

Care First, Jails Last Overview



Presented by:

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Chair, Mental Health Advisory Board

The Care First, Jails Last (CFJL) Resolution

- ▶ Passed unanimously by the Board of Supervisors on May 25, 2021
- ▶ “The fundamental goal of a 'Care First, Jails Last' policy is to develop a continuum of care that includes a full spectrum of treatment and housing, including preventative and outpatient services, inpatient acute and subacute facilities, licensed board and care homes, and other wraparound support services ... in order to **reduce the number of people with mental illness, substance use and co-occurring disorders in our jail**”
- ▶ “Incarceration and insufficient mental health and substance use disorder services disproportionately impact African-Americans in Alameda County, who represent 48% of the jail population and more than one-third of the behavioral health re-entry population.”
- ▶ “All Alameda County agencies, in particular public protection, behavioral health and wraparound supportive services, shall **collaborate** to advance a Care First, Jails Last policy.”

The Care First, Jails Last Resolution (cont.)

- ▶ “The work advancing the Care First, Jails Last policy must prioritize equity and inclusion frameworks in addressing **racial, economic, and other disparities** in Alameda County’s criminal justice, behavioral health, and wraparound support services systems.”
- ▶ “The work advancing the Care First, Jails Last policy shall be grounded in **shared data** from across the criminal justice, behavioral health, and other wraparound supportive services systems.”

The Role of the Mental Health Advisory Board

- ❖ “The Mental Health Advisory Board, with the administrative support of the Alameda County Behavioral Health Care department, **shall publicly disclose aggregate analyses of data on community-based behavioral health needs and the justice-involved behavioral health population**, to the extent not prohibited by law, in an effort to uplift systemwide transparency and coordination.”
- ❖ “The Mental Health Advisory Board (designee) and the Director of ACBH will provide **semi-annual updates to a joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors’ Health & Public Protection committees as to the implementation progress of a Care First, Jails Last policy**, and **provide opportunities for input from community stakeholders, including – but not limited to – individuals with lived experience, their advocates, community-based service providers, and coalitions and advisory boards whose missions support a Care First, Jails Last policy.**”

The Care First, Jails Last Task Force



- ▶ Brown Act monthly meetings from May 2022 – May 2024
- ▶ CFJL Task Force is comprised of Alameda County Agencies/Department heads, Community members, and CBO representatives
- ▶ Adjacent Care First Community Coalition
- ▶ The Results:
 - 58 Recommendations
 - Eight Agency/Department Plans (ACBHD, Probation, Public Defender, District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Office, Social Services Agency, Housing and Community Development, and Housing and Homelessness Services)
 - One County-wide Plan
- ▶ Presentation to the Board of Supervisors Joint Health and Public Protection Committee is scheduled for **June 26, 2024 at 9:00 AM.**

Highlights from the Recommendations

- African American Resource Center
- Affordable and permanent housing options for the justice-involved SMI and SUD population
- Re-entry services
- Full-Service Partnerships
- Mobile Crisis Services
- Peer workforce expansion
- Early intervention in first-episode psychosis
- Diversion from jail into appropriate treatment in non-jail settings
- Budget transparency

Related/Aligned County Efforts

**SB 43
Implementation**

Care Courts

**DRC Settlement
Agreement**

**ACBHD's
Strategic Plan**

**Reimagining
Adult Justice
Initiative**

**Babu Consent
Decree**

**California
Advancing and
Innovating
Medi-Cal**

**Proposition 1
Funding
Opportunities**

Next Steps

WHAT'S
NEXT?

[from the Care First, Jails Last Task Force]: “We further recommend that the MHAB form an **ad-hoc committee to oversee the further plan development and implementation** phase of the agencies’ draft plans, work with those agencies to finalize the plans, and invite the task force members to participate in the ad-hoc committees in this next planning phase... The Board of Supervisors should ensure participation of all relevant agencies and departments in this planning process.”