



Santa Cruz County Commission on Justice and Gender

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Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

Release and Reentry Subcommittee

Date: May 19, 2026
Time: 12 PM to 1:30 PM
Location: Monarch Services, 550 Water Street, Suite J3
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Introductory Items

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Esmerelda Torres	Present
Hannah Taylor	Present
Jesse Silva	Present
Kristie Clemens	Absent
Sarah Fletcher	Arrived 12:10 PM
Sarah Kocjan	Arrived 12:10 PM
Stacey Palau	Absent
Tara George	Present
Cassie Gazipura	Present

2. Check-in (Informational)

Check in was held.

3. Public Comment

Any person may address the Subcommittee for a period not to exceed three (3) minutes on matters within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members will not take action on or discuss any topic not on today's agenda, but are permitted to ask staff to follow up and/or place the topic at a future meeting. Public comment will not exceed thirty (30)

minutes. If there are additional persons still wishing to address the Subcommittee after this allotted period, public comment may be continued to the last item on the agenda.

Tara George: Coastal Community Justice Center at the Youth Crisis Stabilization Center stop by or get a formal visit or tour.

Regular Agenda

4. Approve minutes from April 21, 2026, Release and Reentry Subcommittee Meeting (Action)

4.1. Motion: Cassie Gazipura

4.2. Second: Hannah Taylor

4.3. Ayes: Torres, Taylor, Silva, Fletcher, Kocjan, Gazipura

4.4. Nays: None

4.5. Abstentions: Tara George

4.6. Result: Motion passes with one abstention

5. Staff Update on Subcommittee activities (Informational Only)

5.1. Subcommittees meet today, next Thursday, and June 4. No other meetings are scheduled until the August Commission meeting.

5.2. Youth Commission accepting applications.

6. Defer Cal-AIM presentation from sheriff staff (Action)

6.1. Additional Direction: See data disaggregated and understand what Cal-AIM is solving for

6.2. Motion: Hannah Taylor

6.3. Second: Tara George

6.4. Result: Motion passes unanimously

7. Reflect on May 14, 2026, Commission meeting (Discussion)

7.1. Gina to call Lynne and Gloria and report back.

7.2. Subcommittee members discussed ways to access facilities to interview women with lived experience in a way that addresses system level issues.

7.2.1. Topics discussed included:

How to leverage collaboration, focus on women who are incarcerated for the first time since all the women who were on their 46th time (per Sheriff Clark) had a first time.

When is the time to access the women for interviews? Women are not being contacted to help them but to ask them for information.

Discussed whether it is easier to administer a survey with women on Probation, and there is a precedent for doing an in-custody survey.

7.2.2. Tara George: Is there an update on the tablets for calling Monarch?

What does it take and why are there so many barriers to use?

Does the Safe Release Card have the leading 0?

Sheriff staff reports difficulty with calling out, so work is being done to improve the menu options, including common line to go out and receiving party making sure there is a human who can pick up on the other end.

7.2.3. Sarah Fletcher had a new perspective on Sheriff Clark's sense of protectiveness of women now that she manages in Juvenile Hall that she would not have had before.

Juvenile Hall gets lots of requests for tours, inspections, and visits. The process in advance is to meet with youth to explain and give them the opportunity to decline. Some times the youth decline, sometimes staff decline on their behalf, depends on the situation.

7.2.4. Subcommittee discussed strategy for engaging Sheriff:

Sarah Kocjan shared that Ad-hoc FYP subcommittee would like to meet with Sheriff.

The experience is different: who are the regular or stable people to meet with were: Dr. Green and the person with her, priest, otherwise it was mental health professions.

It is difficult to reach the outside world. Sarah described intensity and experience of people being incarcerated in Main Jail with people detoxing and active mental health and substance use disorders.

Sheriff staff agrees there is a mental health crisis in the jail.

Cassie Gazipura stated that this tension is the point of the Commission: the tension between good programming, care, and intentions and the shared lived experience.

Tara George: did we miss an opportunity to ask pointed questions?

Hannah Taylor: Are folks being robbed of agency? The missing piece is that there is not away to call back.

Sarah Kocjan felt that it's an overall positive: the door is open. Can we act like Monarch, people can ask to speak to us?

Esmerelda Torres: collaboration is missing from Sheriff's Office; meet and prep with folks who want to speak, prep questions?

Cassie Gazipura asked if he (Sheriff Clark) could come every other meeting or have Brian Cleveland also come to meetings? It was great that Sandra could speak up.

8. Report on tasks assigned at April meeting and determine next steps for workplan objectives and take related actions (Action)

8.1.1. Attachments:

8.1.1.1. RASCI Matrix

Objective 1. *Identify gaps in mental health services in custody and barriers to access in mental health treatment upon release.*

Update: *Defer presentation to Subcommittee on CalAIM.*

Questions for discussion:

Can there be better leverage of telehealth for incarcerated population?

How quickly is prescription list accessed?

BRIDGE Database would have it but will the right people have access? Specifically for therapy. Meds available: people get antipsychotics, vitamins, supplements.

Hannah Taylor reported out for Public Defender:

Mental Health opportunities for people in custody are for the "squeaky wheel."

Gap starts with "Are you too "well" or not "unwell enough" to get help?"

Objective 2. *Identify opportunities to increase access for all justice-involved women to education and employment opportunities.*

Update: *Jesse Silva provided draft list of second chance employers.*

Librarians worked on a Job Club.

Could this be a living list?

Should it be posted on the website? Folks could email or call for it.

Update: *No specific resources for women in Clean Slate program*

Objective 3. *Identify domains from which information is needed, assign designees to find out and report back.*

Esmerelda Torres reported out:

Walnut does not track women in custody.

Staff Report:

“The Court does not compile or assemble monthly data on gender for its own business purposes and does not have a pre-programmed query capable of generating monthly reports from extractable fields in a single database. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.500(e)(1)(B), (i)(2)(B).) Producing monthly data for the full period would require substantial manual work and/or programming that the Court is not required to undertake under rule 10.500. Given these limitations, the Court has no responsive records.”

8.1.1.2. Project Update Summary

8.1.1.3. Additional Direction: *Gina to follow up with Sheriff’s office and Probation to provide samples of past surveys*

8.1.1.4. Motion: *Hannah Taylor*

8.1.1.5. Second: *Tara George*

8.1.1.6. Result: *Motion passes unanimously*

9. Announce Subcommittee Chair for the next meeting based on alphabetical rotation (Informational Only)

9.1. Esmerelda Torres

10. Adjournment

10.1. TIME ADJOURNED: 1:31 PM

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance to participate, please call 831-454-3400 (TTY/TDD: 711) at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements.