

COMMUNITY OUTREACH RESOURCE PROGRAM CORP

Managing Deputy District Attorney John Henry

- ▶ Indio Police Chief Rich Twiss
 - ▶ Former Assistant Chief of Investigations – DA's Office
- ▶ Wanted to make a difference with homeless in Indio
- ▶ Surveyed those homeless– debt is big issue re being successful

INDIO 2015

- ▶ Indio Police Department
 - ▶ Two Quality of Life Police Officers
 - ▶ Now at three
- ▶ Service Providers (5 agencies)
- ▶ District Attorney's Office
- ▶ Public Defenders

TEAM

- ▶ Get homeless back on their feet
- ▶ Teach them life skills
- ▶ Find them housing
- ▶ Get rid of crushing debts – Fines and Fees
 - ▶ Do not dismiss restitution

GOAL

- ▶ Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CRVM)
- ▶ Martha's Village and Kitchen
- ▶ Mama's House
- ▶ ABC Recovery
- ▶ Victory Outreach

SERVICE PROVIDERS IN INDIO

- ▶ Service Providers programs
- ▶ Teach life skills
- ▶ Link up to employers
- ▶ Can't take away most debts

NORMAL RESCUE MISSION PROGRAM

- ▶ Service Providers refer potential clients who have done well
 - ▶ Clients fill out application
 - ▶ Agree to at least 90 day program
 - ▶ Programs can run up to two years
- ▶ Public Defenders review cases
- ▶ District Attorneys review charges and records
 - ▶ History of violence - ineligible

PROCESS

- ▶ Approve new group each quarter
- ▶ Dismiss outstanding fines and fees
- ▶ Some misdemeanors and infractions too
 - ▶ Normally drug and low-level offenses

WHAT HAPPENS

- ▶ 153 CORP graduates
- ▶ 26 groups
- ▶ \$405,812 in fines and fees dismissed
- ▶ 38 infractions dismissed
- ▶ 15 misdemeanors dismissed
- ▶ 6 violations of probation/parole dismissed

RESULTS SINCE 2015

- ▶ Arizona State University Professor of Criminology reviews – 3 year grant
- ▶ Community Based Transitional Housing Program Grant
- ▶ Funded by CA Dept. of Finance
- ▶ See what gaps exist in connecting to transitional housing and other services (including mental and behavioral health)

JANUARY 2018 – GRANT FOR REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF PROGRAM

- ▶ Allows them to save money to buy car or home
- ▶ Allows them to get suspended license reinstated
- ▶ Allows them to keep out of jail on warrants
- ▶ Saw as life changing moment
- ▶ “fresh start”, “second chance” or “new shot at life”

BENEFIT OF DISMISSAL OF FINES AND FEES

- ▶ Quality of life officers very important
- ▶ Once housed and stable still need aftercare from service providers, probation and parole is critical for long term success and not-falling back into old addictions and homelessness

CONCLUSIONS