

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter regarding the Innovation Project 5 plan submitted for public scrutiny and comment due by mid-June. I am intensely interested in becoming involved with the project as forensic treatment of adults with mental health diagnoses is a passion of mine both personally and professionally. The criminalization of these individuals sometimes sickens me.

I am uniquely qualified to bring an out of the box perspective to the table. My personal lived experience consists of over 25 years as a mental health consumer and 15 as a mental health provider- most of it within Sacramento County. This includes working as a Peer Navigator for TLCS and a Personal Service Coordinator with Turning Point's Pathways Program. Attached is a scenario that could commonly come to play with a constituent accessing forensic services immediately after release from Sacramento jail. I have completed similar impact days with jail releases in the past. The only twist I added was involvement with child protective services.

After examining the scenario, the main question that needs to be answered is what sort of program will be run for such a subject to impact immediate and short-term needs. Is the program going to utilize systems of care already in place? Will the proposed program replicate them or will the program create a separate and new system just for the forensic members?

There are so many needs and contributing factors that there is no generic receiver of a proposed forensic system. Every single individual served requires a tailored, situationally dependent set of interventions and utilization of resources. Treatment must be holistic and not just diagnosis specific. The best that can be done is to try to predict as many possible outcomes, learn and mitigate the negative outcomes and possibilities.

One of the worst examples of mistreatments of an adult with a psychiatric history that I have encountered was a male who had ended up as a 290 offender for life after a charge of indecent exposure when he was urinating in a public area. I think he told me that the fast food restaurant wouldn't allow him to use the restroom. Illegal camping and many trespassing charges also upset me.

In conclusion, I would like to express that my unique-boots on the ground-vocational and lived experience would be extremely beneficial in the development and implementation of a program such as outlined in the Innovation Project 5 plan. I have a lot of ideas about taking care of individuals with dignity and respect. Please feel free to contact me at (209) 610-2267 or [grfeathersjr@gmail.com](mailto:grfeathersjr@gmail.com) to discuss any matters addressed in this brief letter.

Warm Regards,

Garland Feathers