To: Deputy Chief Kim and Damon
Chair Community Corrections Partnership Work Group

From: Maureen Earls, CLUE Criminal Justice Committee

Date: January 19, 2018

Re: Proposals for 2018-19 Realignment Budget: Housing for people incarcerated with non-violent mental illness

Dear Deputy Chief Kim and Damon,

We would like to thank you for such a productive meeting and appreciated the transparency and welcome you extended. I believe we all left feeling that we learned from each other, honestly explored our concern for a housing gap in the budget, and most importantly left with a plan to move forward.

We agreed the Proposed Realignment Budget Plan 2018-19:

- Includes a goal for funding permanent supportive housing as one intervention for “reduced recidivism” and providing reentry offenders “access to long term housing”. Dr. Austin’s evaluation team recommended allocating funding for this purpose as well.
- Includes a locked facility for 15 with severe mental health needs (with a goal to identify funding for the estimated 3 million in ongoing costs)
- Has a gap in access to unlocked long term supportive housing rooms targeted exclusively for people with non-violent mental health and incarceration histories

CLUE Mission: CLUE SB is a network of inter-faith community leaders and members organized to address the root causes of local economic injustices to those marginalized in Santa Barbara County.
CLUE proposed two projects for eliminating the gap:

- **(10 rooms)** County Housing Authority offered 10 rooms for this target population in a spring application for an 80 resident supported housing facility in Santa Maria.

  **Funding:** 1 million realignment funds. *(see note)*

- **(25-30 rooms)** SB City Housing Authority suggestion. **Funding:** $400K realignment funds, *master leasing* for a year for our target population.

  Possibility for clusters of rooms in city hotels (i.e. 5 residents in 6 locations).

  Additional funding for support TBD, possibly one case worker and access to current funded treatment

**Outcomes:**

- Damon, administrator of the realignment budget, reported that this budget will have money in the *One Time Only Budget* for possible investment for these projects.

- Deputy Chief Kimberly offered a possibility that we might use *One Time Only Funds* for a *pilot* master leasing investment to determine this intervention's success in reducing recidivism. We all noted Pescadero Lofts as a local example of the success of supported housing. Deputy Chief Kimberly expressed the need to map current realignment housing.

- **Next Step:** Deputy Chief Kimberly will support the formation of a *housing sub group* of the Realignment Work Group, at the January 24th meeting, to map current housing access and gaps as part of the budget proposal process.

**Attendees:** Deputy Chief Probation Kimberly Shean; Damon Fletcher, SB County Probation Administrative Deputy Director; **CLUE Justice Committee Representatives:** Lane Clark, CLUE President; Ken Ralph, Interfaith Initiative and Showers of Blessing Manager; Maureen Earls, CLUE Board; Robert Ornstein, Mental Health Attorney and Consultant.
Note: MHSA funds are also used for 35 rooms in this facility, with a 50% (40) mental health client restriction for their funds included in a facility. John Polansky, County Housing, offered to set aside 10 rooms for 1 million in realignment funding, 5 rooms within the MHSA restriction (40) and then discuss with their attorney use of 50% of these realignment funds for the additional 5, over the 50% MHSA limit. He will explore if this has been a practice in the past with non MHSA funds.

In solidarity,

Maureen Earls, CLUE SB Board Member
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