



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Robert L. Green
Director

PRRS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING **September 7, 2017 @ 7:30am**

Committee Members Attendance: Diane Scott-Jones, Co-Chair CAC; Thomas DeGonia, Co-Chair; Ben Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Programs and Services; Madhuka Lee, PRRS Administrative Aide; Sidney Katz, Councilmember; Sara Morningstar, IGR Montgoemry County; Bernita Johnson, Welcome Home Program; Larry Wilson, Counseling Plus; Marcia Durant, RN, Medical, Tyrone Alexander, Reentry Services Manager; Ivan Downing, Deputy Chief; Bishop Paul Walker, HYOP Life Skills/Gang Prevention; Linda Stelling, Resident Sponsor; Jaime Sherls, Case Manager; Ayo Durojaiye, Case Manager; Joe Fetrer, Catholic Charities; Jason Fislier, Former PRC Resident; Tarsha Harry, Bethesda Care; Robin Hamilton, Catholic Charities; Five (3) current PRRS Residents attended

Welcome and Introductions: Brief introduction of all attendees.

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

- Once again, we successfully met our budget. In doing that, we are now able to create and implement 2 programs: Jail Management System (JMS) and Electronic Health Records.
- We had shakedown on September 6, 2017 by the Emergency Response Team, there were no drugs or weapons found in the facility.
- 4 Resident Supervisor positions vacancies, 2 are in background check.
- Waiting for background Clearance for a new Work Release Coordinator.
- Kayi Somado-Hemazro has been promoted from Pre-Trial to Pre-Release as a Case Manager.
- We welcomed Lisa Dawson as a Case Manager and Madhuka Lee as a PAA.
- We welcomed 2 paid interns, Maya Blake and Kenneth Diaz.
- Offers have been made to 4 new paid interns to begin after clearing background
- Parenting classes will begin in September 2017.
- The next audit will be on October 31-November 3, 2017.
- There will be a PREA Audit scheduled on February 2018.
- New roof has begun construction with a completion of October 2017
- New kitchen construction has been placed out for bid and should break ground in the next several months.

Bernita Johnson, Welcome Home Program

- Interviews the mentors and the residents to find the right match.
- Train the mentors to have an open mind with the residents and their unique situation.
- Train the residents to have an open mind, so they can be open with their mentors.

Pre-Release and Reentry Services Division

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Residents

- One resident talked about his counselor in high school who helped and encouraged him.
- Another resident had positive things to say about the Welcome Home Program.

Former Residents

Kenneth Harvey-Former gang member, was sentence to life.

- With the help of his mentor he has been able to maintain his first job, his first apartment and his own vehicle.
- Another stated he started mentoring while he was here in PRC, he helped residents with their resume, interviewing skills, helped with GED prep. He said “They are people here to better themselves”.

Mentors

- One mentor stated he didn't give ground breaking advice, however he was there to listen to the resident.
- Another stated- he felt as though he was not very useful however he was also there to listen to the resident.
- Jason Tisdale- stated strong reinforcement in important part of mentoring
- Bishop Paul Walker- stated the importance of listening and accountability.
- Larry Wilson-20+ years in the mentoring field, encouraged the other mentors.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00am.

2017 CAC Quarterly Meeting Dates:

Theme for the Year: Building and Sustaining Positive Community Relationships

Thursday, December 1, 2017: Professional Relationships (Employers, Providers)

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