



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Robert L. Green
Director

PRRS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1, 2018 @ 7:30am

Committee Members Attendance: Diane Scott-Jones, Co-Chair CAC; Thomas DeGonia, Co-Chair; Robert Green, Director DOCR; Angela Talley, Chief; Ben Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Programs and Services;; Tyrone Alexander, Reentry Services Manager; Kent Mason, Founder PRRS; Susan Wiant, Former PRRS Administrator; Dominique Fontaine, PRRS Administrative Aide; Sidney Katz, Councilmember; Matt Higgins, Councilmember Berlines Aide; Bernita Johnson, Welcome Home Program; Marcia Durant, RN, Medical; Jaime Sherls, PRRS Case Manager; Amanda Roberts, PRRS Work Release Coordinator; Viviana Stevens, PRRS Work Release Coordinator; Catherine McAlpine, PRRS Behavioral Health Manager; Richard Austin, Resident Supervisor; Steffi Thompson, Resident Supervisor; Ten (10) current PRRS Residents attended

Welcome and Introductions: Brief introduction of all attendees.

PRRS Division Chief's Report: Angela Talley highlighted the following items during the Report to the Community Advisory Committee:

- County has implemented a budget reduction savings plan. Director Green will establish a plan to address budget for DOCR (2% reduction).
- State audit completed in an outstanding 2 ½ days. Program found to be in 100% compliance.
- Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) continues to have significant impact on Corrections population-increasing good conduct and program diminution credits.
- Two (2) Bills introduced in this legislation session concerning the taxable retirement of Correctional Officers -40 DOCR staff traveled to Annapolis to speak before Legislators on February 21st regarding amendment to include public safety facilities at the local level.
- 4 Resident Supervisor position vacancies; current budget reduction plan will not affect recruitment efforts to fill these vacancies.
- New Work Release Coordinator, Viviana Stevens began with the Division.
- Approved to hire FT Mental Health Therapist position for PRRS vs Part-time position that was previously approved. In the process of requesting OMB exemption.
- PREA Audit scheduled March 7th-9th. Next ACA audit will be completed Spring 2019.
- Design for ADA compliant housing units, medical suite and facility upgrades completed.
- Roof replacement project 100% complete. HVAC units and lighting projects completed.
- Dietary project slated to begin in March 2018- There will be no interruption to food service during construction. Pre- construction meeting to be held in March.
- DOCR/PRRS website is updated daily with up-to-date information and new dashboards.
- HHS Eligibility Coordinator on-site weekly to assist residents with social services benefits.
- GED services-Possible collaboration with Drug Court to share instructor.
- Department Appreciative Inquiry training held in February with Community Corrections staff. Positive feedback received from staff.

Pre-Release and Reentry Services Division

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PRRS Foundation: Discussion/Questions with former Pre-Release Center Administrators Kent Mason and Susan Wiant:

- Program created in 1973 as the first co-ed facility in Maryland to evaluate recidivism and re-direct funding into treatment for offenders.
- Designed a treatment process team that included five (5) resident supervisors, one (1) life skills trainer, two (2) counselors, one (1) psychologist and two (2) interns.
- Staff provided training in counseling
- Program partnered with the Courts, Parole & Probation and the State's Attorney's Office regarding sentencing.
- Program focused on accountability and treatment
- Became a National model on reentry services.

Resident Feedback:

- Residents expressed gratitude for the program.
- Program works well with Drug Court
- Would like to see more treatment model similar to previous model of program
- Resident would like to form a resident/staff grievance counsel, have supervised resident group discussions and have video visitation.
- Need more program information available on-line
- Increased one on one employment assistance from Work Release Coordinators.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.

**2018 CAC Quarterly Meeting Dates:
Theme for the Year: Forty Years Forward**

Thursday, June 7th, 2018
Thursday, September 6th, 2018
Thursday, December 6th, 2018

PRRS Part II-Change in Philosophy
PRRS Today-Changes and Challenges
PRRS-Moving Forward

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