


Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues


Changing the Paradigm

- Why a task force/scope of problem
- Task Force worked for 3 years
- Judicial leaders & mental health and criminal justice partners
- 137 recommendations



Recommendations: Sec. 1

- Community-based strategies and early intervention: goal reduce the number of persons entering the justice system.
- Examples: specialized housing, mental health treatment, crisis centers, etc.



Recommendations: Sec. 2

- Court Responses
- Examples: Judicial involvement in local planning efforts, court led collaborative programs, specialized calendars, discharge planning, etc.



Sec. 2, continued

- Coordination of Civil and Criminal Proceedings
- Develop coordinated responses in conservatorship (LPS) and criminal proceedings, etc.



Sec. 2 continued

- Competence to stand trial reports and proceedings
- Coordination with CONREP, state Hospitals, etc.
- Create appropriate alternatives as necessary.



Sec. 3: Incarceration

- Early identification and care in jails and prisons.
- Appropriate treatment in jail and/or prison.
- Discharge planning from time of booking/first appearance



Sec. 4: Probation & Parole

- Coordination of mental health treatment & supervision.
- Follow the discharge plan.
- Specialized training for probation & parole officers.
- Have alternative responses to violations.



Section 5: Community Reentry

- Establish contacts with jail liaisons, coordination of benefits, etc.
- Implement the discharge plan
- Housing, housing, housing



Sec. 6: Juvenile Offenders

- Juvenile Court should coordinate/collaborate with all relevant stakeholders
- Screening & assessment critical
- Informational/educational services for families & juveniles



Recommendation Focus: continued

- Address competency issues
- Plan for reentry when exiting delinquency system
- Training for all
- Research needed: what works, what doesn't



Sec. 7: Education, Training & Research

- Education for judges, attorneys, criminal justice partners
- Collaborative with law schools
- Evaluate various court models & costs/outcomes; disseminate information



REMEMBER:

Changing the paradigm,
changing outcomes,
changing lives is possible.



**Task Force Report
website:**

http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Mental_Health_Task_Force_Report_042011.pdf

(Criminal Justice Collaboration on
Mental Health Issues Task Force)