



County of El Dorado



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Brian Richart
Chief of Probation

September 9, 2014
James Mayer
CEO/President
California Forward
1107 9th Street, Suite 650
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Participation in California Forward's Project, *Achieving Better System Outcomes through Data-Driven Practices and Decision-Making*

Dear Mr. Mayer:

On behalf of El Dorado County, Chief of Probation Brian Richart and myself would like to express both the Board of Supervisors' and our strong commitment to engaging in a partnership with California Forward (CA FWD) to assist our county's justice system in using data-based decision-making and continuous improvement processes to cost-effectively achieve better outcomes.

El Dorado County focuses on wisely allocating scarce resources to meet vital public safety needs. Our Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) identified five early goals for managing the newly realigned population under AB 109:

1. Maintain offender accountability and public safety
2. Responsibly manage impact on jail population capacity
3. Successful alternative sentencing options
4. Inspire public confidence
5. Offender rehabilitation

The CCP Public Safety Realignment Implementation Plan for Fiscal Year 2014/15 includes a range of services from secure custody and enforcement through treatment and education including the new Community Corrections Center (CCC) under the direction of the Chief Probation Officer and partner agencies. This facility opened in the spring of 2014. By achieving safety, accountability and offender success through

evidence-based practices, we are planning for the best local outcomes for the citizens of El Dorado County.

Our meeting with your staff on July 14th was very productive. We identified a number of general issues, including the need for better data sharing and analysis, that lend themselves to the approach that CA FWD will be taking in assisting our county. We are particularly interested in developing the aggregated data portrait of our system and then drilling down to determine cost-effective ways to reduce the demand for jail beds and to provide the kinds of services and supports that can reduce recidivism.

Based on our discussion at the July 14th meeting, we are eager to begin working with you. We are committed to providing the following to this effort:

1. Full support of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrative Officer.
2. Engagement of our top leadership team to provide guidance at key points in identifying issues and selecting priority areas for focus.
3. Engaging appropriate leaders, managers and staff in each step of the model, except where a particular part of the model has already been completed.
4. The Chief Administrative Office and Probation Department acting jointly as a lead agency for the project.
5. Sufficient time for the appropriate data analysts to learn and assist in obtaining and analyzing the data needed for a criminal justice data portrait and to drill down to determine areas for improvement.
6. Access to data as needed.
7. Access to meeting and work space as needed.
8. Agreement to share progress and outcomes, related to the project, with state leaders, other counties and funders.

We understand that contingent on resources obtained for this project, CA FWD will provide the assistance described in *Achieving Better Outcomes through Data-Driven System Change: Overview of the Project and Model for System Change*. Expertise and assistance will include:

1. Guiding county leaders, managers and staff through each step of CA FWD's model for system change.
2. A project manager and facilitator.
3. A justice system expert.
4. An experienced data-driven justice system analyst.
5. Limited consultation from other experts as agreed upon by CA FWD and El Dorado County.
6. On-site engagement as agreed upon by CA FWD and El Dorado County.
7. Support by phone, conference calls and email between on-site visits.

8. Coaching for the data analyst and other analysts in how to collect and analyze data to evaluate the system's effectiveness and efficiency and potential areas for improvement.
9. Coaching for justice leaders and managers regarding the effectiveness of data-based decision-making and continuous improvement process, leading them through the processes based on what the data portrait reveals.
10. Assistance with communicating progress and results to others.
11. Assistance for up to three years as agreed upon by CA FWD and El Dorado County.

We appreciate that CA FWD has identified El Dorado County as forward-thinking and committed to system change within our justice system, and look forward to this exciting partnership.

Sincerely,

Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer

Brian Richart
Chief of Probation