



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(38)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE:

April 7, 2009

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution creating the Miami-Dade County Reentry Council to provide a forum for ongoing planning and coordination of local services to facilitate reentry of inmates into the community and to prepare a plan for implementing recommendations of Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee and the requirements of the Second Chance Act of 2007

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RAC 7", written over a horizontal line.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

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Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Mayor's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(38)
4-7-09

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION CREATING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY REENTRY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR ONGOING PLANNING AND COORDINATION OF LOCAL SERVICES TO FACILITATE REENTRY OF INMATES INTO THE COMMUNITY AND TO PREPARE A PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF BLUE RIBBON ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

WHEREAS, national research indicates that “prison educational and vocational programs can improve behavior, reduce recidivism, and increase employment prospects upon release,” according to studies analyzed by the Reentry Policy Council, a bipartisan initiative established by the Council of State Governments to improve the likelihood that adults released from prison or jail will avoid crime and become productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, a variety of effective diversion and reentry programs are already in place in Miami-Dade County, to wit: diversion from incarceration through Drug Court and Mental Health Diversion; conditional sentencing to programs such as Boot Camp and Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC); and the Jail’s Electronic Monitoring/House Arrest program, as well as two specialized programs to prepare inmates to successfully return to the community – Faith Works Reentry program and the Responsible Transition program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No.1270-05 created a Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee to provide the Board with recommendations for additional inmate programs to facilitate the reentry of inmates into the community and to thereby reduce recidivism rates; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee submitted to the Board its Final Report, dated March 28, 2008, entitled “Breaking the Cycle: Rehabilitation & Job Training in County Jails”, which made the following recommendations:

General Recommendations:

- 1) Establish a local Reentry Council for planning/coordination of reentry services.
- 2) Staged implementation of rehabilitative programming through pilot programs.
- 3) Establish a research group under the Reentry Council to analyze reentry issues.
- 4) Reinvestment of cost-of-incarceration savings to expand reentry services.
- 5) County actions re: hiring of ex-offenders, private employer hiring incentives, etc.
- 6) State legislation re: employment/housing barriers, mental illness services, funding, etc.

Criminal Justice Recommendations:

- 7) Prioritize inmates regarding initial reentry services with eventual expansion to all.
- 8) Reentry process to include provision of standardized, informed consent waivers.
- 9) Provision of incentives for inmate participation in reentry program.
- 10) Reentry sentencing options based upon discharge plans providing continuity of in-Jail services to community based services.
- 11) Create linkages between local reentry services and Florida Department of Corrections for state prisoners within 120 days of release.

Corrections Operations Recommendations:

- 12) Expand participation in rehab/work programs thru screening, classification, etc.
- 13) Improve inter-agency coordination through joint training, MOUs, protocols, etc.

Service Provider Recommendations:

- 14) Miami-Dade Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (MDCR) to institute automated assessment process re: med/psych, substance abuse, educational/vocational, etc.
- 15) Consolidate MDCR training/support services into accessible “one-stop” centers.

- 16) Create continuum-of-treatment protocols and linkages with community based service providers

Bricks and Mortar Recommendations:

- 17) New/renovated detention facilities to include accessible reentry program space.
- 18) Correctional Master Plan to provide for training and work facility.
- 19) MDCR to partner with education/vocational providers for occupational training.
- 20) Contract for emergency MDCR needs re crowding, construction/repairs, etc.

State and Federal Prisoner Re-entry Recommendations:

- 21) Local Reentry Council to include state and federal representation to coordinate with local reentry services; and

WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act of 2007, signed into law on April 11, 2008, is a federal law designed to ensure the safe and successful return of prisoners to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act provides for grants to states and local governments that may be used to promote the safe and successful reintegration of prisoners into the community, for programs such as employment services, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victims services, and methods to improve release and revocation decisions using risk-assessment tools; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned recommendations in the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee's Final Report are perfectly in line with the Second Chance Act in its mission to facilitate the successful transition of formerly incarcerated persons back into the community; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 675-08 directed the Mayor to apply for, receive and expend any and all grants made available under the Second Chance Act of 2007 for local reentry programs of the type recommended in the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee's Final Report, and

by Resolution No. 1064-08 directed the County's federal lobbying team to assist the Mayor in identifying and applying for such grants; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs requires local government seeking grant funding from the Second Chance Act to establish a local reentry entity comprised of relevant agencies, service providers, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, foundations, and other key stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the DOJ's Office of Justice Programs requires such local reentry entities to plan, develop, and establish a local re-entry strategy and a five-year reentry strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act and the DOJ Office of Justice Programs require that applicants for grant funding document the formation of a standing reentry entity that will examine ways to pool resources and funding streams to promote lower recidivism rates and minimize the harmful effects of offenders' time in prison or jail on families and communities by collecting data and best practices in offender reentry from stakeholder agencies and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee's Final Report are in accord with the requirements of the Second Chance Act and the DOJ,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. The Board hereby creates the Miami-Dade Reentry Council to provide a forum for ongoing planning and coordination of local reentry services and to prepare a plan for implementing the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee Final Report, dated March 28, 2008, as well as the aforementioned requirements of the Second Chance Act of 2007

and United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”), Office of Justice Programs. The plan shall include a five-year reentry strategic component, which will be updated as appropriate, and as required by the United States Department of Justice. The plan shall provide for evidence-based methodology and outcome measures for evaluating the efficacy and impact of programs. The plan shall be submitted to the Board within less than a year from the effective date of this resolution.

Section 2. The Committee shall be comprised of the following members:

- 1) Commission Chairperson or Commissioner-designee
- 2) Mayor or designee
- 3) Chief Judge of the Circuit Courts or his designee
- 4) State Attorney or designee
- 5) Public Defender or designee
- 6) Director of Miami-Dade Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or designee
- 7) Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department or designee
- 8) Superintendent of Miami-Dade Public Schools or designee
- 9) The Executive Director of the South Florida Workforce Investment Board or designee
- 10) Director of the Miami-Dade Public Housing Agency or designee
- 11) President of the South Florida AFL-CIO or designee
- 12) Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Human Services or designee
- 13) Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust or designee
- 14) Executive Director of Transition Inc. or designee
- 15) President/CEO of the Beacon Council or designee
- 16) The Mental Health Project Coordinator of the Administrative Office of the Courts or designee
- 17) Director of the Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department or designee
- 18) U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida or designee
- 19) Florida Department of Corrections Assistant Secretary for Re-Entry or designee
- 20) President of Miami-Dade Community College or designee
- 22) President of Florida International University or designee

A quorum of the Reentry Council shall consist of at least half (1/2) of the members of the Council. At its first meeting the Council shall decide upon the frequency of meetings, procedures and organization. The County Mayor shall provide appropriate staff to assist the Reentry Council in the performance of its task.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Dorin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of April, 2009. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Robert A. Duvall