

## Post-Sentencing and Reentry Subcommittee 9.9.22 Meeting Notes

### Attendees

Natalie Holbrook (Co-chair)  
Lawanda Hollister (Co-chair)  
Ariana Gonzalez (Co-chair)  
Devin Dailey  
Alma Wheeler Smith  
Mitzi Talon  
Alex Roth (Vera)  
Tara Dhanraj Roden (Vera)  
Angie Carpio (Vera)

- Vera team member explain where we are in the process
  - Priority area 1: PSI's – research summary sent out to subcommittee last week. Still hoping to get additional information for this priority area but looking less likely to receive any actual PSIs or data on completed PSIs.
  - Priority area 2: racial disparities and parole, depends entirely on data from MDOC. Vera member spoke with staff from the Office of Research at Planning at MDOC and the response was not very promising. They are migrating to a new data system making it harder to pull data sets. They suggested Vera might be able to get data more easily from CJARS because they have sent data to CJARS previously. MDOC will reconnect Vera and CJARS.
    - Ideal to receive data from MDOC to reduce chances of people saying data isn't accurate. Vera staff member indicated what data was requested from MDOC for this subcommittee. If unable to get full data from MDOC, may be able to pull some publicly available data from OTIS.
      - MDOC does not have ability to pull data in a reasonable timeline. Could take almost a year to pull all of the information.
      - Vera staff member to share data request for MDOC with Co-chair's colleague.
      - AFSC is suing MDOC for violating FOIA laws.
  - Priority area 3: jail programming and reentry. Still waiting for jail to respond to request for data. Jail has said they are very understaffed causing delays. Jail has not given a general timeline.
    - Haven't received response about jail programming from Aaron Sukanuma either since Vera must go through jail Commander who is managing requests.
    - Alma speaking with someone at the jail tomorrow morning and will share what she learns with the group.
  - Priority area: Alex to provide summary of what we have hopefully next week.
  - Priority area 5: conditions in jails and prisons. Same situation that the Vera team needs data and information from jail and MDOC.
    - Vera asked MDOC for information about reentry programming inside prisons, but some of the data hoping to get through interviews with people at MDOC, if MDOC approves request. If Vera is not able to get data through CJARS, MDOC

suggested Vera submit a research proposal, but narrow it down to the five most important data points.

- Vera staff member wanted to discuss PSI recommendations with subcommittee, but due to lack of attendance during the meeting, this will wait until next meeting.
- Next meeting
  - Hoping to be in person for next meeting in October. Vera staff member will send out a calendar invite for the meeting when a date/time is determined.