



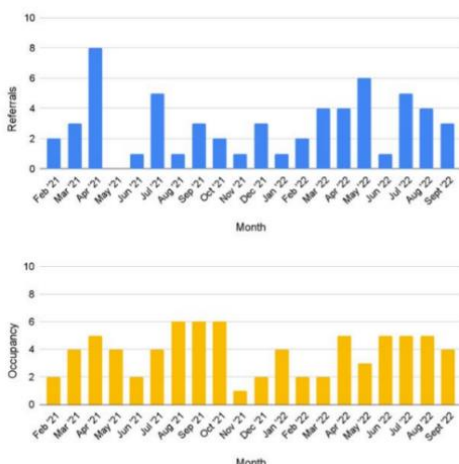
INTRODUCTION

On September 13, 2022, a motion was made by Supervisor Parlin, seconded by Supervisor Hidahl, to approve the Board of Supervisors Draft Response to the 2021-22 Grand Jury Final Report as the Final Report for submission to the Presiding Judge. Changes in the final report included directing staff to return to the Board by the end of the year with a discussion item for the Board on Transitional Housing, including hotels for clients supported through programming in Health & Human Services Agency and Probation Department. Items to be addressed specific to the Probation Department include security, usage trends, hotels utilized for service, and average length of stay. The following includes the Probation Department’s response to the request.

THE BRIDGE

On February 24, 2021, the El Dorado County Probation Department opened the doors to The Bridge, a transitional living house located at 2986 Coloma Street, to Justice-Involved Individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness upon re-entry into El Dorado County. The Bridge assists Justice-Involved Individuals who are released from jail or State Prison who would otherwise be unhoused upon returning to the community and is the primary housing resource for our Probation re-entry population. The Bridge is the Department's first adult transitional home and offers a unique opportunity for up to six male Justice-Involved Individuals at a time. To facilitate the transition to independent living, they receive various assessments and wraparound services including life skills and workforce development. The targeted goal of The Bridge program is the transition of Justice-Involved Individuals into independent living. The Bridge addresses a long-standing need in El Dorado County and offers an important stabilization factor for those at risk of homelessness, thereby reducing the risk of them committing future crimes and fostering the successful re-entry of Justice-Involved Individuals into our communities. Probation Officers continue to use evidence-based decision-making through assessments and case planning activities with the support and collaboration of the El Dorado County Office of Education

Bridge House Referrals and Occupancy



The Bridge program has received 59 referrals since its opening.

- 34 clients were accepted into the program

Reasons referrals were not accepted:

- Client lost interest or moved out of county
- Actively using substances

Factors influencing occupancy:

- Rate of referrals from DPOs
- Discharges from the program

(EDCOE), Northern California Construction Training (NCCT), El Dorado County Health and Human Services Administration, and Law and Justice Partners in the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Superior Court, and the Placerville Police Department.

SECURITY

Separate from the main living quarters, there is an office for Probation Department staff, and supportive service providers to assist on an as-needed basis. During business hours, the office is staffed by probation officers and

staff. There are security cameras throughout the property with on-site and remote monitoring capabilities. Additionally, the practice of structured check in and prioritization of monitoring an individual on the assigned officer’s caseload in residence at The Bridge is key to ensuring Public Safety and the individual’s case plan objectives are met.

HOTELS

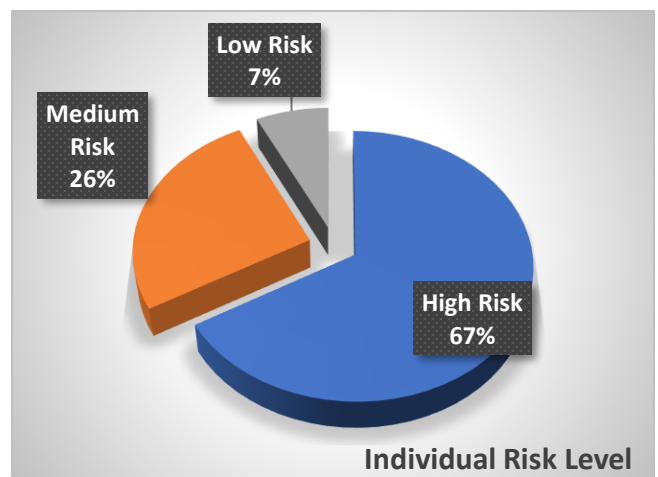
The Bridge Program has decreased the Department’s utilization of hotels in the area; however, this program is not for all individuals and the ability to provide lodging is an important factor in addressing Justice-Involved Individual’s specific needs. When the number of individuals returning to the County from jail and State Prison into homelessness exceed the capacity of this program, or the client does not meet program placement criteria, alternate plans for emergency housing become necessary. The Department’s sole mechanism to support temporary emergency housing of Justice-Involved Individuals was the utilization of hotels prior to the establishment of The Bridge Program. Since October 2017, Probation Department has utilized hotels for 69 Justice-Involved Individuals. Contributing factors to the obvious increase in Fiscal Year 19/20 versus the trending decline in Fiscal Year 21/22 stem from early releases from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Department bringing The Bridge program online in February of 2021. The average length of stay for our Justice-Involved Individuals is 11.5 nights. The Department has worked extensively to develop working relationships with hotels in County that are willing to work with the population served. The Hangtown Motel and the Gold Trail Motor Lodge in Placerville, and Quality Inn in Cameron Park have all provided lodging for Justice-Involved Individuals under Probation Supervision.

Hotel Data by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Stays	# of Nights	Invoice Totals	JII Count
2017/2018	1	5	\$ 552.70	1
2018/2019	27	359	\$ 36,549.37	15
2019/2020	61	713	\$ 85,748.43	29
2020/2021	34	312	\$ 34,305.96	18
2021/2022	10	162	\$ 18,508.59	8
2022/2023	5	39	\$ 4,536.14	4
Grand Total	138	1590	\$ 180,201.19	69

RISK LEVEL & CRIME IN RESIDENCE

A significant number of the individuals in residence are high risk. It is not uncommon for individuals at this stage of their supervision who are unhoused to abscond, resulting in their whereabouts becoming unknown for long periods of time. The goal of transition planning for this population strives to keep the Justice-Involved Individuals connected with their assigned Probation Officer, while more permanent housing options are identified. Currently, there have been no crimes reported for individuals placed by our Department; however there have been damages to hotel property resulting in additional bills to the Department totaling \$3,000.00 since the provision of hotel services.



SECURITY

The Department is proactive about maintaining relationships with the staff on location in the hotels utilized for temporary Emergency Housing of Justice-Involved Individuals. Additionally, Probation Officers regularly visit their assigned Justice-Involved Individuals while housed at any hotel to ensure proper decorum is maintained. If appropriate behaviors or property is not being maintained, the Justice-Involved Individual is removed from the property. Point to point contact between the service providers and the assigned officer is provided to ensure immediate response is available should the need arise.

For more information regarding the Probation Department’s Emergency Housing & Homelessness Response, please contact Deputy Chief Probation Officer Gary Romanko via email at gary.romanko@edcgov.us.

*The information presented does not include the placement of Juvenile Justice Involved Individuals placed in hotels by the Department.