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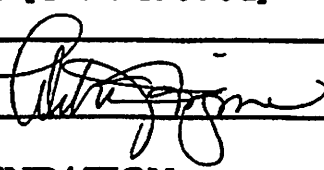
CITY OF SAN JOSE - MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor & City Council

FROM: Louis A. Cobarruviaz

SUBJECT: SANTA CLARA COUNTY MOBILE DATE: January 3, 1997
MENTAL HEALTH TEAM PILOT PROGRAM
[CR: 6-18-96-9u]

Approved



Date

1/10/97

RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Santa Clara for participation in the Mobile Mental Health Team Pilot Program.

BACKGROUND

At the June 18, 1996 City Council meeting [Item 9u], the Council authorized staff to work with the County of Santa Clara to identify viable options to divert the mentally ill from incarceration when appropriate. Staff from the County and City have been meeting in a working group to develop a program model for Council and Board approval. The County, during its FY 1996-97 Operating Budget discussions, appropriated \$267,531 to support this pilot program.

ANALYSIS

PILOT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the pilot program is to divert qualified persons with apparent mental disabilities from the criminal justice system by providing initial assessments, crisis intervention and linkage to other mental health services.

TERM AND OPERATION STRUCTURE

The project is to be a collaborative effort between the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System/Mental Health Department and the City of San Jose. It is to be implemented on a pilot basis and will terminate on June 30, 1997. However, the term of the agreement may be extended upon mutual agreement of the parties.

The Mobile Mental Health Team (Team) will consist of qualified mental health professionals who will be employed by the County's Mental Health Department. Throughout the term of the pilot program, an Advisory Group will provide policy oversight and review the effective implementation of the pilot program, and will be responsible for preparing and submitting a final evaluation report to the Board of Supervisors and City Council at the completion of the pilot. The Advisory Group will consist of representatives from: County Mental Health Department, Supervisor Jim Beall's Office, the City Manager's Office and the San Jose Police Department.

TARGET GROUP AND TARGET AREA

The intended target for these services are those qualified adult persons with apparent mental disabilities who come to the attention of the San Jose Police Department and can benefit from the Mobile Mental Health Team Pilot Program. The initial target area for this pilot is Police District King. At the discretion of the Police Department's Watch Commander, the Team will be dispatched to other San Jose Police Districts.

DISPATCH PROCEDURES AND REFERRALS

At the request of an officer at the scene, the Police Department's Communication Unit will be responsible for dispatching the Team and will prioritize multiple requests for service. Upon dispatch, the Team will evaluate individuals in the field who appear mentally ill and are at risk of incarceration and attempt to find alternative treatment or placement. San Jose Police and the Team will work cooperatively until the situation is resolved with the understanding that the San Jose Police Officer has the ultimate authority on scene and in determining the case disposition. The Police Department will be responsible for all placement transport that may be required. If it is determined that an individual will be placed on a 5150 hold, the required hold documentation will be completed by the Team prior to transport by the Police Department to EPS. Additionally, the Team will be responsible for making contact with EPS, answering any questions and providing any additional information that may be required prior to the arrival of the transported individual to EPS.

COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

The Team will be equipped with hand-pack radios supplied by the Police Department for the duration of the pilot program. For purposes of dispatch, each Team will be assigned a San Jose Police Department radio call sign. The County will provide the Team with cellular phones and pagers.

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

The Team will consist of three (3) full-time and three (3) part-time experienced mental health workers. Applicants will also be required to participate in an extensive hiring and selection process that will include a Ride-Along Assessment by the Police Department.

The Team will be in service from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. daily, including weekends and holidays. The base of operations for the Team will be the County's Mental Health ACCESS Unit facility located at 2221 Emborg Lane.

The Mental Health ACCESS Unit staff will provide all necessary clerical support, information and referral and follow-up services as needed to the Team and the Police Department.

DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTS

Data requested by either the County or the City will be collected by the Team supervisor with an Activity and Evaluation report to be completed and submitted to the Advisory Group bi-monthly.

All program staff will comply with the California Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5328 regarding patient confidentiality.

Any incidents, procedural concerns or staff-related complaints will be reported promptly to the appropriate supervisor. Mental Health staff with concerns related to Police Department personnel will notify their supervisor or the County Mental Health Director. The supervisor will evaluate the situation and discuss it with the San Jose Police Department Liaison. Police Officers with concerns about Team members will notify the Team supervisor or Watch Commander, who will discuss it with the County Mental Health Director as soon as possible.

TRAINING

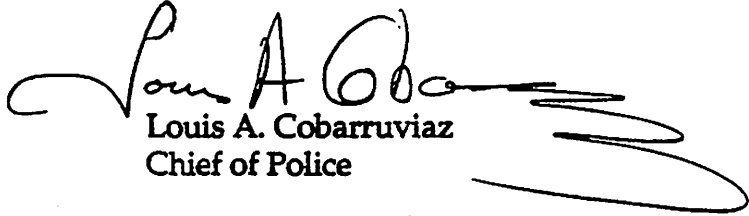
Staff training and development will be an important part of the Program's implementation and success. Program staff will receive 80 hours of training prior to going on duty including the following: police procedures; orientation to Department of Corrections operations; court procedures; EPS/BAP; community resources; traumatic brain injury; pharmacology; ADA requirements; management of assaultive behavior; program objectives procedures and evaluations skills.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OUTCOME MEASURES

At the time of each incident, Police personnel and Team members will be asked to evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention in terms of the Program's ability to divert the mentally ill from possible incarceration. There will also be a retroactive longitudinal analysis of the target group to track whether the frequency of arrests, hospitalizations, etc. is decreased as a result of the intervention.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager's Office.



Louis A. Cobarruviaz
Chief of Police

c: Richard Wittenberg
Supervisor Jim Beall