



Safety and Well-being Committee Summary Minutes

Tuesday, December 22, 2015 1:30 PM City & County Building, Room 391

Committee Members: New, Chair; Kniech, Vice-Chair; Clark; Flynn;
Kashmann; López

Committee Staff: Debra Bartleson

Council Members Present: New, Kniech, Clark, Flynn, Kashmann, Lopez
Members Absent: None

Bill Requests

RR15-0963 Approves a contract with Colorado Nonprofit Development Center in the amount of \$549,025.02 for a contract term through 12-31-16 to operate and maintain staff for the Community Reentry Project (CRP) serving not less than 200 new and continuing clients per month for inmates and recently released persons from the county jail (SOCSV-2015-25566).
Regina Huerter, Denver Human Services - Office of Behavior Strategies; Lisa Calderon, Colorado Nonprofit Development Center

Regina Huerter, Human Services - Office of Behavior Strategies, noted that the Community Reentry Program was one of the first initiatives of the Crime Prevention & Control Commission, when it was first created. This program was developed to help individuals coming out of incarceration with stabilization resources.

Lisa Calderon, Colorado Nonprofit Development Center, said Denver is one of five cities selected to look at best practices for this population. The TJC model is

based on a national community corrections model, which includes leadership, cultural organization, collaboration, data-driven, targeted intervention, and sustainability. (See attachment.) The program begins before an individual is released from jail. Life skills classes including job readiness, behavioral education, and healthy living are part of reentry program. The organization provides these services at the County jail, they do not provide services at the Justice Center. Evidence-based practices are used to determine what works to prevent recidivism and the primary four risk factors correlated to recidivism include: antisocial attitudes, lack of friends, antisocial impulses, and criminal history. Indicators show that getting more services on the front end before releasing an individual from jail increases success to avoid recidivism.

Colorado Nonprofit has seven staff and a budget in 2015 of \$549,025. Approximately 700 people were served in 2014. In 2014, a total of 821 jail bed days were saved resulting in a cost savings of \$42,692.

Councilmember Kashmann asked how other cities compare to Denver's work. Ms. Calderon explained that Denver is a national model and other cities call Denver for information. Unfortunately, noted Ms. Calderon, most research is on prison impacts rather than jails. Improving literacy and job opportunity are critical positive factors. She added that they are evaluating incarcerated women to capture that population that aren't getting sufficient services.

Ms. Huerter explained that this is an annual contract and funds are from a special revenue fund, and annually they are not sure if this program will be funded. In the budget for 2016, the scope of services are the same, but they are looking at providing more services at the front-end. Ms. Calderon stated that the services can begin in the jail and then continued in the community by their same staff.

A motion offered by Kniech, duly seconded by Lopez, that this item be moved forward carried by the following vote;

AYES: New, Kniech, Clark, Flynn, Kashmann, Lopez(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: (None)
ABSTAIN: (None)