

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Presentation to
Measure X

Community Advisory
Board

July 7, 2021

Office of the Public Defender



We represent the most vulnerable members of the community as they face a crisis point in their lives

- **Over 60% of persons detained pretrial in Contra Costa County are POC**
- **50% of people in jail have behavioral health challenges**
- **14% of our clients are undocumented persons**
- **All our clients live in poverty**

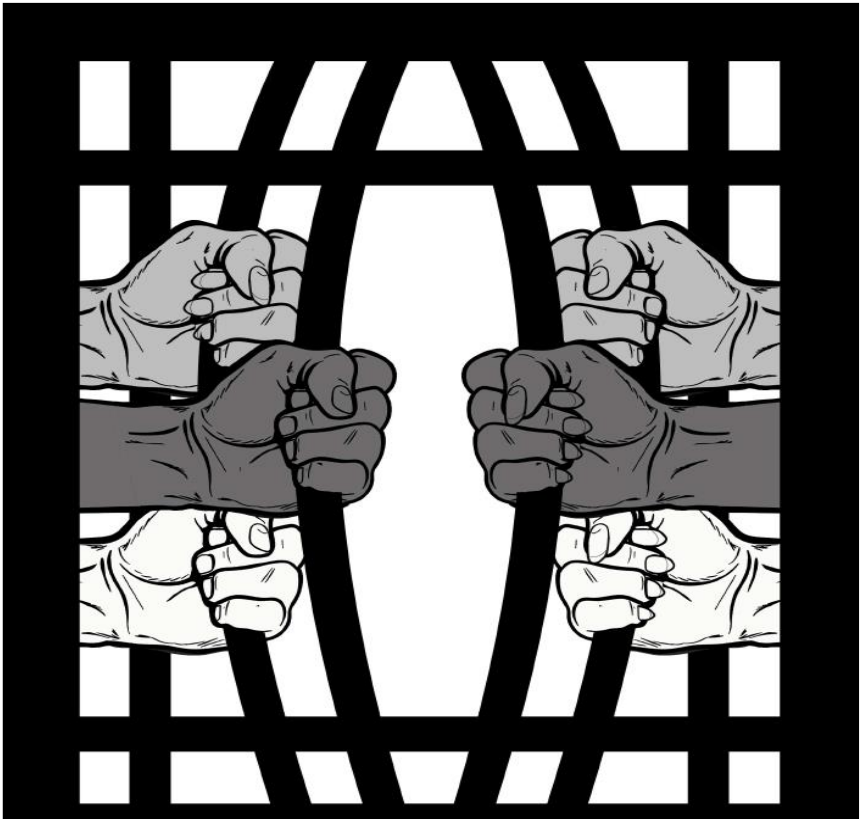
As we defend people in court, we strive to address the root causes of their engagement with the criminal court system in a holistic manner

Measure X Dollars Can Transform Lives

We propose three Front End Advocacy Teams (FEATs) for people in jail to facilitate their safe release to the community and provide ongoing holistic support while their case progresses through the court system.

The three teams will serve the three county judicial regions: Central, East and West.

Front End Advocacy Team Composition



A **Mitigation Specialist Investigator** who will gather background information from family members and track down important documentation

A **Social Worker** to assess needs for support and services and to provide support to the client and the family as the case progresses

An **Attorney** to meet with the client in custody prior to the first court appearance and to advocate in court for release

A **Clerical Assistant** and a **Legal Assistant** to support case management and provide administrative support