Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Assembly Bill (AB) 109 First Year of Implementation Report

I. Introduction

On October 1, 2011, the County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) implemented the 2011 Public Safety Realignment Act (AB 109) through collaborative efforts with the San Bernardino County Probation Department (Probation), California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR) and other County departments. This report summarizes DBH's efforts in implementing services to the AB 109 Realignment population for the past year.

II. Summary of Performance Outcomes

Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP) Cases

During the period of October 1, 2011 through the end of September 2012, a total of 112 AB 109 Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) EOP cases have been referred to DBH for mental health and/or alcohol and other drug (AOD) services. Of the 112 AB 109 cases referred, **90 were confirmed to meet the criteria for PRCS EOP.** The remaining twelve (12) cases upon review and verification did not meet AB 109 criteria. Prior to a PRCS EOP's re-entry into the community, CDCR provides DBH with an inclusive mental health packet, which identifies behavioral health services based on the individuals' level of instability, severity of their illness, risk for recidivism and treatment needs. A designated DBH Social Worker (SW) II independently monitors these cases through a case management plan devised by DBH in collaboration with Probation that consists of a comprehensive behavioral services assessment, evaluation along with medication support services, housing, and direct linkage to available community resources.

The following is a summation of progress to date for the PRCS EOP cases:

- Out of 90 EOP cases, 76% or 68 cases continue to be monitored by DBH.
- Remaining 24% were either transferred to another county for supervision (7), released from supervision by probation (7), or still pending release from CDCR (8).
- Out of 90 EOP cases, 71% or 64 cases received a comprehensive assessment by a DBH staff.
- Remaining cases, 29% are pending an assessment upon release from CDCR (8) or local detention (6), never reported to Probation and unable to receive a screening prior to transfer to another county (7) or removed off PRCS supervision (5).
- Out of 64 EOP cases screened, 83% or 53 cases were referred and successfully linked to the DBH Crisis Walk-In Center (CWIC) or an outpatient clinic for a comprehensive psychiatric assessment/medical supportive service.
- Out of these 53 EOP cases, 55% or 29 cases successfully enrolled in DBH Community Mental Health Clinics for continued treatment services.
- DBH has received 70% of CDCR mental health packets.

Day Reporting Centers (DRCs)

The Probation Department opened three (3) DRCs in June 2012 at which time DBH co-located staff to administer behavioral health services such as mental health and AOD to all AB 109 Realignment individuals upon their arrival at each respective site. One (1) SW II and one (1) Alcohol and Drug Counselor is assigned to each DRC to conduct a comprehensive screening, which assesses the behavioral health needs and then allows for appropriate coordination of referrals based on the individuals' specific needs. As of August 2012, DBH staff provided behavioral health classes such as Understanding Addiction, Phases of Recovery from Dual Disorders, Effective Problem Solving, Interpersonal Communication, Coping with Depression and Anger Management. Classes allow for continuous entry in groups, one hour in duration, addresses gender specific needs, and certificates are provided for every ten (10) classes that are successfully completed. Additionally, DBH coordinates ancillary services for this population through its collaborative partnership with other co-located agencies at the DRC, such as Transitional Assistance Department (TAD), Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Workforce Development Department (WDD).

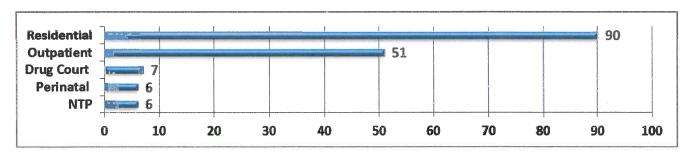
As of September 30, 2012, the DRC Probation liaisons referred a total of **909 AB 109 Realignment individuals** to be assessed by DBH at the DRCs. Outcomes are as follows:

- 839 or 92% of individuals were screened for behavioral health services.
- Remaining 5% or 48 individuals have pending future appointments.
- 3% or 22 individuals refused the screening process.
- Of those screened 275, or 33% of individuals were referred to mental health and AOD treatment services in the community.
- One hundred forty-five (145) individuals have been referred to the on-site DBH mental health and AOD classes since its implementation.
- Attendance has been 131 individuals as either a new or a continuous enrollee.

Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS)

The DBH ADS Program offers a continuum of care to the AB 109 Realignment population in need of AOD services, such as residential and outpatient treatment, recovery center services, and other specialized services such as Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP), Drug Court, and Perinatal services.

As of September 26, 2012, one hundred and sixty (160) AB 109 Realignment individuals accessed ADS services as follows:



Additional Points of Entry for Services

The AB 109 Realignment population is accessing behavioral health services through other avenues in the County, which includes but is not limited to pharmaceutical services, outpatient clinics (i.e. DBH and Fee-For-Service Providers, Crisis Walk-In Centers (CWICs), Community Crisis Response Teams (CCRT), and inpatient psychiatric and medical hospital settings. DBH also works closely with Probation to address the immediate need for housing with this population that appropriately matches individualized needs along with any related legal mandates.

III. Next Steps

- In the process of hiring an interdisciplinary team of mental health professionals, such as a Psychiatrist, Clinical Program Manager, Clinical Therapists (CT), and Mental Health Specialists (MHS) to administer intensive evidence-based outpatient mental health treatment services at the DRC sites along with providing intensive day treatment behavioral health services in the city of Colton to treat individuals whose mental health needs exceed the structure available in an outpatient setting.
- AOD Counselors at the Rancho Cucamonga DRC will serve this population throughout the County through a certified AOD outpatient program.
- Continual attendance at trainings, conferences, and re-entry summits that offer innovative techniques and evidence based practices such as a recently completed 32-hour training on Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral model that provides positive treatment outcomes in outpatient and day treatment settings.
- A data tracking system will be used by DBH that will gather and monitor statistical data and performance outcomes. These findings will further identify measures that will be taken to accomplish the County's goal to improve public safety through the reduction of recidivism for this population.
- Probation will continue to access Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), a class that provides techniques in creating a safe and positive environment, reduces stigma and provides effective problem solving skills when interacting with individuals with behavioral health concerns.

IV. Conclusion

By integrating behavioral health services into the DRCs, DBH and Probation has provided a solution for this population to readily access services upon sentencing and/or release from an institutional setting to reinforce a successful transition and re-entry to the community. The one-stop services offered by DBH and its partnering agencies addresses the immediate needs of this population by re-establishing their support system with their families, friends, and the community. By increasing its provision of services based on statistical data and performance outcomes, and additionally, enhancing treatment services that will address the healing needs of this population, DBH looks forward to working with Probation and other partnering agencies through collaborative efforts that will continue to emphasize the importance of public safety.