

AB 109 Program Evaluation

Community Corrections Partnership Discussion on Next Steps

February 27, 2023

Discussion Goals

- Re-orient ourselves to funding decisions and the evaluation work the CCP has done so far.
- Decide whether to begin a process to identify one or more evaluation consultants.
- If so, can CCP Partners make staff available to participate in the procurement process?
- Determine if we want to first convene a group to identify what evaluation activities to undertake, or alternatively work with the evaluation consultant to help us figure that out.
- Reach agreement on how to organize the work – similar to what we've done in the past or make changes?

CCP Evaluation Budget

- Current year allocation is \$107,482 (none spent)
- Next year is funded at the same level, adjusted for inflation, \$112,000
- This represents just over one-half of 1% of the CCP budget.

- Reminder, for some past evaluation activities Probation evaluation funds have been blended with CCP evaluation funds (where the scope of the evaluation included AB 109 and other populations).

Prior CCP Evaluation Work

- Process evaluations – how well is the program implemented and what can improve the implementation?
 - Sonoma County AB 109 System Process Evaluation (2018)
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Day Reporting Center Process Evaluation (2018)
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Program-Level Evaluations of California Human Development at DRC, (2019), Job Link at DRC (2020), DAAC Turning Point (2020), and IFSN Transitional Housing (2020)
 - Sonoma County Adult Community Supervision Process Evaluation (2021)
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Reentry Assessment (2021)
- Outcome evaluations – how well is the program working – are people doing better as a result of participation?
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Day Reporting Center Outcome Evaluation (2019)
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Program-Level Evaluations of California Human Development at DRC, (2019), Job Link at DRC (2020), DAAC Turning Point (2020), and IFSN Transitional Housing (2020)

Prior CCP Evaluation Work, continued

- System-level performance measurement – what do key indicators say about how the system is working, and are they trending in the right direction? Includes things like rates of crime, recidivism, and incarceration, and examination of racial/ethnic, gender and other disparities in systems.
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Reconviction Analysis (2018)
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Recidivism Analysis Report (2019)
- Capacity assessments – is there enough staffing or programming to meet the needs of the population served, what can be done to fill any gaps?
 - Sonoma AB 109 Needs and Cost Analysis (2018)
- Literature reviews – summaries of research on effective practices that we might consider implementing.
 - Sonoma County AB 109 Reentry Best Practice Review (2020)
- Improvement planning – support in identifying and prioritizing program changes to align with best practices.
 - Research and Planning to Address Program Barriers (2021)

Possible Future Evaluation Work

Many of the following grew out of recommendations from prior evaluation work we did together:

- Racial and ethnic disparities analysis (decision point analysis)
- DRC outcome evaluation update, better accounting for the referral process
- DRC process evaluation update, to assess progress on process improvement recommendations
- Probation behavior response implementation assessment
- Racial/ethnic disparities in services (for example, explore and remedy disproportionately low referrals for Hispanic individuals, compared with their representation in the supervised population)
- Develop feedback processes for Probation participants
- Local validation of the Static Risk Assessment and Offender Needs Assessment
- Evaluation of new substance use disorder services at DRC (when ready)
- Program scan to identify responsiveness gaps for special populations
- Probation case planning implementation assessment (after improvements are made)
- EPICS implementation update

How CCP Has Organized Evaluation Work

- **Procurement Team.** Represents the perspectives of the CCP Partners in selecting evaluation firm(s).
- **Data Management and Evaluation Subcommittee.** Informs evaluation recommendations to the CCP and provides early input on evaluation findings.
- **Project Teams.** Specific to each evaluation activity and include key staff from the Partner agencies whose programs are being evaluated.
- **Backbone Support.** Probation has the capacity to manage the contract(s) and help coordinate evaluation activities with the CCP partners.

Decisions To Make

1. Ready to begin a process to identify one or more evaluation consultants?
2. If so, can CCP Partners make staff available to participate in the procurement process?
3. Organize the work similarly as in the past or make adjustments?
4. First convene a group to identify what evaluation activities to contract for, or alternatively work with the evaluation consultant to help us figure that out?