Alternatives to Incarceration

Advisory Group Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2022, 4:00-5:45 p.m. PST

Advisory Group Members Present: Charlene Autolino, Lon Chhay, Dr. Andrea Dauber-Griffin, Manuel Enriquez, Dr. Darwin Fishman, Anthony Gonzales, Betsy Jacobson, Bill Payne, Reginald Washington

Advisory Group Members Absent: Laila Aziz, Martin Leyva, Niki Martinez, Jackie Reed, Wehtahnah Tucker

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

ATI Working Groups Status and Update

• Dr. Octavio Rodriguez Ferreira provided background for how the community survey and community forums informed the subgroups and provided a brief introduction for the subgroups.

• Bill Payne provided an update on the Best Practices subgroup. He outlined how the group discussed the goals for the subgroup and how the group plans to use lived experience to guide their conversations in future working group meetings.

• Reginald Washington discussed how important it is for programs and best practices to consider the obstacles that individuals face upon release.

• Dr. Octavio Rodriguez Ferreira summarized the conversations that the Disparities subgroup had, which included discussing how racial/ethnic disparities and class disparities affect individuals through all point of the criminal justice system.

• Dr. Andrea Dauber-Griffin commented on how the Future Research subgroup discussed the lack of available longitudinal program and services data across the County. She also commented on how County contracts are constructed.

• Betsy Jacobson provided an overview of the conversations that Law Enforcement subgroup had. She mentioned that the group discussed transitioning some responsibilities of law enforcement to other applicable services that could target specific populations (e.g., homeless, mentally ill).

• Reginald Washington commented on the lack of trust between those in the community seeking change and those in the public safety system. He also discussed the challenges that grassroot organizations face when contracting with government entities.

• Lon Chhay mentioned how membership and grassroot based organizations need more support, resources, and funding in order to continue offering additional opportunities that others don’t (e.g., leadership trainings).

• Several members of the Advisory Group expressed concerns regarding the contributions that those with lived experience have made. They all agreed these contributions are
essential to making a difference, yet these individuals often go unrecognized or uncompensated for the value they are adding.

- The Advisory Group agreed that Best Practices and Future Research will be combined. A fifth group on Juvenile/Youthful Offenders will not be created, but best practices that relates to alternatives to detention in this area will be something the Best Practices/Future Research Groups can look at.
- Dr. Darwin Fishman was appointed Chair of the Advisory Group and will work with SANDAG to include Advisory Group addendums to upcoming reports.

Discussion of Second Interim Report

- Dr. Cindy Burke provided a review of report highlights and the group discussed the recommendations that were included in the Second Interim Report.
- Dr. Darwin Fishman suggested adding subheadings to group the recommendations in future reports.
- The group discussed how these recommendations can become actionable.

Gap Analysis Overview

- This agenda item was not discussed due to time constraints and discussions in other areas. This item will be moved to the next Advisory Group meeting.

Update on Project Timeline and Upcoming Tasks

- Dr. Cindy Burke reviewed the project timeline and upcoming reports.
- Several Advisory Group members expressed interest in having a joint meeting with the Working Group.

Action Items/Next Steps:

- Combine the Best Practices and Future Research Working Groups; Working Subgroups continue to meet.
- Continue to discuss how individual stories/narratives can be included in the final report in a way that does not exploit individuals.
- Include in the recommendations the discussion that relate to grassroots organizations contracting to provide services and not taking the contributions of those with lived experience for granted.
- Include in the recommendations the importance to look at law enforcement’s contact with the community and how that impacts incarceration numbers.
- Explore possible presentations to the Advisory Group from other cities and contacts that the local expert Dr. Fishman works with on the Juvenile Justice Commission.
• Share the Proposition 47 evaluation report with the Advisory Group, as well as other local SANDAG evaluations for those interested in reviewing them.
• Work with Dr. Fishman as the Chair of the Advisory Group to include Advisory Group addendums to the Third Interim Report and the Draft and Final Comprehensive Reports.
• Ensure in the final recommendations that where possible, priorities are noted, and specific actions suggested.