preferable to use the word “residents” to “inmates.” Warden Gallegos said times have changed and respect is important. He noted that with the change in culture, use of force has gone from 50 to 60 per month to two to five per month. He attributed this to CIT (crisis intervention training). De-escalation is stressed. Progress requires buy-in from all parties.

V. Comments, Questions or Suggestions by Members as to Issues to be Addressed

None were offered.

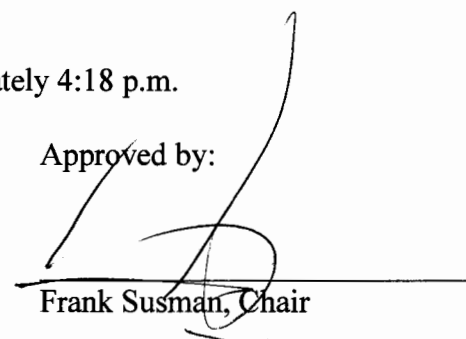
VI. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for June 12, 2014.

VII. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:18 p.m.

Approved by:



Frank Susman, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:

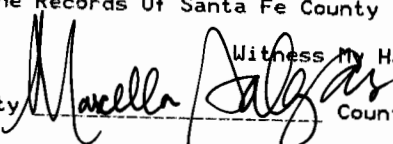
Debbie Doyle, Wordswork



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

CORRECTIONS ADVISORY
PAGES: 10

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 18TH Day Of June, 2014 at 10:22:14 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1739371
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

5 Deputy  Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salaza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM



Trapped

Trapped is the color black.

The sounds of only hearing yourself crying from
Your voice being muted.

Only smelling the sweat of defeat.

The taste of depression overpowering your body.

It feels as if having a voice and not to
be heard.

REC'D BY REC'D BY REC'D BY REC'D BY REC'D BY

Impatience

Impatience is a dull Brown, so boring, you feel so
Bored.

It sounds like a ticking time bomb,

Because how much boredom can one person take?

Impatience smells like a wet dog that won't ever dry.

Tastes like copper pennies.

But when you're impatient, it feels as if Time has
stopped.

Clueless

Clueless is white

It sounds like unknown

creatures in the shadows

It smells like tropic fruit

Punch but not knowing which fruit

you're smelling.

It tastes like blended food.

And it feels like a head ache.

Sadness

Sadness is the color baby-blue.

It sounds like your ears ringing.

It smells like rain.

It tastes like soggy chips.

And it feels like a broken Heart.

EXCITEMENT

EXCITEMENT is a neon yellow,
So bright you're exploding, like fireworks.

EXCITEMENT sounds like loud music,
like at a rave party, screaming of Joy.

EXCITEMENT smells just like a new car.

The taste of EXCITEMENT is citrus – a powerful
kick of energy.

EXCITEMENT feels
like you're Speeding Down a rollercoaster,
Bursting OUT into air as if you were

Born Again.