



# SAN FRANCISCO COLLABORATIVE COURTS

## CJC Advisory Meeting Notes Thursday October 15, 2015

Present: Judge Kathleen Kelly, Superior Court; Lisa Lightman, Superior Court; Judith Garvey, District Attorney's Office; Captain Teresa Ewins, SFPD; Sgt. Damon Hart, SFPD; Craig Murdock, DPH; Seth Meisels, Public Defender's Office; Nixon Lazaro, APD; Bevan Dufty, Mayor's Office of HOPE; Peg Stevenson, Controller's Office; Nancy Stuart, UC Hastings College of the Law; Allyson West, Superior Court

### ◆ Introductions

Introductions were made, and criminal justice partners at CJC gave an overview of programs and services.

**District Attorney's Office:** CJC refers some new arraignments (nonviolent, no repeat offenders) to Neighborhood Court, where they are heard before a panel of residents and others tied to the neighborhood of the alleged crime. The panel can assign a variety of tasks such as classes, treatment, community service, and restitution to resolve the case. The case is put out for 90 days at CJC and if there is successful completion of Neighborhood Court requirements, the case is discharged. If the Neighborhood Court conditions are not successfully completed, the client is arraigned in CJC. This program is run on a restorative justice model. The recurring problem is that clients do not show up to CJC on their citations and miss the chance for the referral to Neighborhood Court, so they need to be outreached and encouraged to attend court.

**Public Defender's Office:** CJC helps serve clients working off their cases, which is more difficult in criminal court. The PD's office needs to resolve cases and keep clients from coming back and CJC offers the services to help them remain arrest free. Neighborhood Court is often the first step in that process. Clients often know and acknowledge that they need the help.

**Department of Public Health:** The collaborative court and jail population is down, however clients have high levels of acuity, which has led DPH to increase depth of clinical care. There are five case managers at CJC now, which will increase to eight by the end of the year. CJC is considered a linkage/bridging program to city services. Residential treatment in San Francisco is at capacity. DPH is exploring contracting outside of the city and other innovations.

**Adult Probation:** The Deputy Probation Officer at CJC is more engaged with clients in collaborative courts. Most clients are high risk/high needs, especially since Proposition 47. There are approximately 40 probationers in CJC. The Deputy Probation Officer ensures that clients are abiding by terms and conditions of probation and makes referrals to APD services, including the CASC which has programs and services that address criminogenic needs, such as housing, family reunification, substance abuse treatment. CJC clients can use services at the CASC as well as participate in programs at CJC.

◆ Accomplishments

**Mentor Court:** CJC was selected as one of four national mentor courts by the Center for Court Innovation. It is a model for other courts, and we have provided guidance and samples of documents to new courts trying to become established. The grant for the mentor court includes technical assistance to help CJC work on improvement.

**RAND Study:** A three-year recidivism study, financed by the Controller's Office and DPH, was released a year ago. It found that conservatively the CJC reduces recidivism by 8-10%. Copies were made available to attendees.

◆ Current Data

With the passage of Proposition 47, new clients at CJC have reduced by about 20%, however the number of cases per client has increased by approximately 30%. This is another indication of the high needs of current clients. Clients ordered community service have dropped significantly, partly due to referrals to Neighborhood Court and partly due to the high needs (substance abuse, mental health issues, and homelessness) of the clientele.

◆ General Discussion

**What is the CJC now?** Lower volume, higher need population. Fewer community service clients.

**How can CJC better serve the community?** CJC staff are happy to make presentations to partner agencies and local organizations, but unlike other community courts it cannot provide community service work crews. Ideally local organizations could have a presence at the CJC Service Center to help clients access services.

**Opportunities for CJC outreach?** Community organizations can come to CJC with suggestions and requests.

◆ Report out from Advisory Board members

**Bevan Dufty** requested adding the Haight to the catchment area. Court personnel can meet with Captain Stanford to discuss the geographic area and types of crimes. There is the need to ensure that the CJC service delivery system is strong before expansion can be considered. Creativity is necessary with so much difficulty providing treatment beds and transitional housing.

Sam Dodge will be taking over for Bevan starting in November. He was an SRO organizer with the Tenderloin Housing Clinic and has years of housing experience. HOPE just opened up 80 units at the Baldwin Hotel. Many hotels are largely vacant for most of the month. There are many problems with upkeep and attorneys are creating adversarial situations by encouraging lawsuits, creating the need to forge different relationships that are more collaborative. There are now only 75 DPH stabilization beds and properties are in bad shape. 45 of 400 shelter beds are dedicated to HOT, but Bevan is working on increasing that number.

A certificate of appreciation was given to Bevan for all of his hard work in establishing the CJC and for his ongoing support of its efforts and on behalf of homeless clients.

**Peg Stevenson** reported that the Controller's Office conducts many studies, such as the effectiveness of treatment services, client services, and feasibility of jail expansion. The Controller's Office funded the RAND CJC study. They are always looking at public safety, lately looking at race and ethnicity in traffic stops, as well as in case prosecution. They also are mapping traffic citations and monitoring contracts in the city with CBOs. Perhaps some of these projects could provide reporting to the CJC about activities in its catchment area.

- ◆ Next meeting date: **Thursday, December 10, 2015, noon**