They gave my life back to me. Without them I wouldn’t have my family in my life—they were the beginning of everything happening to me, they opened the door for me and I’m very grateful.

Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

April 29, 2009

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LFA maximizes the impact of social-profit organizations through rigorous evaluation, research, and strategy development
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I. Executive Summary

The San Francisco Public Defender’s Office Reentry Unit provides the Office’s adult clients with an innovative blend of legal, social, and practical support through three programs: Clean Slate Program, Children of Incarcerated Parents program, and the Social Work Services component. San Francisco’s Reentry Social Work services are a cornerstone of the holistic legal defense team approach employed by the Office of the Public Defender. The Reentry Social Workers work hand in hand with the Public Defender Attorneys in order to provide vigorous legal defense by addressing underlying and contributing social and behavioral health needs. Currently, the Office employs only 2.5 FTE Reentry Social Workers, and thus, is able to assign a Social Worker to only a fraction of the cases that would benefit from such expertise. The San Francisco Public Defender’s Office engaged LFA Group (formerly LaFrance Associates) to evaluate clients’ legal and social outcomes as a result of their engagement with Public Defender Reentry Social Workers. The following research questions guided the evaluation:

Outcomes Evaluation Objective: To determine whether defendants who receive Reentry Social Work services fare better than those who do not in terms of legal and social outcomes.

1. Are Reentry clients sentenced to state prison less frequently than non-clients?
2. Do Reentry clients receive shorter sentences than non-clients?
3. Are Reentry clients’ final sentences more favorable in terms of placement and length of incarceration as compared to the exposure on their case at the time they begin services?
4. What proportion of Reentry clients experiences legal victories at sentencing?
5. What proportion of clients in custody is awarded early release? What type of early release?

Process Evaluation Objective: To understand how the Social Work Program contributes to the legal and social outcomes clients experience.

1. How are Reentry Social Workers involved in the clients’ legal cases and court proceedings?
2. How does the location of Social Workers within the Public Defender’s office contribute to client outcomes?
3. What factors do public defenders consider when referring clients to the Reentry Social Work Program?

A mixed-methods evaluation approach was used to answer the above questions: reviews of case files of randomly-selected clients as well as of well-matched comparison group of defendants were complemented by in-depth interviews with seventeen key stakeholders, including Social Work Services Program staff, Public Defender Attorneys, former Reentry clients, and external stakeholders in both the criminal justice system and social services sector.

Key Findings

- Nearly all Reentry clients experience some form of victory through their participation in Social Work Services. Of the clients with some type of victory during their engagement with Reentry Social Work Services, almost all (98%) saw improvement in their legal cases over the likely sentence they would have faced without Reentry Social Worker services: these defendants had less severe sentences (for example, jail instead of
prison; community-based program or probation instead of jail) and in some cases shorter sentences, and experienced other legal victories such as early release from a jail sentence. They also experienced personal and social successes such as becoming ready to seek drug treatment.

- **Reentry clients are less likely to be sentenced to prison.** Of those Reentry clients facing a prison sentence, 83% received an alternate sentence, allowing them to avoid prison. More than one-quarter (29%) who had been facing a potential jail sentence were given an alternative sentence that allowed them to avoid incarceration altogether.

Comparison group cases were more than five and a half times more likely to receive a prison sentence than those receiving Reentry Unit Social Work Services.

- **Reentry clients experience reduced sentence lengths.** Reentry clients who did not receive less severe sentence placements did receive sentences that represented shorter time spent in prison or jail than they likely could have faced. The few clients originally facing prison who in fact received a prison sentence saw their sentence reduced from an average of nearly 5 years to an average of less than 3 years. For those facing jail who actually received jail sentences, average sentence length shrank from one full year to nine months.

- **The impact of Reentry Social Worker support is evident even beyond sentencing.**

  A majority (59%) of Reentry clients sentenced to jail were awarded early release from San Francisco County Jail.

- **Reentry client legal outcomes result in cost savings for the criminal justice system.** The combination of alternative sentences and shortened sentences cumulate in a significant amount of prison and jail days avoided by Reentry clients. For the sixty-six Reentry clients in our sample, avoided prison days due to alternative and reduced sentencing resulted in a savings of over $5,000,000 to California state prisons. Avoided jail days for the sample due to alternative and reduced sentencing and early release resulted in a savings of over $1,000,000. The net savings for San Francisco County jail after the cost of averted prison sentences served in jail is added to the jail savings is $110,577.

- **Interviews with key stakeholders reveal that the impact of Reentry Social Worker court advocacy is widely recognized, and that the location of Social Workers in the Office of the Public Defender is valuable:**
  - Reentry Social Workers provide support for Attorneys to focus on the legal aspects while ensuring that clients’ social services needs are met.
  - Reentry Social Workers provide expertise that helps Judges understand client circumstances and understand what programs may be successful for a client.
  - Public Defender Attorneys utilize the important services the Reentry Social Workers provide and call for the expansion of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program.
- Being located within the Office of the Public Defender, Social Workers’ expertise and linkages are more easily accessed by others involved in clients’ cases, including clients themselves.
- Communication and relationship-building among all aspects of clients’ legal and social stakeholders – from Judges and District Attorneys to Public Defender Attorneys and social services providers – is improved by the location of the Social Workers in the Office of the Public Defender.
- Reentry Social Workers provide high-quality services within a relationship that fosters trust and support for their clients, resulting in improved legal and social outcomes.

Overall, Public Defender clients who are linked to Reentry Social Workers experience improved legal outcomes through Reentry Social Worker court advocacy, which educates Judges and District Attorneys, strengthens the legal team, and facilitates clients’ alternatives to incarceration.

I am a huge supporter; I think the [Reentry Unit Social Work Services] should be tripled or quadrupled. It should be a much bigger part of the Public Defender’s office.... I think that for a great deal of clients, we need to address their underlying social deficiencies (job skills, illiteracy, substance abuse, mental health problems, etc.) Those issues need to be addressed – without doing that we don’t have as good of an outcome.

San Francisco County Superior Court Judge
II. Introduction and Program Overview

The San Francisco Public Defender’s Office Reentry Unit provides the Office’s adult clients with an innovative blend of legal, social, and practical support through three programs: Clean Slate Program, Children of Incarcerated Parents program, and the Social Work Services component. San Francisco’s Reentry Social Work services are a cornerstone of the holistic legal defense team approach employed by the Office of the Public Defender. The Reentry Social Workers work hand in hand with the Public Defender Attorneys in order to provide vigorous legal defense by addressing underlying and contributing social and behavioral health needs. The San Francisco Public Defender’s Office engaged LFA Group (formerly LaFrance Associates) to evaluate clients’ legal and social outcomes as a result of their engagement with Public Defender Reentry Social Workers.

Currently, the Office employs only 2.5 FTE Reentry Social Workers, and thus, is able to assign a Social Worker to only a fraction of the cases that would benefit from such expertise and support. Reentry Social Workers implement this program through their client assessments, treatment plans, referrals, and advocacy in court hearings. Reentry Social Workers assess clients’ social service and legal needs while working with Public Defender Attorneys to develop appropriate and viable alternatives to incarceration. The Reentry Social Workers in the Public Defender’s Office have extensive knowledge of San Francisco social services and treatment networks as well as deep relationships with the social services staff and directors to which they connect their clients.

In addition, Reentry Social Workers possess critical knowledge about the legal process and partner with Public Defender Attorneys to discuss the best legal course of action for a client. The legal advocacy that Reentry Social Workers provide ranges from supplying documentation in court proceedings to negotiating in a Judge’s chambers on a client’s behalf. The social worker and attorney form a powerful team that works to strategize legal outcomes, finding the best holistic results for the client. The Reentry Social Workers aim to mitigate state prison sentences by helping build legal cases that would offer alternative possibilities to defendants. The Reentry Unit’s ultimate goal is to decrease sentence length and severity of sentencing location (from state prison to jail to program placement) by providing alternatives to incarceration that promise better client, family, and community outcomes through decreased recidivism and healthier reentry into defendants’ communities.

Clients are referred for this service by their Public Defender attorney1 and are prioritized if 1) they are charged with a felony and 2) their probable sentence may likely include state prison time. A large proportion of clients in this program are facing drug-related charges. Cases are assigned within two days of an attorney’s referral, the client is matched to a Reentry Social Worker, and within five days of the match, the social worker meets in person with the client – almost always in jail – and conducts an intake assessment. Reentry Social Workers use a psychosocial assessment tool adapted to their unique needs, incorporating aspects of instruments that local treatment providers use to ensure accuracy and consistency when making

1 Reentry Social Workers also meet with walk-in clients who are often former clients. In these cases, Reentry Social Workers advocate for the client by referring them to local social services and potentially re-linking them to programs.
referrals to these local partners. Once the assessment is completed, the Reentry Social Worker determines if the client is appropriate for social services and alternatives to likely incarceration; if so, the social worker formulates a treatment plan, begins the referral process to link the client with social services, and strategizes legal tactics with the client’s attorney. Over the course of their work with a client, Reentry Social Workers are in frequent communication, which includes multiple phone conversations and additional in-person meetings, often in San Francisco County Jails. On average, each Reentry Social Worker handles over 100 cases during the course of a year. In 2008, the Social Workers in the Reentry Unit assessed 400 clients for social services and successfully placed or referred more than 60% of their clients to employment, housing, educational, medical, or mental health services.

This report focuses on the legal victories and other outcomes that clients of the Reentry Unit’s Social Work program experience, and explores the ways in which this valuable service of the Public Defender’s office serves its clients.

**It would be incredibly shortsighted if the Public Defender’s office cut that unit. They need to enhance it. It provides a real service to their clients; there is a standard statement by Public Defender Attorneys that they’re lawyers, not Social Workers and I completely disagree. They are advocates for their clients who have intertwined legal and social problems that need to be addressed. It is poor representation to only focus on legal programs and ultimately costs society much much more.**

*San Francisco County Superior Court Judge*
III. Evaluation Methods

**Purpose and Research Questions**

The San Francisco Public Defender’s Office engaged LFA Group (formerly LaFrance Associates) to evaluate clients’ legal and social outcomes as a result of their engagement with Public Defender Reentry Social Workers. The following research questions guided the evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Objectives</th>
<th>Research Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcomes:</strong></td>
<td>• Are Reentry clients sentenced to state prison less frequently than non-clients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To determine whether defendants who receive Reentry Social Work services fare better than those who do not in terms of legal and social outcomes</td>
<td>• Do Reentry clients receive a shorter sentence than non-clients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Are Reentry clients’ final sentences more favorable in terms of placement and length of incarceration as compared to the exposure(^2) on their case at the time they begin services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• What proportion of Reentry clients experiences legal victories at sentencing?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• What proportion of clients in custody is awarded early release? What type of early release?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Process:</strong></td>
<td>• How are Reentry Social Workers involved in the clients’ legal cases and court proceedings?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To understand how the Social Work Program contributes to the legal and social outcomes clients experience</td>
<td>• How does the location of Social Workers within the Public Defender’s office contribute to client outcomes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• What factors do public defenders consider when referring clients to the Reentry Social Work Program?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Methodology**

A combination of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods and sources was used to answer the research questions above.

**Case File Review**

A review of the case files of 66 randomly selected clients was completed by Reentry Unit staff to extract each client’s demographic information; legal information about their criminal case at hand; an assessment of their worst case sentencing scenario based on their criminal history, current case, and other relevant information; final sentencing information and any early release awarded to those serving jail time; types of advocacy their Reentry Social Worker engaged in on their behalf; social services requested and enrolled in by the client; and any delays experienced in the connecting the client to social services as needed. Client cases were eligible for random selection if their cases were filed in court between May 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007 and if

---

\(^2\) The Determinate Sentencing Law covers all felonies that are part of this evaluation, for which three specific terms of imprisonment are provided: a low term, a mid term, and an aggravated term. The total term of imprisonment or exposure, consists of the sum of the principal term, and any term/s imposed for prior conviction enhancements or conduct enhancements. Conduct enhancements go to the nature of the offense, and prior enhancements go to the nature of the offender.
their case was closed by the time of data collection in the fall of 2008. The case review protocol instrument used to collect case file data is attached in Appendix A.

To compare clients’ legal outcomes to a group of defendants that did not receive services from the Reentry Unit’s Social Work Services Program, case files were also reviewed for 65 Public Defender clients with court filing dates between May 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007 who were similar to the Reentry clients in the following characteristics:

- Criminal history and type of criminal charges relevant to the case at hand
- Age
- Race and ethnicity
- Gender

Information gathered from the comparison group case files includes demographic information; legal information about their criminal case at hand; and final sentencing information.

A note on probation and parole:
Our analysis did not include standard parole and probation terms since these are typically consistent across all sentences of clients included in this evaluation.

Key Informant Interviews
To understand more about how the work of the Reentry Social Workers contributes to the positive legal and social outcomes Reentry clients experience, the evaluation team conducted in-depth telephone interviews with a total of seventeen stakeholders, including Social Work Services Program staff, Public Defender Attorneys, former Reentry clients, and external stakeholders in both the criminal justice system and social services sector.

- Program Staff Interviews (4)
  - Director, Specialty Courts & Reentry Programs
  - All three Reentry Unit Social Work Services Program Social Workers
- Attorney Interviews (5)
  - Three Public Defender Attorneys who frequently refer clients to Social Work Services
  - Two Public Defender Attorneys who infrequently refer clients to Social Work Services

3 For prison sentences, there is a $200 and parole for up to four years. The standard probation terms for all felony cases includes: three years probation to the Adult Probation Department, a 1035 search condition (the person can be searched with or without probable cause at any time for the entire probationary period), must submit a DNA sample, $200 Victim’s Indemnity Fund fee, $25 Court Security Fee, up to $40 per month for the cost of probation supervision, $125 booking fee, a stay away order from location/victim (when applicable). In addition to the standard probation requirements listed, drug case convictions also include registering as a drug offender - 11590 of the Health & Safety Code, a $1000 fine for an 11350 conviction or a $500 fine for a 11351.5 or 11352 conviction, a $50 lab fee, and a stay away order from place of sale (where applicable). Also, drug convictions have dire immigration consequences and can result in loss of public housing and various government benefits.
Evaluation Methods

- Former Client Interviews (3)
  - Three former clients of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services Program
- External Stakeholder Interviews (5)
  - Two social service providers from community-based organizations that often work with Reentry Social Workers and their clients
  - Two Judges that have experience with the Social Work Services Program
  - One probation officer

Interviews with these stakeholders provided deeper insight into Social Work Services Program outcomes and gathered input from a wide range of perspectives about the great benefit of the program to the defendants it serves.

All interview protocols are shared in Appendix A.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis of Prison and Jail Days Avoided**

To assess the fiscal impact of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program, we analyzed the number of prison and jail days avoided for our sample and used that analysis to calculate the fiscal impact of the avoided time on California state prisons and San Francisco County Jail. The cost of incarceration in San Francisco County Jail is $123 per inmate each day\(^4\) and the cost of incarceration in California state prisons is $97.50 per inmate per day\(^5\). Please see Appendix B for a full accounting of the ways in which jail and prison days were avoided by Reentry clients.

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\(^4\) *Daily Jail Rate Calculations For the California Department of Corrections; Based on Fiscal 2006/2007 for Use in Fiscal 2008/2009* prepared by MGT of America, Inc.

\(^5\) *California Prison Fourth Quarter 2008 Facts and Figures* prepared by The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
IV. Client and Comparison Group Characteristics

This section describes Reentry client demographics and criminal charges. It also includes a summary of comparison group data and demonstrates the statistical similarities between the groups. The client data in this section was extracted from 66 client case files randomly selected by the evaluator and reviewed by Reentry Unit staff. Comparison group data was compiled from the case files of 65 additional Public Defender clients who did not receive Reentry Social Worker services and who were selected to be demographically and criminally similar to the clients in this study.

Client Characteristics

Clients using Reentry Social Worker services are predominately male. More than three-quarters (85%) of the sample was male and 15% were female (see Exhibit 1), consistent with the disproportionate numbers of men in the criminal justice system as a whole. As Exhibit 2 illustrates, Reentry clients are on average 39 years old, with a third of clients between 26-35 (32%), and just under a third in each of the 36-45 and 46 and older age brackets (29% and 27%, respectively).

As shown in Exhibit 3, more than half of Reentry clients in the sample is African-American (57%), followed by White (29%), Latino (8%), Asian (2%), and other race or ethnicity (5%), which included “Iranian,” “biracial” (not specified), and “white/Native American.” The primary language of most participants is English (89%), with 5% speaking English and Spanish equally, 5% multi-lingual and 2% with Spanish as a primary language.
Half of Reentry clients are facing a Motion to Revoke (MTR) probation, as seen in Exhibit 4. These clients, in previous contact with the criminal justice system, were sentenced to felony probation in lieu of serving a prison sentence to which they were sentenced, but had not yet served. If probation is violated in some way, the individual may have to serve the original sentence that was averted by being placed on probation. Therefore, MTR clients are at a very high risk of being sentenced to prison or jail, even for a relatively low-level reoffense.

Criminal charges were grouped into seven categories: assault, drug-related charges, theft, robbery, sex offenses, weapons charges and “other”6. The most common charges faced by Reentry clients were drug-related (60%), and over one quarter more were facing theft charges (32%). Assault, robbery and other charges were more rare. No Reentry clients in this sample had been charged with sex offenses or weapons charges. The “other” charges faced by Reentry clients are: child endangerment; elder abuse; evading police; stalking; arson; attempt to commit crime; and solicitation to commit a felony.

Over three-quarters of clients had one current criminal charge (76%), and less than one-quarter had two or more charges (24%). All client charges are represented in Exhibit 5.

---

6 The “assault” category includes charges of assault with a deadly weapon. “Drug-related” charges include possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia and transportation, distribution, importation or sale of marijuana and other controlled substances. The “theft” category includes theft, buying stolen property, identity theft, petty theft, theft or unauthorized use of vehicle, and burglary, while the “robbery” category includes only robbery charges. Sex offenses and weapons charges were not faced by clients in this study but are included in the charges found in the comparison group sample. “Sex offenses” include indecent exposure and sex offender must register with city; “Weapons charges” include carrying concealed firearms and sale of ammunition to a minor.
Comparison Group Characteristics

No statistically significant difference was found between client and comparison groups in terms of gender, age, race, MTR status, or overall distribution of charge type, with the exception that Reentry clients are significantly more likely to have a drug-related charge than those in the comparison group. Reentry clients are also more likely than the comparison group to have multiple criminal charges in the case for which they were seeking services.

Overall, the non-client group used as a comparison group for assessing the impact of Reentry Social Work services on legal outcomes is statistically similar to the sample of clients receiving Reentry Social Worker services.

As shown in Exhibit 6, Reentry clients are slightly younger on average than the comparison group, with an average age of 38.6 years to the comparison group’s 40.2 years. These differences are not statistically significant.

Comparison group members are slightly more likely to be facing a Motion to Revoke parole or probation than clients (58% and 50%, respectively), but again this slight difference is not statistically significant.

The overall distribution of criminal charges of the comparison group are also not significantly different from those of Reentry clients, as seen in Exhibit 7, with one exception: clients are more

---

7 Additional analyses were conducted to explore this difference between the client and comparison groups, and results indicate that the higher proportion of drug charges in the client population do not bias our outcomes results, affirming that the selected comparison cases remain an appropriate comparison group for this evaluation. There were no statistically significant associations between charge type (drug, theft, etc) and worst case scenarios in terms of placement (prison vs. jail) or length of sentence, nor were there statistically significant associations between charge type and actual sentence placement. Additionally, there were no statistically significant differences in the mean lengths of jail or prison sentences based on whether an individual’s case included a drug charge. Therefore, we are confident in our findings based on the client and comparison group analyses.
likely to face drug-related charges (60%) than the comparison group (38%) \((p<.05)\). Theft charges also differ, applying to 40% of the comparison group and only 27% of the client group, but this difference is not statistically significant. The vast majority of comparison group members had one criminal charge (95%), and 5% had two charges. In contrast, 76% of clients had one charge, and 24% had two or more criminal charges. Clients’ increased tendency to have multiple criminal charges compared to the non-client group \((p=.005)\) suggests that the client group may present more challenging cases.

### Exhibit 7

**Criminal Charges of Reentry Clients and Comparison Group Participants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criminal Charge</th>
<th>Clients (n=60)</th>
<th>Comparison group (n=55)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug-related*</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex offenses</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weapon charges</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100% because individuals can have multiple charges.
V. Outcomes Evaluation

This section describes the legal and social outcomes of Reentry Unit Social Work Services clients. To assess clients’ legal outcomes, we: 1) compare clients’ actual outcomes at sentencing to their own worst possible legal outcomes based on their criminal history, charge(s), and other circumstances at intake and 2) compare the client group to a comparison group to assess difference in legal outcomes attributable to clients’ participation in the program. In addition, we use analyses of prison and jail days avoided — due to clients’ improved legal outcomes — to project annual impact of the work of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services and to complete a fiscal impact assessment on the sixty-six case evaluation sample. Finally, we discuss the ways in which Reentry Social Workers’ advocacy adds strength to clients’ legal outcomes while connecting them to needed social services, informed by client case files and interviews with multiple stakeholders.

Overview

Overall, nearly all (94%) Reentry Social Work clients experienced some form of victory in the sample of cases evaluated (see Exhibit 8). Of the clients with some type of victory during their engagement with Reentry Social Work Services, almost all (98%) saw improvement in their legal cases over the likely sentence they would have faced without Reentry Social Worker services: these defendants had less severe sentences (for example, jail instead of prison; program or probation instead of jail) and in some cases shorter sentences, and experienced other legal victories such as early release from a jail sentence. Personal and social victories attained in client cases included successes such as clients attending all their medical or other appointments, deciding to seek drug treatment, and achieving detoxification from substances. Exhibit 9 displays the types of victories that Reentry Social Workers help their clients achieve.
Majorities of both MTR and non-MTR Reentry clients improved their sentence location and sentence length outcomes (see Exhibit 10). Specifically, 71% of MTR clients and 61% of non-MTR clients saw improvements in their sentence location and 83% of MTR clients and 72% of non-MTR clients experienced shorter sentence lengths than they originally faced based on the exposure on their cases. Next, we will discuss the specific sentence locations and lengths.

Impact of Program on Legal Outcomes

Reentry Clients are Less Likely to Be Sentenced to Prison

Compared to both the comparison group of Public Defender clients who did not use Reentry Social Work services and to the client sample’s worst case sentencing scenarios, Reentry clients experience greatly reduced chances of being sentenced to state prison, a system that is in crisis and unable to provide adequate health and social services to inmates. In the sample of Reentry client cases analyzed for this evaluation, case
files indicated that more than two-thirds (70%) of clients were facing a potential prison sentence at the time they were referred to a Reentry Social Worker. Of the sixty-six clients in this analysis, 3% had their cases dismissed, and only 11% actually received a prison sentence, compared to 63% of the comparison group sentenced to prison (p<.001). More than one-quarter (29%) who had been facing a potential jail sentence were given an alternative sentence that allowed them to avoid incarceration altogether.

In Exhibit 11, clients’ worst case sentencing scenarios are shown alongside the actual sentences they received as a group, highlighting that Reentry Social Workers were able to facilitate less severe sentences for the majority of their clients who were facing prison.

Comparison group cases were more than five and a half times more likely to receive a prison sentence than those receiving Reentry Unit Social Work Services; more than one-third of Reentry clients received alternate sentencing or dismissal that allowed them to avoid incarceration altogether.

The ability of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services to help defendants avoid prison sentences is striking. Exhibit 12 shows the final sentences received by clients and comparison group cases. Comparison group cases were more than five and a half times more likely to receive a prison sentence than those receiving Reentry Unit Social Work Services, and more than one-third of Reentry clients received alternate sentencing or dismissal that allowed them to avoid incarceration altogether. One attorney commented on the benefit of serving time in San Francisco County jail instead of California prison when they said, “[California prisons] were recently put on receivership because of the low quality of health care…. [In contrast,] Sheriff Hennessey is a progressive Sheriff and big on reentry programs. The jail is a much more humane place than prison. So it’s better for clients to be placed in jail [than prison].”

Differences in final sentence outcome between clients with a Motion to Revoke Probation and those without are shown in Exhibit 13. No statistically significant differences were found between these two client populations.
Time and time and time again I have been able to resolve a case to something other than prison because of the Social Workers in the Reentry Unit, just repeatedly it happens. I can rattle off a dozen names of clients who otherwise would have gone to prison. Not going to prison is a great outcome.

Public Defender Attorney

Reentry clients experience reduced sentence lengths.
Reentry clients who did not receive less severe sentence placements did receive sentences that represented shorter time spent in prison or jail than they could have faced. In Exhibit 14, clients’ worst case prison and jail sentence lengths are compared to their actual time sentenced, on average, shown in days.

Exhibit 14

![Chart showing average worst case sentence length and average actual sentence length of reentry clients with reduced sentences.]

Differences in average prison and jail sentence lengths based on clients’ MTR status are illustrated in Exhibits 15 and 16 below.
The combination of alternate sentences and shortened sentences cumulate in a significant amount of prison and jail days avoided by Reentry clients. Exhibits 17 and 18 show the average number of prison and jail days avoided because of improved legal outcomes resulting from the help of Reentry Social Workers. Clients without a Motion to Revoke Probation see somewhat greater outcomes in terms of incarcerated days avoided: on average, MTR clients avoid just over three years of prison time while non-MTR clients see an average of three and a half years of prison time averted. Likewise, MTR clients facing jail sentences avoid almost six months of time, and non-MTR clients avoid almost seven months, on average.
Support from Reentry Social Workers Contributes to Early Release from Jail

The impact of Reentry Social Worker support is evident even beyond sentencing. A majority (59%) of Reentry clients sentenced to jail were released prior to their anticipated release date (see Exhibit 19). One Public Defender attorney reported that, “Generally, the clients who are hooked up with the Social Workers are normally going to get out sooner because the Social Workers are going to help them connect to community support. And so as a result of them making the connections in the community we’re able to work out agreements and pleas with the District Attorney’s office that will lessen their jail time significantly.” Almost three-quarters (73%) of clients are released early from jail to a community-based residential program, an additional 18% are released to a community-based outpatient program, as shown in Exhibit 20.

Reentry Social Worker involvement strengthens legal outcomes.
Reentry Social Worker involvement directly impacts clients’ legal outcomes in many ways: their court advocacy helps build the optimal legal case for a client and their responsibility for clients’ social needs leave Attorneys more time to focus strictly on the legal strategy and outcomes of clients’ cases. Reentry Social Workers’ advocacy and assistance takes myriad forms: they may attend court hearings, sometimes just to support their clients; help provide documentation of program acceptance or treatment plans; or attend pre-trial conferences on behalf of their clients. In just one example of how Reentry Social Workers’ provide support, a Public Defender attorney shares, “Often the Social Workers are working behind the scenes to keep probation officers informed and keep clients from facing probation violations and make sure that that clients fulfill their obligations with the court.”

Exhibit 21 shows the advocacy activities of the Reentry Social Workers cited in the case files reviewed for this evaluation: Reentry Social Workers attended at least one court hearing for over one-quarter (26%) of their clients; Reentry Social Worker advocacy also included written
The impact of Reentry Social Worker court advocacy is widely recognized. From former clients to Judges, all recognized the value in Reentry Social Worker court advocacy as well as the importance of defendants having access to Social Workers who are available for court advocacy.

The following quotations emphasize the importance and success of Reentry Social Workers’ court advocacy:

- **This is critical. You have to have immediate access to Social Workers....You need to have people available when you need them, that’s what [Reentry Social Workers] and their people provide, there’s not enough of them, nowhere near enough of them.** – San Francisco County Superior Court Judge

- **In my case, because I had [Reentry] advocates there standing in the courtroom, suggesting and stating that I should go to a program, they worked hard and diligently for me to get into a program...the [RSVP\(^8\) program staff] wouldn’t be required or be allowed to stand in front of the Judge. [RSVP] can write a letter but they can’t stand up and state [support].** – Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

- **What makes a social worker a good social worker is the advocacy they do in court, I won’t be able to pull somebody from Walden House to a court hearing. Some external Social Workers have a policy against coming to court and aren’t allowed to advocate in court and it’s important to have an advocate.** – Public Defender Attorney

- **It’s vital. Reentry Social Workers advocate for the clients. The Attorneys are also trying to help them with their legal issues but in a lot of cases if the Reentry Social Worker weren’t available there, they wouldn’t get a lot of the services they do obtain while in custody.** – Social Services Provider

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\(^8\) The Resolve to Stop the Violence Project (RSVP) is a violence prevention program within the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department.
• If it wasn’t for them [Reentry Social Workers] I would have made it to that program and would have gotten a stiff sentence. It’s definitely something that I value; I value the intensity level that they went to bat for me. – Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

Reentry Social Workers provide support for Attorneys to focus on the legal aspects while ensuring that clients’ social services needs are met.
Both Attorneys and Social Workers discussed the benefits of working together on behalf of a client, appreciating the ability to focus on each of their areas of expertise while holistically serving their clients as a team:

• Before [Reentry Social Workers], we attorneys were the ones acting as a social worker, but now that we have these Social Workers, it helps us be better lawyers because we can focus on the legal aspect. Before we got the Social Workers it would just be us calling different agencies on an ad-hoc basis and wasn’t efficient or effective. – Public Defender Attorney

• It’s very important—they [Reentry Social Workers] do a lot of different things that the Public Defender Attorneys don’t do, don’t have time to do. The Public Defender Attorneys have [so many] clients and they can’t take the time to research the programs for them as well as the defense for them. They work hand in hand with the Social Worker and that gives the client a better outcome. – Social Services Provider

• As lawyers, we don’t have to spend time on the social aspects; we can focus on the legal aspects. We don’t know the system like the [Reentry] Social Workers do so it would take us a lot more time to do it. – Public Defender Attorney

Reentry Social Workers provide expertise which helps Judges understand client circumstances and understand what programs may be successful for a client.
The two San Francisco County Superior Court Judges interviewed for this evaluation gave very positive reviews of the Reentry Social Workers. When discussing the ways in which conversations and negotiations with Reentry Social Workers influence the outcome of the case or sentence, Judges responded:

• If I’m persuaded that the person would benefit from the program and there is a program that is suitable for the person and the person can get into [the program], there is a good chance that that will be part of the disposition. – San Francisco County Superior Court Judge

• The outcomes have been at times [social service] programs rather than jail or state prison; those are the direct consequences…. [The education process from interacting with Social Workers] makes me look at the person differently, even [a case] without a Social Worker. Because of advocacy from a Social Worker in the past… I might try to understand what the social worker would add. In the best of all possible worlds I might try [to understand the client’s situation] if there’s time. – San Francisco County Superior Court Judge
As evident through both quantitative and qualitative data, Public Defender clients who are linked to Reentry Social Workers experience improved legal outcomes through Reentry Social Worker court advocacy that educates Judges and District Attorneys, strengthens the legal team, and facilitates clients’ alternatives to incarceration.

If [a Reentry Social Worker] is involved, I’ll typically pay much more attention to what they say than what the Public Defender Attorney says.

San Francisco County Superior Court Judge
Annual Impact of Reentry Clients’ Prison and Jail Days Avoided

The program’s significant legal impact is due to two types of favorable legal outcomes: 1) decreased incarceration time due to alternative sentencing and 2) decreased incarceration time due both to reduced sentence lengths and to early release from San Francisco County jail.

On average, Reentry clients facing prison sentences but ultimately receiving jail sentences avoid more than two and a half years of prison sentencing due to alternative placement in jail. Clients’ placement in jail rather than prison is a significant improvement due to the higher quality of programming, healthcare, and generally more humane conditions in San Francisco County jail as compared to California state prisons. Reentry clients facing prison but sentenced to an “other” placement that does not include incarceration avoid more than four and a half years of prison, on average. In addition, Reentry clients facing jail avoid an average of 332 jail days due to an “other” placement that does not include incarceration, as shown below in Exhibit 22.

Exhibit 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Reentry Client Prison and Jail Days Avoided Due to Alternative Sentencing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRISON</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On average, Reentry clients <strong>avoid more than 2.5 years (934 days) in prison</strong> due to alternative sentencing to jail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JAIL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On average, Reentry clients <strong>avoid 332 jail days</strong> due to non-incarceration alternative sentencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(community-based program, dismissed, probation, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On average, Reentry clients <strong>avoid over 4.5 years (1,712 days) in prison</strong> due to non-incarceration alternative sentencing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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9 Other placements include non-incarceration outcomes such as community-based programs, probation only, and dismissal.
Exhibit 23 (below) shows the prison and jail days avoided due to a reduction in prison and jail sentences and early release from jail. On average, Reentry clients receive a reduction in prison sentence of almost two years. Reductions in jail sentences save Reentry clients an average of 101 jail days, and on average jailed Reentry clients avoid an additional 78 jail days due to early release.

**Exhibit 23**

**Average Reentry Client Prison and Jail Days Avoided Due to Fewer Days Sentenced/Served**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average Worst-Case</th>
<th>Average Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prison Sentence Length</td>
<td>Almost 5 years (1,776 days)</td>
<td>Almost 3 years (1,092 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jail Sentence Length</td>
<td>365 days</td>
<td>264 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- On average, Reentry clients receive a reduction in prison sentence of almost 2 years (678 days).
- On average, Reentry clients receive a reduction in jail sentence of 101 days.
- On average, Reentry clients experience a reduction in jail days served of 78 days.
- On average, Reentry clients avoid 186 jail days due to early release.

Complete estimates of annual prison and jail days avoided by Reentry clients are shown in Exhibits 24 and 25. These calculations are based on a client volume of 400 cases per year, reflecting the number of cases handled by Reentry Social Workers in 2008.
In addition to benefitting clients’ legal and social outcomes, the work of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program contributes to cost savings for California prisons and San Francisco County jail. The cost of incarceration in California state prisons is $97.50 per inmate per day\(^{11}\), and the cost of incarceration in San Francisco County jail is $123 per inmate each day\(^{12}\). These standard incarceration costs were used to calculate the estimated cost savings resulting from the actual prison and jail days avoided by the sample of sixty-six client cases analyzed for this evaluation due to Reentry Social Workers’ advocacy.

Avoided prison days for this sample alone due to alternative and reduced sentencing resulted in a savings of over $5,000,000 to California prisons. Avoided jail days for the sample due to alternative and reduced sentencing and early release resulted in a savings of over $1,000,000; however, the savings to San Francisco County jail is largely offset by the volume of prison-facing clients being sentenced to jail instead – a victory for these clients, but a cost to the county. The net savings for San Francisco County jail after the cost of averted prison sentences served in jail is added to the jail savings is $110,577.

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\(^{10}\) The average number of clients per year is based on the sample’s comparable proportion of the annual volume based on an average of 400 clients per year. For example, if 12% of the evaluation sample faced jail and received an alternative placement at sentencing, then the average number of clients per year estimated to be in this situation is 48 (12% of 400). The average number of clients per year was rounded to whole numbers for representation but left as a mixed number (e.g., 54.5 people) for the calculations. (This footnote applies to the fiscal calculations of both jail and prison days avoided.)

\(^{11}\) California Prison Fourth Quarter 2008 Facts and Figures prepared by The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

\(^{12}\) Daily Jail Rate Calculations For the California Department of Corrections; Based on Fiscal 2006/2007 for Use in Fiscal 2008/2009 prepared by MGT of America, Inc.
Impact of Program on Utilization of Social Services

The Reentry Social Workers have direct impact on clients’ social outcomes through their knowledge of social services and their ability to appropriately link clients to programs that meet their needs. Exhibit 26 shows clients’ social services requests and enrollment facilitated by their Reentry Social Workers. In interviews with social service providers, the providers discussed having a more comprehensive understanding of their clients due to the Reentry Social Worker involvement. Social service providers develop trust, appreciate Reentry Social Workers’ insight into clients’ legal and social situations, and are better prepared to meet clients’ needs. One social service provider reported that Reentry Social Workers “give me a heads up on everything from the mental to the physical, RAP sheet, the crime they’re in there for, their program health, how many [social service] programs they’ve been [in]. They give me a lot of insight that would take me a long time to discover if I hadn’t talked to the [Reentry] Social Worker.”

Reentry Social Workers enable clients to gain access to services that would otherwise be a significant challenge to reach. One social service provider commented, “If it wasn’t for them, these clients couldn’t get in. We trust their assessment.” A Public Defender Attorney said, “I feel that the Social Workers are getting these guys a whole lot of things that [they] would not have normally gotten in a lot of different areas, [The Reentry Social Workers] really research the program and see if they’re going to get what they need from that program.”

One client who was dealing with a substance use issue said, “I needed help to figure out why the hell I was doing that to myself and [my Reentry Social Worker] was very instrumental in getting me the help I needed to get my life back on track.” Reentry Social Workers provide a crucial connection between their clients and social services programs and staff.

Without their [Reentry Unit Social Work] services, clients wouldn’t receive the treatment that they need they would probably just get out of jail and go back to doing the same thing they were doing so it’s very important. It’s vital, especially to the ones who are HIV-positive. They could get out of jail and go use and die.

Social Services Provider
Over half (55%) of Reentry clients experience a delay in social service enrollment (see Exhibit 27). The most common reason for the delay is that there is no appropriate placement available (typically due to an inadequate supply of programs and therefore limited availability) which occurs for over one-quarter (26%) of clients (see Exhibit 28). Clients also experience delays when attempting to enroll in social services because there is a delay in service provider or client response (20% each), because the client refused the service and decided to complete prison or jail time instead (17%), or other delays (17%). These other delays included the client not being transported to the social service, a client opting for the Sheriff’s Work Alternative Program (SWAP), a client needing to address charges (holds) in other counties, and a client needing to address mental health issues and stabilize medication before enrolling in a program.

Exhibit 27
Proportion of Reentry Cases With Delay in Social Services Enrollment
(n=66)

Exhibit 28
Causes of Delay in Social Services Enrollment for Reentry Clients
(n=35)

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% because some clients had multiple delays.
Success Stories
Though not all clients are success stories, Reentry Social Workers are making noteworthy strides in clients’ legal and social outcomes. Here are a sample of client success stores shared by Reentry Social Workers, a former client, and a Public Defender attorney:

- **One of my first clients in 2008 was a woman who I placed in a program, Walden House, and who had never had treatment, never been given a chance and she is doing absolutely fabulously. She comes to see me every week, drops into my office to say hi, if she doesn’t come in she calls me. I met her, assessed her, saw her need for treatment, and saw that she was never given an opportunity to do treatment. We successfully [got her into a program] and she’s doing fabulous to this day – she’s starting school today.** – Public Defender Attorney

- **One client who was facing 16 years in state prison and they had pled guilty and that was already hanging over their head (execution of sentence suspended, ESS) and one of our Social Workers got on the stand... and the social worker was able to advocate so positively and specifically and instead the client got one year in county jail with probation and got the opportunity to go to Delancey Street**\(^{13}\). – Public Defender Attorney

- **Before I came into the [Reentry Unit Social Work] program, I didn’t have any contact with my family, didn’t know where my son was.... I had burned some bridges, my addictive behaviors were full-blown.... There are a lot of benefits that I have gained from Reentry—my life has turned all the way around.... At the beginning, I was looking at 25-to-life sentence, there was no hope there. But today, I’m a productive member of society, I’m a father, a family man, I’m clean and sober for almost 3 years—so the benefits are there, definitely, on a day-to-day basis.** – Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

- **One of my successes was a client that I sent for a two-year program: he was a three strike burglar who had relapsed and got arrested – a career criminal.... he successfully reunited with his son, he has now completed the residential piece of his program, he is working full-time, he’s in touch with me, and he’s just doing fabulous.** – Reentry Social Worker

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\(^{13}\) Delancey Street Foundation is a residential self-help organization that provides education, vocational skills, and rehabilitation for substance abusers, ex-convicts, homeless and others who have hit bottom.
Overall Impact
When asked about the overall impact of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program, many stakeholders had glowing reviews:

• **Huge impact. Because it’s a numbers game.** We’ve got 25,000 cases at the Hall of Justice each year. These are individuals who just cycle through and that interface of humanizing the client and taking the time to focus on the client, even though some of the stories are similar, individualizing the client has a big impact and significant result on the outcome. Even if it’s a two-month difference or getting to do the time in a residential program rather than jail, every victory is huge for the client. We’re taking an individual [defendant] and explaining how this client is different.  – **Public Defender Attorney**

• **I’d recommend it [Reentry Unit Social Work Services] because they actually take the time to listen to what kind of help you need and they direct you in the right place that I needed to go, hooked me up with the place I needed to be in. [My Reentry Social Worker] saved my life, really. I would have just ended up doing what I do every time I get out of jail, just getting more trouble, get more charges.**  – **Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client**

• **They are such an integral and valuable part of our representation of clients and that in the long run it saves both the county and the courts money because if we’re able to successfully give them the treatment they need, we can stop them from committing crimes. That’s what we should be doing more with these clients, they’re not committing serious offenses, these are petty thefts and drug use and prison is not the answer, cutting out the Social Workers from our office would be detrimental to everybody not just us lawyers but to society. It costs way more money to house them in jail or prison than in programming where they can connect to SSI and pay for their rent.**  – **Public Defender Attorney**

• **I think it’s absolutely vital to our office being as successful as it is and being able to talk to clients and during their interviews assess them and find out their particular needs and connect them to their family members and their community.**  – **Public Defender Attorney**

• **It would be incredibly shortsighted if the Public Defender’s office cut that unit. They need to enhance it. It provides a real service to their clients; there is a standard statement by Public Defender Attorneys that they’re lawyers, not Social Workers and I completely disagree. They are advocates for their clients who have intertwined legal and social problems that need to be addressed. It is poor representation to only focus on legal programs and ultimately costs society much much more.**  – **San Francisco County Superior Court Judge**

• **More education is happening because of the Reentry Unit, but it’s not all about going to trial and getting an acquittal or a conviction. It’s about how to make individuals and our community better.**  – **San Francisco County Superior Court Judge**
VI. Process Evaluation

The section discusses the process evaluation of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program. This part of the evaluation was designed to understand how the program contributes to the legal and social outcomes of clients. The discussion below focuses on how Public Defender Attorneys assess clients’ needs and link clients to Reentry Social Workers. We also investigate the impact of having Social Workers located within the Public Defender’s Office and the overall satisfaction of former clients.

**Referral Process**

Public Defender Attorneys initiate the process of referring clients to Reentry Social Workers. In interviews, Public Defender Attorneys discussed their considerations when referring clients’ to Reentry Social Workers. Along with basic eligibility, Attorneys identify clients with substance use or mental health issues, clients receiving Supplemental Support Income (SSI), clients needing vocational training, or any other special circumstances that clients are facing; generally, Attorneys refer their clients if they believe there is potential benefit to clients’ legal and social outcomes through Reentry Social Worker involvement.

Public Defender Attorneys utilize the important services the Reentry Social Workers provide and call for the expansion of the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program. Interviews with Public Defender Attorneys and Reentry Social Workers frequently mentioned the limited resources available in terms of Reentry Social Worker staff capacity to support the large demand for their services and social services programming in San Francisco. Multiple stakeholder views confirmed the need to expand the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program by adding more Reentry Social Workers as well as citing concerns about the current lack of social services resources in the community compared to clients’ legal and social needs. One Public Defender attorney stated, “This kind of assistance should be provided for every client, not just restricted to the most desperate. I’m a big believer in comprehensively addressing the clients’ issues. They’re in the criminal justice system for a reason, not because they’re bad people. I’d love to see it [more clients connected to Reentry Social Workers] but we don’t have the money.” Another Public Defender attorney said, “We have so few Social Workers compared to the number of clients.” Reentry Social Workers discussed the demand for social services being unmet by programs due to funding insecurity, “All of the budget cuts have been hammering on the programs…sometimes we have to be innovative…. There’s a long waiting list and I have to think of other alternatives.”

**Impact of Social Worker Location**

The location of Social Workers within the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office Reentry Unit is a critical component of the success of the Reentry Social Workers. Interviewees cited many benefits to having Social Workers as part of the Public Defender’s Office Reentry Unit. In addition to the benefits previously discussed—including increased advocacy for clients and

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14 As previously discussed, clients are prioritized to work with a Reentry Social Worker if 1) they are charged with a felony and 2) their sentence may include state prison time.
improved ability for Attorneys to focus their efforts on legal outcomes—the efficiencies and advantages cited include:

Social Workers’ expertise and linkages are more easily accessed by others involved in clients’ cases.

- To be in the same building [as Reentry Social Workers] it gives us easier access to them, we can go walk to them and our clients at the same time/same place and the clients don’t have to go somewhere [else] and potentially get lost. A lot of our clients have special needs and it’s a hardship for them to go to a second place and they wouldn’t get access to the Social Workers. – Public Defender Attorney

- Like my client with the DUI, he tried to access them [services] before he relapsed and couldn’t. It was only through [his Reentry Social Worker] that he had access. The external programs already exist and they [clients] are not accessing them. – Public Defender Attorney

- I think it makes sense to have as much connection to services under one roof as possible. The Social Workers too can help educated the Public Defender Attorneys in terms of what’s going on because programs are always changing, for example which [program] is licensed. When I’ll run into an issue, I wish I had a social worker [help me] in my work. I’ll walk a client across the street to the women’s reentry program or I’ll talk to [a Reentry Social Worker]. – San Francisco Deputy Probation Officer

- They were more on the ball with it [my needs] and [the Reentry Social Worker] could actually come in and see me and understand what I was explaining—much better than someone coming from the outside and not understanding the system, the red tape, and just how long things take to get through. – Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

- I think so because at the very beginning, being tied into the Public Defender’s Office, they have access to stuff that people on the outside don’t—past criminal record, medical, mental health—you give them that right to see that and then they can also, behind the scenes, deal with the District Attorney and have conversations with the District Attorney because they know them. If a person is from the outside, I’m not saying they can’t do that, but a person on the inside has more leverage. – Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client

- I’ve been convinced because usually the social worker has done an extensive evaluation and has been extremely knowledgeable about the programs, where the client will be successful, where they won’t [be successful], and how it matches the clients personality. The Social Workers have been excellent in assessing the Public Defender clients in-depth and understanding what will work for the client. A lot of times it’s the social worker themselves (not the Public Defender attorney) convincing the District Attorney to provide something other than state prison. – San Francisco County Superior Court Judge
Communication and relationship-building among all aspects of clients’ legal and social stakeholders – from Judges and District Attorneys to Public Defender Attorneys and social services providers – is improved.

- I’ve never experienced this kind of a relationship before, this being my fourth Public Defender’s Office and this is the first one that’s had in-house assistance available and it’s super, it’s efficient and we’re able to work together – it’s really great. – Public Defender Attorney
- Because we’re in close proximity with each other, it makes things go faster and more efficient. – Reentry Social Worker
- Yes it is critical and should be a requirement that every client gets access to a social worker. There should be 30 Social Workers in this office. It benefits the court so they’re making sentences not just from probation department information. What makes it unique here is that there is a built-in trust element for when a social worker is connected to the defense attorney and the client is more forthcoming. We get more info because clients trust Social Workers more and it clearly has a benefit to legal outcomes and gives information to Judges and District Attorneys that helps with a well-reasoned decision about what the fate of that client should be. Attorneys don’t have the expertise to get that information and to present it in a way that is clinical, appropriate, and accurate to the Judge. It’s information about addiction and mental health. It’s a humane way to deal with individuals that come through the system. – Public Defender Attorney
- I have a really good, close working relationship with the Reentry Social Workers at the Public Defender’s Office and they get the majority of clients into treatment. – Social Services Provider
- This process allows for more collaborative and more thoughtful ways of dealing with the case rather than a more adversarial approach. Typically, the prosecutor is more than happy to participate in that; by and large you get little resistance especially if a Reentry Social Worker has explained the client’s background. – San Francisco County Superior Court Judge

One interviewee, a San Francisco County Superior Court Judge, had a different perspective, citing a potential benefit of an external Social Worker; the Judge said, “I can see an argument that if a social worker were outside the office it might look more neutral than in the Public Defender’s office” she went on to say that “It doesn’t matter the location of Social Worker but a Social Worker in general can be impactful.” This same Judge spoke positively of her interactions with Reentry Social Workers throughout the interview.

Overall, there was substantial support from multiple perspectives regarding the benefit of linking Social Workers to clients within the Public Defender’s Office.
Relationship between Reentry Social Workers and Clients

Reentry Social Workers have similar histories to the clients they serve; some of the Reentry Social Workers were previously incarcerated and in some cases have been through recovery themselves. This background provides the staff with unique insight and passionate commitment that helps them provide the highest level of service to Reentry clients. Former client interviewees expressed high satisfaction with Reentry Social Workers, from feelings of comfort and hope to feeling genuinely cared for. All three former clients interviewed for this evaluation would recommend the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program to a friend.

Reentry Social Workers provide high-quality services within a relationship that fosters trust and support for their clients, resulting in improved legal and social outcomes. One former client summed up the sentiments of all three of the former clients we interviewed saying, “In the situation that I was in, there wasn’t a whole lot of hope and [my Reentry Social Worker] gave me a lot of encouragement, guided me, made suggestions and asked me to trust in what they’re trying to do….I trusted the advice that [my Reentry Social Worker] was going to put both feet forward and I’m here today to say that it’s all been good.” A probation officer also commented on the Reentry Social Workers’ ability to go “Above and beyond the call of duty. I know [the Reentry Social Workers’] clients feel very connected….And on one level, the client wants to prove [to the Social Worker] that he can stay out of prison and stay arrest-free.”
VII. Conclusion

The Reentry Unit Social Work Services program accomplishes tremendous success for clients’ legal and social outcomes. The unique and innovative blend of legal, social, and practical support through the advocacy and expertise of Reentry Social Workers significantly impacts Public Defender clients in a positive way. Reentry Social Workers form thriving partnerships with Public Defender Attorneys, social service providers, probation offices, San Francisco County Superior Court Judges and clients, serving the Public Defender Office’s mission “to protect and defend the rights of our indigent clients through effective, vigorous, compassionate, and creative legal advocacy.” Highlights from the Reentry Unit Social Work Services program evaluation include:

- 94% of client cases were considered legal victories.
- 83% of Reentry clients facing a prison sentence received an alternate sentence, allowing them to avoid prison.
- Reentry clients received sentences that represented shorter time spent in prison or jail than they otherwise could have faced.
- Comparison group cases were more than five and a half times more likely to receive a prison sentence than those receiving Reentry Unit Social Work Services.
- A majority (59%) of Reentry clients sentenced to jail were awarded early release from San Francisco County Jail.
- Through jail and prison days avoided, the sixty-six Reentry clients in the sample saved San Francisco County jail and California state prisons more than $5,000,000.
- Reentry Social Workers provide high-quality services within a relationship that fosters trust and support for their clients, resulting in improved legal and social outcomes.

Overall, Public Defender clients who are linked to Reentry Social Workers experience improved legal outcomes through Reentry Social Worker court advocacy that educates Judges and District Attorneys, strengthens the legal team, and facilitates clients’ alternatives to incarceration.

I was a three-strike candidate; they gave me 12 years on one case, 18 years on the other so I was pretty washed about. [But, Reentry Social Workers] writing letters and coming to court, continuously talking to the defender and the Judge, they came to an agreement. The Judge and the Social Worker gave me this deal and suspended the 18 and 12 years. That would not have been possible if they hadn’t stepped in there—they would have put me in prison.

Former Reentry Unit Social Work Services Client
Appendices

Appendix A: Data Collection Instruments
- Client Case File Review Sheet
- Comparison Group Case File Review Sheet
- Reentry Social Workers Interview Protocol
- Public Defender Attorney Interview Protocol
- Former Client Interview Protocol
- External Stakeholders Interview Protocol

Appendix B: Data Table of Prison and Jail Days Avoided
Appendix A: Data Collection Instruments

**Client Case File Review Sheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client ID</th>
<th>Date of Intake</th>
<th>Date of Arraignment</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CLIENT CIRCUMSTANCES AT INTAKE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charges:</th>
<th>MTR? ☐ Yes ☐ No</th>
<th>Case Status:</th>
<th>Custody Status:</th>
<th>Holds:</th>
<th>Arrest Date:</th>
<th>Sentences:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Based on the charges at intake, and given what you know about this client’s criminal history and social/economic/family situation, what would have been their worst case legal scenario? *Please be as specific as possible.*

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
## CLIENT CIRCUMSTANCES DURING COURT PROCEEDINGS THAT OCCURRED WHILE IN PROGRAM

### Social Worker Role in Court Proceedings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How many hearings did client have while in program?</th>
<th>How many hearings did SW attend?</th>
<th># of hearings where SW spoke on client’s behalf:</th>
<th># of hearings where SW provided written statements:</th>
<th># of hearings where SW went to chambers/Negotiation:</th>
<th>Other types of court advocacy provided by Social Worker:</th>
<th>Optional: Additional Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ None</td>
<td>□ None</td>
<td>□ None</td>
<td>□ None</td>
<td>□ None</td>
<td>□ None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### For MTR clients only

**Original Sentence and Special Terms at time MTR client was initially placed on probation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For all clients:</th>
<th>Date of Sentencing</th>
<th>Final sentence:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sentencing

### For all clients:

**Was early release awarded?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>□ Yes</th>
<th>□ No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**If yes, what type?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date_________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Custody Status

**Was client assigned to a program tank?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>□ Yes</th>
<th>□ No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**If yes, what program?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date_________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please describe any victories in this case (personal/social or legal):
## PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.S. Requested at Intake</th>
<th>Treatment program housing</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Vocational training/education</th>
<th>Job referrals</th>
<th>Medical services (please specify):</th>
<th>Mental health services (please specify):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other social services requested (*Please specify*):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.S Enrolled In During Program Participation</th>
<th>Treatment program housing</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
<th>Vocational training/education</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
<th>Job Referrals</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
<th>Medical services</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
<th>Mental health services</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
<th>Other (please specify):</th>
<th>Date enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Were there any delays in enrolling client in requested SS? □ Yes □ No

If yes, what were the causes of delays? Check all that apply.

- □ Delays in client response
- □ Delays in service provider response
- □ Delay in change of custody status
- □ No appropriate placement available
- □ Other, please specify: ___________________________________________
## Comparison Group Case File Review Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client ID</th>
<th>Date of Arraignment</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLIENT CIRCUMSTANCES AT INTAKE**

Charges: ____________________________

MTR?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

For all clients: Final sentence: ____________

Sentencing: ____________
Reentry Social Workers Interview Protocol

**Key Informant Interview Goal:**
- To understand the social and legal outcomes for Reentry Clients from Reentry staff’s perspective
- To understand Reentry staff’s advocacy for clients
- To understand how Reentry staff connect clients to social services

Hi, my name is _________________ and I am calling from LFA Group, an independent evaluation firm, and we are working with the SF Public Defender’s Office to evaluate the impact of their Reentry Services program on clients’ legal and social outcomes. We are conducting interviews with staff from the SF Public Defender’s Office to get an in-depth look at the Unit.

In this interview, we are interested in hearing about your experiences with the Unit. These interviews are **confidential**: your comments will not be linked to you by name in our report to the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. This evaluation has been commissioned by the Public Defender’s Office, and is not affiliated with any other effort or agency. I expect the interview to last approximately 45 minutes to one hour. Do you have any questions before we begin?

**Opening Questions:**
1. How long have you worked with the Public Defender’s Office?
2. What is your role there?

**Program Overview:**
Now I’d like to ask you some questions about the Reentry unit to help us understand more about your work as context for the evaluation.

3. How are clients assigned to Social Workers?
4. On average, how often do Social Workers meet or speak with clients?
5. How do you determine the treatment plan and goals for each client?
   a. Please be as descriptive and specific as possible.
6. What kinds of programs do you try to link your clients to?
   a. Please be specific (give names).
7. What are the biggest challenges you face when trying to link clients to social services?

**Relationship to Legal Outcomes:**
Now I’d like to ask you some questions about working with Public Defender lawyers and the legal outcomes of clients. By legal outcomes we mean all aspects from jail time, early release, to program involvement, etc.
8. Now I’m going to ask you about your relationship with Public Defender Attorneys:
   a. Do you communicate with the Public Defender lawyers about your shared clients? Is there a formal communication process in place, or is communication about cases more informal?
   b. What additional support, if any, do you think the Public Defender Attorneys could provide to better serve Reentry clients?

9. How do you strategize about probable legal outcomes with the Public Defender Attorneys?

10. What determines when you go to a client’s court hearing to advocate on their behalf?
    a. In general, how often do you go to a client’s court hearing to advocate on their behalf?
    b. When do you decide to speak on a client’s behalf?
       i. In general, how does speaking on a client’s behalf affect their final sentence?
    c. When and how do you decide to provide a written statement on a client’s behalf?
       i. In general, how does writing a statement on a client’s behalf affect their final sentence?
    d. What factors determine whether you are able to negotiate with a Judge, probation officer, and/or DA?
       i. In general, how does negotiating on a client’s behalf affect their final sentence?

11. Do you see any evidence that Reentry clients experience different legal outcomes than defendants with comparable cases who are not in the program? (*Acknowledge that they may not be able to know this.*)
    • Probes: Be specific/describe legal outcomes

12. One of the things we’re interested in learning is whether the program model of linking clients to both Social Workers and Attorneys through the Public Defender’s Office helps clients in ways that it couldn’t if the Social Workers came from an external program. In your experience, is the location of Social Workers within the Public Defender’s office particularly useful? Why or why not?

13. Can you tell me about one or two clients that you consider particularly successful? If you have seen a client for different cases over time, you can also talk about that experience
    a. What value did the Reentry Unit add to this client's case?
    b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Unit was not involved?

14. Can you tell me about a case that was less successful?
    a. Did participation in the Reentry Unit help this client's case? If so, how?
    b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Services was not involved?

Closing:
15. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding your perspective on the Reentry Unit?

Thank you so much for your time.
Public Defender Attorney Interview Protocol

Key Informant Interview Goal:
- To understand the social and legal outcomes for Reentry Clients from Public Defenders’ perspective
- To understand the relationship between Public Defender Attorneys and the Reentry Program
- To understand Public Defender Attorneys decision-making processes when referring to the Reentry Program

Hi, my name is _________________ and I am calling from LFA Group on behalf of the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. LFA Group is an independent evaluation firm, and we are working with the SF Public Defender’s Office to evaluate the impact of their Reentry Services Program on clients’ legal and social outcomes. We are conducting brief interviews with Public Defenders like yourself to include your unique perspective on the program in the evaluation.

In this interview, we are interested in hearing about your experiences with the Social Workers in the Public Defender’s office. These interviews are confidential: your comments will not be linked to you by name in our report to the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. This evaluation has been commissioned by the Public Defender’s Office, and is not affiliated with any other effort or agency. I expect the interview to last approximately half an hour. Do you have any questions before we begin?

Opening Questions:
1. How long have you been an Attorney with the Public Defender’s Office?

2. How did you first learn about the Reentry Program?

Program Overview:
3. How often do you refer clients to the Reentry Program?

4. What factors do you consider when deciding to refer clients to Reentry Services?
   a. What makes a client a good candidate for the Reentry Services Program? I.e., when do you think Reentry Services has the most potential benefit?
   b. At what point in a client’s case do you refer them to Reentry Services?
   c. When you've decided not to refer someone to Reentry Services, what were your reasons or concerns?

5. Please describe your relationship with the Social Workers.
   a. Do you communicate about your shared clients? Is there a formal communication process in place, or is communication about cases more informal?

6. What qualities make an effective social worker in the Reentry Program?
7. Do you see any evidence that Reentry clients on the whole experience different legal outcomes than defendants with comparable cases who are not in the program?
   • Probes: Be specific/describe legal outcomes including: jail days, early release, length of time in jail, and/or connection to treatment

8. Do you see any evidence that Reentry clients experience different social outcomes than those who are not in the program?
   • Probes: Be specific/describe social outcomes
   • What kinds of needs, other than legal, do your clients have?
   • What additional support, if any, do you think the Social Workers could provide to better serve Reentry clients?

9. One of the things we’re interested in learning is whether the program model of linking clients to both Social Workers and Attorneys through the Public Defender’s Office helps clients in ways that it couldn’t if the Social Workers came from an external program. In your experience, is the location of Social Workers within the Public Defender’s office particularly useful? Why or why not?

10. Can you tell me about two or three cases associated with the Reentry Program that you consider particularly successful?
    a. What value did the Reentry Program add to this client’s case?
    b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Services was not involved? Consider charges in final conviction, probation requirements, details of their sentence, jail days, early release, length of time in jail, and/or connection to treatment.

11. Can you tell me about a case that was less successful?
    a. Did participation in the Reentry Program help this client's case? If so, how?
    b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Services was not involved?

Closing:
12. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding your perspective on the Reentry Program?

Thank you very much for your time.
Former Client Interview Protocol

Key Informant Interview Goal:
- To understand the experiences of former Reentry clients
- To understand former Reentry clients’ satisfaction with their involvement in the Reentry Program

Hi, my name is _________________ and I am calling from LFA Group on behalf of the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. LFA Group is an independent evaluation firm, and we are working with the SF Public Defender’s Office to evaluate the impact of their Reentry Services program on clients’ legal and social outcomes. We are conducting brief interviews with people who may have had knowledge or interaction with the Reentry Services program in order to include your unique perspective on the program in the evaluation. As a former client of the Reentry Program, we’d like to hear your perspective on the services offered.

As you may already know, the San Francisco Office of the Public Defender offers case management services to a selection of the defendants whom they represent.

In this interview, we are interested in hearing about your experiences with the Reentry Program. These interviews are confidential: your comments will not be linked to you by name in our report to the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. I expect the interview to last approximately 20 minutes. Do you have any questions before we begin?

Opening Questions:
1. How did you hear about the Reentry services program?
2. What was your overall experience with the program?
3. Do you remember who your social worker was? [Trying to get social worker’s name to make the following questions easier, by just naming the social worker]

Program Involvement:
4. As part of the Reentry Services Program, clients receive case management services. Can you tell me about the case management services you received?
   a. How often did you talk on the phone and/or meet with [SW name]?
   b. What kinds of support did [SW name] provide?
   c. Did you end up enrolling in any social services referred by [SW name]?

5. As a result of your participation in the Reentry Program, do you believe that you gained more access to social services (for example, getting connected to benefits or family members or programs) than had you not been involved in the Reentry Program?
   a. How so? Which ones?

6. As a result of your participation in the Reentry Program, do you believe that your legal outcome was different than if you had not been involved in the Reentry Program?
   a. How so?
7. One of the things we’re interested in learning is how the program model of linking clients to both Social Workers and lawyers through the Public Defender’s Office works. We want to know if it helps clients in ways that it couldn’t if the social worker came from a program outside of the Defender’s office. In your experience, do you believe that having Social Workers located within a Public Defenders office contributed to your case?
   a. Why or why not?
   b. How was this similar to or different from working with program staff in the jail?

8. Have you recommended the Reentry social worker program to somebody else?
   a. Why or why not?

9. Have you been in jail before and not been connected to a Public Defender’s office social worker?
   a. If so, how was that experience different from when you worked with [SW name]?
   b. If so, how was that experience similar from when you worked with [SW name]?

10. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding your experience with worked with [SW name] or the Reentry program in general?

    Thank you very much for your time.
**External Stakeholders Interview Protocol**

**Key Informant Interview Goal:**
- To understand the social and legal outcomes for Reentry clients from an external perspective

Hi, my name is _________________ and I am calling from LFA Group on behalf of the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. LFA Group is an independent evaluation firm, and we are working with the SF Public Defender’s Office to evaluate the impact of the Reentry Unit’s social worker component on clients’ legal and social outcomes. We are conducting brief interviews with people outside the Public Defender Social Workers who may have knowledge or interaction with the Reentry Services Unit in order for the evaluation to include your unique perspective on the program, particularly the Reentry social workers’ impact.

The San Francisco Office of the Public Defender offers case management services to a selection of the individuals whom they represent. Clients are referred for this service by their defense attorney in order to improve social and legal outcomes. Services are provided by three full-time Reentry Social Workers who conduct psychosocial assessments, social service referrals, periodic follow-up, and court advocacy for vulnerable clients.

In this interview, we are interested in hearing about your experiences with the Public Defender Social Workers, which we will refer to as the Reentry Social Workers. These interviews are **confidential**: your comments will not be linked to you by name in our report to the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office. This evaluation has been commissioned by the Public Defender’s Office, and is not affiliated with any other effort or agency. I expect the interview to last approximately 30 minutes. Do you have any questions before we begin?

**Opening Questions:**
1. How familiar are you with the Reentry services social worker program?

2. **Judge:** Have you presided over any cases where the defendant was connected with Reentry Social Workers?
   a. Do you communicate with the Reentry Social Workers about such cases, or otherwise engage with their work (such as letters, treatment plans, or assessments regarding the case)?
   b. If yes, what type of information is provided in those conversations?
   c. In what ways, if at all, do those conversations and negotiations with the defendant’s reentry social worker influence the outcome of the case or sentence?

**Probation Officer:** Have you had any clients who were connected with Reentry Social Workers?
   a. Do you communicate with the Reentry Social Workers about such clients, or otherwise engage with their work (such as letters, treatment plans, or assessments regarding the case)?
   b. If yes, what type of information are you provided with in those conversations?
   c. In what ways, if at all, do those conversations with the defendant’s reentry social worker influence your recommendation to the court?
Social Service Provider: Do you have many clients that were connected with Reentry Social Workers?
   a. Do you communicate with the Reentry Social Workers about such clients?
   b. If yes, what type of information are you provided with in those conversations?
   c. In what ways, if at all, do those conversations with the Reentry Social Worker influence the services the client is connected with and/or your decision to accept the client into your program?
   d. In what ways does your working relationship with the Reentry Social Worker help your agency in client assessment and placement?

Program Overview:
3. As part of the Reentry Services Program, clients receive case management services from Reentry Social Workers. Do you see any evidence that Reentry clients experience different legal outcomes than defendants with comparable cases who are not in the Reentry Social Work Services program?
   • By “legal outcomes,” we mean all aspects of the final result in the case, including the level and number of charges, dismissal, probation requirements, length of the sentence, prison vs. probationary sentences, early release for participation in a program etc.
   • Probes: Be specific/describe legal outcomes

4. Do you see any evidence that Reentry clients experience different social outcomes than defendants who are not in the program?
   • By “social outcomes,” we mean both engagement with appropriate social services, benefits and treatment programs, and increased stability and well-being in the areas of those services.
   • Probes: Be specific/describe social outcomes

5. One of the things we’re interested in learning is whether the program model of linking clients to both Social Workers and Attorneys through the Public Defender’s Office helps clients in ways that it couldn’t if the Social Workers came from an separate program outside of the Public Defender’s office? In your experience, is the location of Social Workers within the Public Defender’s office particularly useful? Why or why not?

6. Can you tell me about one or two cases that benefited from participation in the Reentry Social Work Services program?
   a. What value did the Reentry program add to this client's case?
   b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Social Workers were not involved?

7. Can you tell me about a case in which services from a Reentry Social Worker did not result in an improved legal or social services situation?
   a. Did participation in the Reentry program help this client's case? If so, how?
   b. What do you think would have been the outcome if Reentry Services was not involved?
c. What, if anything, could the Reentry Social Worker have done to help the client reach a better outcome?

8. **Judge:** Does the Reentry Social Worker’s involvement in defendants’ cases help you understand the circumstances of those defendants differently than the circumstances of other defendants?
   a. How so?
   b. Does this affect the way the defendant’s case is handled? How so?
   c. Does the Reentry Social Worker’s involvement affect the outcome? How so?

**Probation officer:** Does the Reentry Social Worker’s involvement in probationers’ cases help you understand the circumstances of those probationers differently than the circumstances of other probationers?
   a. How so?
   b. Does this affect your relationship with them during their probation?
   c. Does the Reentry Social Worker’s involvement affect probationers’ ability to maintain the terms of their probation? In other words, do you see those who have a Reentry Social Worker doing better on probation than others?

**Social service provider:** Does the Reentry Social Worker’s involvement in defendants’ cases help you understand the circumstances of those clients differently than the circumstances of other clients at your agency? (e.g., better understanding of the legal system or the client’s specific legal situation)
   a. How so?
   b. How, if at all, does this affect their participation in the programs or services at your agency?
   c. Given your experience working with individuals who are incarcerated or otherwise involved in the justice system, do these Reentry services clients get connected to more social service programs and benefits than they would without a Reentry Social Worker?

9. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding your perspective on the Reentry Social Work Services Program?

    Thank you very much for your time.
Appendix B: Data Table of Prison and Jail Days Avoided

These tables detail the sentencing scenarios under which prison and jail days are avoided by the clients included in this evaluation. The “n” listed under “Overall” for each scenario is the total number of clients in our sample experiencing that situation; the “n” under MTR and Non-MTR show this overall number broken out by MTR status of the clients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prison Time Saved</th>
<th>MTR $^{15}$</th>
<th>Non-MTR</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Prison Sentence</td>
<td>n=2$^{16}$</td>
<td>n=6</td>
<td>n=8$^{17}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)$^{18}$</td>
<td>5840 1099 1776</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>1887 773 1022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Prison Days Saved*</td>
<td>2555 365 678</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum of Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>4746</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Sentence: Jail instead of Prison</td>
<td>n=12</td>
<td>n=11</td>
<td>n=23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>915 956 934</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>319 314 317</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>596 641 934</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum of Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>21489</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Sentence: Program instead of Prison</td>
<td>n=5</td>
<td>n=1</td>
<td>n=9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>1168 10950 2164</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>365 365 355</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>1168 10950 2164</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sum of Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>19476</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Sentence: Probation instead of Prison</td>
<td>n=2</td>
<td>n=2</td>
<td>n=5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>1460 913 1022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>1095 1095 1095</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Prison Days Saved</td>
<td>1460 913 1022</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sum of Prison Days Saved</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternate Sentence: Case Dismissed instead of Prison</td>
<td>n=0</td>
<td>n=1</td>
<td>n=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td>1095 1095 1095</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Prison Days Saved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum of Prison Days Sentenced</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL PRISON DAYS SAVED 51916

$p<.05^{*} p<.01^{**}$ Significance levels refer to differences in means based on MTR status.

$^{15}$ "MTR" is used to refer to Reentry clients who are facing a Motion to Revoke (MTR) Probation.
$^{16}$ N=1 for MTR worst-case sentence length and MTR mean prison days saved.
$^{17}$ N=7 for overall mean worst-case sentence length and overall mean prison days saved.
$^{18}$ "Worst-case sentence length" is used to refer to the sentence length clients could face according to the exposure on their case.
### Appendix B: Data Table of Prison and Jail Days Avoided

#### Jail Time Saved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reduced Jail Sentence</th>
<th>MTR</th>
<th>Non-MTR</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>268</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td>97</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1215</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Jail Days Saved From Early Release (n=17)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Jail Days Saved From Early Release (n=17)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3168</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>4383</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Alternate Sentence: Program instead of Jail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MTR</th>
<th>Non-MTR</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>551</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Alternate Sentence: Probation instead of Jail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MTR</th>
<th>Non-MTR</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>578</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1739</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Alternate Sentence: Case Dismissed instead of Jail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MTR</th>
<th>Non-MTR</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Worst-case Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Actual Sentence Length (in days)</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Jail Days Saved</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>365</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL JAIL DAYS SAVED** 7038