



Alternatives to Incarceration

Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 4:30-6:00 p.m. PST

Advisory Group Members Present: Laila Aziz, Charlene Autolino, Lon Chhay, Dr. Andrea Dauber-Griffin, Manuel Enriquez, Dr. Darwin Fishman (Advisory Group Chair), Anthony Gonzales, Betsy Jacobson, Bill Payne, Jackie Reed, Wehtahnah Tucker

Advisory Group Members Absent: Martin Leyva, Niki Martinez, Reginald Washington

SANDAG Staff: Dr. Cindy Burke, Sydney Frierson, Dr. Octavio Rodriguez Ferreira, Cesar Sanchez, Sarah Egan

Discussion of San Diego Areas Hit Hardest by Mass Incarceration

- Dr. Darwin Fishman provided an overview of the article.
- Manuel Enriquez commented on how some of the communities in the article represent some of the most diverse communities in San Diego and that these communities tend to lack resources, are often overpoliced, and may be victims of racial biasing and unjust police practices.
- Bill Payne commented that the service recommendations being made should ensure services are geographically dispersed to encourage more positive community connections and ultimately better recidivism and social outcomes. He also suggested the County focus less on single location services and focus more on geographically and community-based resources and service providers.
- Dr. Andrea Dauber-Griffin noted these are complex pieces of data and that San Ysidro had a lower relate. She asked how this could relate to policing differences and other underlying factors.
- Wehtahnah Tucker noted this is a jumping off point to look at other data.
- Laila Aziz noted that the data displayed racial and class disparities that have followed a consistent pattern for decades. She commented that racialized sentencing enhancements may explain some of these disparities.

ATI Working Groups Status and Update

- Dr. Octavio Rodriguez Ferreira provided an update on the newly condensed subgroups (i.e., Best Practices/Future Research and

Disparities/Law Enforcement) and discussed how these groups may develop recommendations that will be included in the final report as an addendum.

- Dr. Darwin Fishman discussed data points (e.g., arrest statistics compared to prosecution statistics) that he believed the Disparities/Law Enforcement group could use to generate recommendations.
- Dr. Andrea Dauber Griffin expressed interest in discussing the subgroup's micro-level discussions/recommendations with the ATI Working Group. She also asked how the work of these groups may be duplicative of other County-supported efforts.
- Wehtahnah Tucker informed the group that she had conducted some research on alternatives that other jurisdictions in the country have done that could be useful to inform recommendations made by the Best Practices/Future Research subgroup.
- Charlene Autolino voiced concerns that the subgroup's recommendations may not be aligned with recommendations that the County envisioned.
- Dr. Darwin Fishman reiterated how important community voices are in this matter.

Discussion of Goals for October Meeting with the Working Group

- Several group members expressed interest in presenting the subgroup's recommendations in the joint October meeting.
- The members agreed they would like to share what both groups are doing.

Update on Project Timeline and Upcoming Tasks

- Dr. Cindy Burke provided an update on the project timeline.

Overview of Third Interim Report

- Dr. Cindy Burke reviewed the planned contents (e.g., Advisory Group updates, ongoing data goals) for the third interim report.
- Dr. Darwin Fishman questioned the feasibility of incorporating the data he is interested in into the report. Dr. Cindy Burke reiterated that the SANDAG report will focus on the scope of work for this project, which does not include police practices and arrest statistics. However, there is the opportunity to make recommendations for future research of interest to the Advisory Group.

- Dr. Andrea Dauber Griffin noted that disparities exist that are more than just race/ethnicity, including how one identifies sexually and if one has a disability.

Cost Analysis Overview

- Dr. Cindy Burke provided an overview of what the cost analysis will and will not do and discussed limitations of the methodology.
- A review of the alternatives (e.g., Sobering Centers, Residential Treatment, PC 100) being included in SANDAG's cost analysis were discussed.
- Group members raised questions about the offenses that the Working Group has outlined as eligible for alternatives to incarceration. Dr. Cindy Burke and Andrea Pella (with the Public Safety Group) explained that a lot of discussion had gone into what charges should be included and these will be the focus for this initial analysis.
- Laila Aziz suggested structuring the eligible offenses based off of the bail system. Dr. Cindy Burke noted that studying the bail system could be an area for future research that is recommended, but is not the focus of this study, and for this effort, bail is not a cost to the system that would be studied. Laila also discussed the Silicon Valley De-bug organization.

Open Sharing by Advisory Group Members

The Advisory Group members did not have any items to share, so this time was opened up to public comments from meeting attendees.

- Community member Jerry Hall expressed his concern in the limitations that come with having a narrow list of eligible offenses (for ATI's). He also suggested exploring related data (e.g., prosecution rates based on geography, police officer's in-service time) that may provide insight and directions for future recommendations.
- Dr. Darwin Fishman shared about his experience doing ride-alongs with the San Diego Police Department and the over policing he saw in areas of the City, compared to others.
- Jackie Reed shared her experiences seeing women arrested for prostitution and having children taken away.
- Lon Chhay provided a personal anecdote that highlighted how policing presence/efforts differ based on the demographics of various communities.
- Amanda Berry (from Supervisor Lawson-Remer's office) spoke to the question of what the Advisory Group's efforts would result to. She

assured the Advisory Group that the Board is seeking actionable recommendations.

- Bill Payne noted it was worth saying that the scope of this project assumed more data would be available than it really is.