



## Denver Community Corrections Advisory Group Fall 2019

The Community Corrections Advisory Group (CCAG) commends the City for moving forward with the purchase of Tooley-Hall to restore a women's program in Denver and for collaborating with community providers in the design and potential delivery of more effective programming for women. Further, the CCAG moves the following recommendations to the Executive Director of Denver Public Safety for consideration.

### **CCAG Recommendation #01. Request extension of Corecivic contract.**

Propose to Denver City Council an extension through June 2021 with Corecivic to operate no more than 250 residential beds.

- *The advisory group supports an extension to provide re-entry services to returning citizens.*
- *The advisory group recognizes the need to improve outcomes and the service delivery model.*
- *The advisory group believes an extension past the June 2020 contract term is necessary to provide short-term system stabilization and opportunity for new programming ideas to implement for community corrections services in Denver.*
- *The contract terms should support the policy decision of ending the relationship with Corecivic as a service provider.*
- *The city's Division of Community Corrections must be committed to exploration and implementation of the additional recommendations.*
- *The contract terms should take into consideration any reductions in community corrections bed needs resulting from additional recommendations and make corresponding reductions in the second year of the contract allocations.*

## **CCAG Recommendation #02. Status reporting of Community Corrections Advisory Group Recommendations**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections will provide a report detailing progress and status of the CCAG recommendations to the City Council and the Denver Community Corrections Board no later than June 2020 and every six months thereafter through June 2021.

- *DCC should continue to seek participation of community stakeholders to help develop new models/program options for community corrections and collaborate with other state Department stakeholders.*

## **CCAG Recommendation #03. Feasibility of lease or purchase and identification of additional service providers**

The City should explore the possibility of leasing or purchasing one or more CoreCivic community corrections zoned properties.

The City should also explore opportunities to identify additional service providers including promising or emerging operators expressing an interest in the provision of community corrections services.

## **CCAG Recommendation #04. Explore expanded use of the Intensive Supervision Program (ISP-I)**

The Denver Community Corrections Board should work collaboratively with the Department of Corrections to expand the use of ISP-I as part of the Department's new reentry programming at Colorado Correctional Center and the Denver Women's Correctional Facility.

## **CCAG Recommendation #05. Improve community corrections complaint reporting and monitoring.**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections should develop a better and confidential process to allow community corrections clients or family members to raise issues, concerns, and complaints and a thorough process for responding to clients in a timely manner.

## **CCAG Recommendation #06. Analysis of direct sentence outcomes**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections and the 2<sup>nd</sup> JD Court/ Probation Department should analyze the successful completion rate for diversion clients and make recommendations for residential program and supervision changes to improve outcomes.

### **CCAG Recommendation #07. Review the Length of Stay in residential programming**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections should work with the Division of Criminal Justice-Office of Community Corrections and referring agencies to determine the feasibility of reducing the length of stay in residential programs and the development of a shorter-term stabilization program.

### **CCAG Recommendation #08. Review of zoning code and city ordinances**

City ordinances and zoning regulations should be reviewed and modified to permit expansion of smaller, community-based residential options for community corrections clients.

- *This should include reviewing the definition of a community corrections facility in the zoning code.*

### **CCAG Recommendation #09. Community Corrections Standards review**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections should continue efforts to work with the Division of Criminal Justice- Office of Community Corrections and other interested stakeholders to continue to review and waive any standards that do not pose a public safety concern or limit innovative programming. Additionally, institute a clear waiver process with specific criteria and reasonable decision-making timelines.

### **CCAG Recommendation #10. On-going analysis and evaluation of community corrections programs**

The Denver Division of Community Corrections should evaluate whether there is adequate funding for and, if necessary, receive additional funding to strengthen their research capacity to better analyze outcome trends and evaluate community corrections programs for effectiveness.