

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 20**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORTING CARE COORDINATION FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS: REPORT ON POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IMPACTING DATA SHARING (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

Individuals who are justice-involved experience adverse health and socioeconomic outcomes at greater rates than the general population. Data shows that rates of chronic conditions among incarcerated individuals are more than double that of the general population and nearly two-thirds of jail inmates have substance use disorders, as compared to 5% of the general adult population. Those who are justice-involved face a higher burden of health and socioeconomic disparities, and many individuals cycle between the community and jail. Care coordination is essential to address the needs of this population. However, without an integrated data infrastructure to support care coordination, navigating the complex health and social care systems can be a lengthy, frustrating, or disjointed process. Recognizing the challenges justice-involved individuals encounter, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has made it a priority to take actionable steps to address the needs of this population.

On October 19, 2021 (3), the Board approved *A Data-Driven Approach to Protecting Public Safety, Improving and Expanding Rehabilitative Treatment and Services, and Advancing Equity Through Alternatives to Incarceration: Building on Lessons Learned During the COVID-19 Pandemic*. This action directed staff to conduct a data-driven analysis on use of jails with a focus on identifying policy interventions that would most effectively and safely reduce the San Diego jail populations, and better protect public safety through alternatives to incarceration. Initial findings highlighted care coordination as a challenge due to the need for a data governance structure and data sharing between programs for this population.

In response to these findings, on May 10, 2022 (3), the Board approved *Supporting Care Coordination for Justice-Involved Individuals Through Funding and Integrated Data Infrastructure*, further demonstrating their commitment to addressing inequities and health disparities that impact individuals who are involved with the justice system. This Board action acknowledged the challenge of coordinating care across justice, health and social service sectors without an integrated data system and highlighted the need to identify opportunities and challenges at the local, State, and federal levels in the areas of regulation; policy and procedure; infrastructure; and funding that impact creating an integrated data infrastructure to support care coordination for justice-involved individuals. The Board directed County staff to report back on the status of this ongoing project at specified intervals.

Today's action requests the Board receive a report on identifying the challenges and potential opportunities to create an integrated data strategy and infrastructure to support care coordination, which will more seamlessly connect justice-involved individuals with the services they need and allow case managers, providers, and others to be more connected with multiple aspects of their care. This will have a positive impact by reducing health disparities and inequalities impacting justice-involved individuals in line with the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. Additionally, this action supports the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically, those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left

behind, as this collaborative effort will support coordination of care, which may ultimately lead to improved health and well-being outcomes, for the unique needs of those involved with the justice system.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Receive report entitled Supporting Care Coordination for Justice-Involved Individuals through Funding and Integrated Data Infrastructure: Report on Potential Opportunities and Challenges Impacting Data Sharing.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

On January 12, 2021 (8), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) issued a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis. Recognizing that racism underpins health inequities throughout the region and has a substantial correlation to poor outcomes and social, economic, and criminal justice disparities, the Board has taken bold action to tackle this issue and improve the overall health and well-being of our residents. Identifying and addressing data sharing opportunities and challenges at the local, State, and federal levels to enhance care coordination for justice-involved individuals further supports this mission. In San Diego County, Black and Hispanic individuals were overrepresented in all arrest categories in 2021, compared to their proportion of the population, while White individuals and those who represented Other races/ethnicities were underrepresented. This and other race and ethnic-based disparities within the criminal legal system, and their correlation to poor health, social and economic outcomes, underpin the importance of data collection and sharing for addressing these trends, dismantling systemic contributors to these disparities, and improving public health outcomes for all.

Additionally, addressing data sharing for care coordination of justice-involved individuals and finding solutions to enhance this essential service is an important step toward ensuring this population can access and receive the same types of services as any other member of San Diego County. Additionally, it is important to consider how policy, procedures, and systems impact the justice-involved population. Reaching equity requires addressing the social, political, and economic factors that impact a justice-involved individual's ability to access care. An integrated data infrastructure, as part of a data integration strategy to support care coordination of this population may increase opportunities for monitoring outcomes with an equity lens and facilitate the exchanging of information to enhance an individual's access to the care and services they need, with a goal of improving the social and economic situations in which this population may find themselves. However, it will also require considerations of how policy and system designs impact this population, providing the opportunity to include justice-involved individuals in the decision-making process to ensure solutions meet the need.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Identifying challenges and opportunities at the local, State, and federal levels in the areas of regulations, policy, infrastructure, and funding is an initial step toward creating an integrated data infrastructure to support care coordination for justice-involved individuals. This infrastructure will also support strategic planning, operations, and evaluation, and facilitate sharing data publicly to support engagement with the community around this important topic.

Supporting care coordination for justice-involved individuals supports the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access, as it contributes to care to protect health and well-being by creating a system for data sharing to enhance care coordination, connecting individuals with services and supports more quickly and ensure needs are addressed. These efforts collectively help improved connection to services that reduce recidivism and promote health and well-being.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Vargas, seconded by Supervisor Fletcher, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed  
by Andrew Potter