

County of Santa Clara

Office of the Sheriff


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Laurie Smith
Sheriff

DATE: July 24, 2020

TO: Supervisor Dave Cortese

FROM: Laurie Smith, Sheriff 

SUBJECT: **Jail Reform Referrals; Off-Agenda Report Items 60 and 160:**
Relating to treating inmates suffering from substance abuse and addiction.

At the May 23, 2017 and March 19, 2019 meeting of the Re-Entry network, Chairperson Cortese requested that the Office of the Sheriff provide a report on the population of inmates that are suffering from substance abuse and addiction; the number of inmates that participate in the various recovery programs, the jails capacity for treating inmates, and planned efforts regarding substance abuse training and rehabilitation resources.

The Sheriff's Office Programs Unit offers the following Substance Abuse Recovery Programs:

- Narcotic Anonymous
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Family & Children Services Of Silicon Valley: Supportive Transitional Empowerment Program (STEP)
- Five Keys
- Milpitas Adult Education

These Substance Abuse Recovery Programs are typically 12-weeks in length and usually offer a completion certificate.

In 2019, a monthly average of 804 inmates participated in at least one Substance Abuse Recovery Program, and of those participants the majority completed one (or more) of these courses. An exact accounting of 'participants vs. completions' is difficult to calculate due to several factors:

- (1) Participants often move to less or more restrictive housing assignments.
- (2) Participants are often released from custody.
- (3) Not all providers issue and/or track certificates.

Prior to COVID-19, we were expanding substance abuse programs throughout custody by introducing them to Special Management housing units, and this practice will continue when we resume normal operations. Post-COVID, the Sheriff's Office Programs Unit plans to implement

continuous expansion of rehabilitative services, in collaboration with substance abuse providers, to provide quality substance abuse services and rehabilitative resources.

The Sheriff's Office does not track new arrestees suffering from substance abuse and addiction upon intake into the jail. However, during the initial pre-booking process, Custody Health conducts a medical assessment of all arrestees. This process could serve as a data-collection point for identifying those at intake who suffer from substance-abuse issues.