Making System Collaboration Work

International Community Corrections Association

September 10, 2013
The Partnership

A project of California Forward

Assists counties in implementing the 2011 Public Safety Realignment
Overview of Workshop

Judge Couzens Presentation

Small groups (mix of professionals)

Small group report outs & discussion
BUILDING A LASTING COLLABORATION

J Richard Couzens
Judge of the Placer County
Superior Court (Ret.)
COLLABORATION

The willingness to put your money on the table and your hands behind your back
BUILDING THE TEAM
ID KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Who are the stakeholders
  - The people with the money (Asset Holders)
  - The people who make the decisions
  - The agencies – law enforcement, probation, courts
• Persons impacted by the decisions of the Asset Holders (Consumers)
• Victims, community-based programs
Should all stakeholders have the same decision-making authority

- Size
  - Inclusive/diversity vs. ability to make decisions
- Consumers have no reluctance to utilize the resources/money of the Asset Holders
What is the role of the Consumers

- Should be involved early
- Resource for expertise
- Must be educated about the issues
- May be used to educate/influence others
Who should be at the justice table

- Courts
- District Attorney
- Defense bar
- Probation Department
- Sheriff (jail and law enforcement)
• Others
  • Mental health
  • Education
  • County Executive
  • Board of Supervisors
  • Social services
  • Employment
  • Treatment providers
  • Victims
● Is there an existing structure?
  ● Community Corrections Partnership

● Within each stakeholder, who makes the decisions?
  ● THE District Attorney
  ● THE Chief Probation Officer

● Is there a willingness to delegate with authority to bind department
• Is there a natural leader in the justice community to serve as chair
  • Judge
  • DA
  • Sheriff
ESTABLISHING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT
THE GROUND RULES

- Establish early
- Issues
  - What will be the level of decision-making
  - Policy
  - Implementation
• Should implementation be left to senior staff
• Will staff have the ability to commit the department
• How decisions are made
  • Consensus
  • Vote
• Details
  • Agenda
  • Regular meeting times each period
  • Minutes (loose?)
  • Respect time of participants
• Funding of group
  • Each stakeholder contribute
  • Rotating duties
  • In-kind vs. hard dollars
Outside facilitator?
- Initial formation
- Specific issues

Set reasonable expectations
- Manageable tasks to demonstrate power of group to accomplish goals
BUILD ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST

- What happens in Las Vegas stays in Las Vegas
- Avoid public statements that undermine group decision
SO WHERE DO WE START....

- Identify the one or two key leaders in the justice system
  - Do your homework – determine what motivates
  - Who should you bring to the first meeting
  - Articulate your mission – what do you want to do
• With guidance from the leader(s), expand the discussion
• Move with care and deliberation
• Be patient but determined
Small Group Instructions

Roles
Facilitator
Scribe
Report Out
Timekeeper

Use flip charts & only thick markers

Assure good mix of professional groups
Small Group Discussions

In building effective & lasting system collaborations….

1. Which approaches have worked best for your system?
2. What other approaches might be effective?
Group Report Outs

Each small group’s top 3 ideas
Common themes
Partnership for Community Excellence - Convenings

*Increasing Safety & Reducing Costs*
*Under Realignment & the Affordable Care Act*

Co-Sponsored by:

♦ The Partnership ♦ Californians for Safety and Justice ♦ The California Endowment ♦ Community Oriented Correctional Health Services
Partnership for Community Excellence - Convenings

Bringing small groups of counties together to develop county-specific strategies that take advantage of opportunities provided through Realignment and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to improve public safety outcomes and reduce county costs. Opportunities include:

- Increased flexibility and local responsibility;
- Expanded Medi-Cal eligibility for offenders; and,
- Generous federal reimbursement rates for Medi-Cal services.
Other convenings completed or planned:

- Jail Assessment – alternatives to jail
- Review of realignment plan
- Data capacity & evaluation
- Using ACA to fund pretrial services
CONTACT US

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