

**CONTRA COSTA MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION'S
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2006**

<p>1. Call to Order/ Introductions</p> <p>Attendees</p>	<p>The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairperson Karen Sloma at 3:25 p.m.</p> <p>Commissioners Scott Singley, District III Karen Sloma, District IV Robert Torres, District II</p> <p>Committee Members/Guests John Allen, Adult Mental Health Brian Baker, District Attorney Jack Funk, Public Defender Karen Shuler, MHC Staff</p>	
<p>2. Public Comment</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>3. Announcements</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>4. Approval of the Minutes</p>	<p>The Minutes of October 12, 2005 were approved as presented. The Minutes of November 9, 2005 were approved as presented.</p>	<p>M-Singley; S-Baker Carried. Baker; Singley. Carried.</p>
<p>5. Chairperson's Comments</p>	<p>Report on Site Visit to Martinez Jail facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Sloma reported that it was a fantastic visit. Commissioners Judy McCahon, Daniel Ruxin, Lisa Honegger and Cynthia Miller also attended. • They walked through the whole process from intake where medical issues are determined, and the assessment process to determine mental illness. They looked at all the holding areas. Karen said the sheriff's staff was very courteous throughout the visit. It was impressed upon them that the facility was not a treatment center, but behavior containment. Miles Kramer discussed incidents involving suicides, and efforts they make to prevent this. • There are 400 inmates in 68 modules. "M" Module is for medically brittle and mentally disabled inmates. They visited "M" Module and observed the interaction between the staff and inmates, as well as interaction between the inmates themselves. They were impressed that there was a clear treatment plan for the inmates. They were unable to visit the regular module because it was a scheduled time for the inmates to be out walking. "M" is always full and overflowing. Jack stated he feels they do a good job with what they have, but feels it is a band-aid approach. 	<p><i>Place Report on MHC Agenda.</i></p>

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- Karen reported she had spoken with Dr. Molina, who described her work on the new Forensics Unit. This unit provides more intensive case work and follow-up.
- Bob expressed concern over inmates being released late at night with no notice to families.
- Karen reported that Miles went through the different mental health issues inmates have. It is wonderful to see the commitment Dr. Molina and Miles have.
- A suggestion from Dr. Molina for advocacy was to write letters in support of funding for Dr. Molina and the forensics unit.
- Jack suggested making the law enforcement referral cards available for families who visit the jail facility and for inmates when they are discharged. He further stated the staff puts forth a great effort for a thankless task. He also mentioned Marti Wilson, who has been a helped get SSI re-started for inmates after they're discharged. He suggested keeping Marti Wilson, Dr. Molina and the Forensics Unit in mind for the annual MHC awards.

Schedule site visit to Richmond Jail facility.

Miles Kramer gave dates of February 17th and 24th as being good for him. The Committee decided on Friday, February 17 from 10-12.

Staff was asked to set up site visit dates in March to the Orin Allen Boys Treatment Center. Future visits will be scheduled to the Marsh Creek Detention Facility, Summit Center for Boys, Chris Adams Center for Girls, and the Juvenile Hall.

Status of Law Enforcement Referral Card

Due to a lack of computer interface, there was a slight delay in getting the cards ready for printing. Staff will be speaking with the printer this week, and the cards should be ready for distribution within two weeks.

Karen Sloma will make an appointment with the Brentwood Police Chief and with Sgt. Hirsch to present them to their department. Staff will start gathering information for the next city's card to be rolled out – Hercules.

Discuss Committee name change.

Concern had been expressed about the name "Criminal Justice" implying that consumers who find themselves involved in the system are automatically criminals,

Place sign-in sheet for site visit on MHC Agenda.

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	<p>even though there has been no conviction. Suggestions for a change of name were “Consumer Justice Committee” and “Justice Committee.” It was decided to go with “Justice Committee” as a proposed name change. Karen will also look over the Mission Statement of the Committee to recommend changes to better reflect the advocacy goals of the Committee.</p>	<p><i>Place name change request and new Mission Statement on MHC Agenda.</i></p>
<p>6. Adult/Older Adult MH Program Chief Report</p>	<p>No report. Invite Vic to discuss clarify what is being proposed so far as mobile crisis response is concerned at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>7. Report from Multidisciplinary Forensics Committee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Allen reported that they are currently tracking 17 people with a variety of problems. • He told about a referral of a 60 year old homeless man who was kicked out of the Concord Shelter. They are concerned about how to reinstate him. He also told of a repeat to the committee who was involved in a family dispute involving firearms. The team sees referrals of people who collect things, claim to own office buildings, veterans and veteran imposters. • He mentioned there are no services for people with acute brain injuries who often present with substance abuse. There is no access to social workers, no help for traumatic brain injury. • He related some other cases that displayed the extra mile law enforcement officer go to get services for people with a variety of needs. They often have to act more as social workers than police officers. • Law enforcement and mental health work with the Public Defenders and District Attorneys offices to arrange for people to go to IMD’s instead of jail. • He felt people in jail who have mental illness are an abandoned population. 	
<p>8. Report on Contra Costa County Homeless Program</p>	<p>No report. Karen will contact Roberto Reyes to see if he can give a presentation at the February meeting.</p>	
<p>9. Receive suggestions for advocacy for 2006 Focus Goals</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transitioning people into beds in lieu of jail. There is no place to go from “M” Module even if they aren’t severe offenders and judges are willing to release them if they have a bed. Dual diagnosis beds at board and cares are especially needed. 2. Encourage open discussions surround the issue of seeking a balance between patients rights and public safety. 	

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	3. Monitor the use of the Law Enforcement Referral Card in Brentwood and launch the program in Hercules.	
10. Future Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roberto Reyes from the CCC Homeless Programs• Invite Concord Police Chief David Livingston• Invite Miles Kramer	
11. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant
Mental Health Commission