ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION OFFICE
Judge Songhai Armstead (Ret.) | Executive Director

Countywide City Managers Briefing
Vincent Holmes, ATI Manager

May 18, 2022
Agenda

1. Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Office
2. Alternative Crisis Response Efforts
3. Care First Community Investment (Formerly Measure J)
4. Q&A
Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) Office

• March 2020, ATI was created to realize Board of Supervisor’s vision of a comprehensive Care First, Jails Last model.

• ATI serves as the County’s nerve center and regional convener of public and private sector entities committed to justice reform.

• In addition to leading the development of initiatives aimed at justice reform, ATI also leads the development of several other initiatives including:
  • **Youth Justice Reimagined:** (YJR) transitioning Juvenile Probation from the Probation Department to a new Department of Youth Development (DYD)
  • **Alternative Crisis Response:** (ACR) cross-functional planning and development of a new crisis response system (988 number) to address mental health emergencies
  • **Care First Community Investment:** (formerly Measure J) inclusive and transparent process for allocating locally generated revenue.
Alternative Crisis Response: Key Projects
Projects in progress to expand capacity and improve the coordination of ACR services in LA County

**Strategies**

1. **Expansion**: Increasing the capacity of LA County’s crisis services in anticipation of increased demand for crisis care after the official July 16, 2022 launch of 988, and also to improve response times and real-time client access to needed crisis care

2. **Coordination**: Improving the connections between parts of LA County’s crisis system to provide better no-wrong-door access to crisis care, reduce law enforcement response unless necessary, and ensure no one falls through the cracks

3. **Infrastructure**: Ensuring funding and technology to provide needed support of crisis services, and that we’re developing the workforce of the future to deliver them

**Projects/Actions**

- **988 Call Center and Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) Solicitations**: DMH recently released solicitations to procure and support enhanced LAC 988 call center services + contracted mobile crisis response teams.

- **Hiring Peers for the Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT) Program**: DMH is currently hiring 16 peers (Community Health Workers) plus 2 peer supervisors for the PMRT program.

- **9-1-1 Diversion**: LA County’s 988 call center will lead efforts countywide to divert behavioral health crisis calls from 9-1-1 to 988 and connected crisis services.

- **Metro and City Partnerships**: Partnering with Metro and cities to develop dedicated ACR services in their areas, still linked to 988.

- **Dispatching**: Developing a countywide dispatching technology platform for use by 988 and all mobile crisis teams.

- **ACR Training Academy**: Designing an academy to provide professional training for the ACR workforce across the board.
History and Context:
- November 2020, LA County voters approved Measure J which directed the County to allocated 10% of locally generated revenue towards programming that addresses systemic racism through community investments and alternatives to incarceration.
- Board of Supervisors established the Measure J Advisory Committee (now CFCI Advisory Committee) and tasked it with developing a set of spending recommendations for Measure J funds.
- Though the Superior Court ruled that Measure J was unconstitutional in June 2021, the Board of Supervisors continued their support of the vision of Measure J, allocated $100M for programs and created the Care First Community Investment (CFCI) Initiative.
- The Board also allocated an additional $87M to fund CFCI Program using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding.

Funding Opportunities:
- Will be disbursed via County Departments and a Third-Party Administrator
- All funding opportunities can be accessed at: https://ceo.lacounty.gov/ati/contracting/

Next Steps and How to Get Involved:
- The CFCI Advisory Committee is now beginning to deliberate on its spending plan for the next allocation of funding expected to also be $100M.
- CFCI Advisory Committee Meeting information can be found at: https://ceo.lacounty.gov/ati-calendar/
Questions & Answers

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