

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
APPROVED Meeting Minutes-April 4, 2017  
Crime Lab, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
250 W. Hedding St.  
San Jose, California 95110**

**Commissioners Present:** Penny Blake Courtney Macavinta  
Dana Bunnett Jean Pennypacker, Vice Chair  
Victoria BurtonBurke Carol Rhoads  
Raul Colunga, Chair Vincent Tarpey  
Gustavo Gonzalez Lissa Thiele

**Commissioners Absent:** Anusha Agarwal, Bonnie Charvez, Brittney Dong, Ron Hansen, Nora Manchester

**Also Present:** Honorable Franklin Bondonno, Superior Court  
Honorable Katherine Lucero, Superior Court  
Honorable Julianne Sylva, Superior Court  
Honorable Pat Tondreau, Superior Court  
Jenny Lam, County Counsel's Office  
Dr. Shelley Aggarwal, Medical Director, SCC Juvenile Custody Institutions  
Jessica Bentzley, M.D., SIT  
Katja De Groot, Ombuds Office, OHR  
LaRon Dennis, SUDDA District Attorney's Office  
Jenny Lam, Deputy County Counsel County Counsel's Office  
David Epps, ADO, Alternate Defender's Office  
Lauren Gavin, BHSD  
Jennifer Hubbs, SSPM, Department of Children and Family  
Elsa Jennings, Juvenile Hall  
Sakeenah El-Amin, Law Program Manager, FLY  
J. J. Kapp, Assistant PD, Public Defender's Office  
Boliavone (Vone) Kegarice, Probation Manager, Probation  
Jennifer Kelleher, Dir. Attorney, LACY  
Giap Le, Probation Manager, Juvenile Probation Department  
Chia-Chen Lee, Manager, VMC  
Margaret Ledesma, Mental Health Program Specialist II, Behavioral Health  
Francesca LeRue, Director, Department of Family and Children Services  
Kathy Martinez, Probation DCPO, Probation  
Aiko Matsumira, Community Service Supervisor, Starlight  
Nuriel Moghavem, Medical Student, Stanford  
Frank Motta, Project Manager, Social Services Agency  
Michelle Osborne, M.O.  
David Putney, Ed.D. Director, Alternative Education, SCCOE

Kevin Rudich, ADO, Alternate Defender's Office  
Gina Sessions, Social Service Agency  
Cheryl Stevens, Deputy County Counsel, County Counsel's Office  
Alex Villa, Probation Manager, Probation  
Margarita Villa, Victim Advocate, District Attorney's Office  
Robert Young, Probation Manager, Probation

**Guests Present:** Mario Lopez, Policy Aide, Supervisors Cortese's Office  
John Hirokawa, private citizen

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Chair Colunga called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. All who were in attendance stated their names and organizations.

**Agenda Approval:**

Moved by Commissioner Bunnett and seconded by Commissioner Blake, the agenda was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments/Oral Petitions:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner BurtonBurke and seconded by Commissioner Pennypacker to approve the March 7, 2017, minutes was approved unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**Presentation:** "Continuum of Care Reform Implementation in Santa Clara County" by Margaret Ledesma, Mental Health Program Specialist II, Behavioral Health, Boliavone (Vone) Kegarice, Probation Manager, Probation, Frank Motta, Project Manager, Social Services Agency.

The presenters introduced themselves, and presented detailed information in a PowerPoint Presentation regarding how Santa Clara County is working to implement State mandated Continuum Care Reform (CCR), with a request to hold questions until the end of the presentation.

Mr. Motta opened with a brief overview of CCR stating it is a legislative mandated process with a goal of increasing engagement with children, youth and families, increasing capacity for home-based family care, and limiting the use of congregate care, together with systemic and infrastructure changes to rates, training, accreditation, accountability and performances, and mental health services (Senate Bill 1013, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012). The process involves Behavioral Health, Juvenile Probation, and Social Services Agency. Regular meetings with these groups at the local and state level will continue throughout the transition. Santa Clara County's goal is to have long-term success for the individuals involved in the process. Mr. Motta detailed the different sub-committees involved in ensuring success and stressed the need for involvement from our community advisory and community input/feedback with groups like the Juvenile Justice Commission.

The key components of CCR implementation listed are:

- As explained by Mr. Motta, Child and Family Teams will be required by the state. This is a forum to hear the voices of the children and families involved in the decision-making, as well as social workers, probation officers, and other key people in terms of placement.
  - Ms. Ledesma elaborated on programs, such as Katie A., Wrap-Around Programs, and/or Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs, and the idea behind hearing the voices of the children and families to identify the appropriate services to provide when looking at placement.
- Ms. Kegarice detailed a second key component of CCR implementation, Resource Family Approval, which is a new family friendly and child centered family approval process for all related and non-related family. All licensed foster families and approved relatives will need to be converted or deemed a Resource Family in order to care for a foster child. The agencies involved created a steering committee who will receive recommendations from technical and knowledge based workgroups in hopes of creating an efficient process.
- Ms. Ledesma discussed a third component of implementation, Pathways to Wellness, which is Therapeutic Foster Care – a new service which will be specialized foster homes where the foster parent will train to be the mental health provider. The parents will work with Mental Health Providers.
- Mr. Motta presented a fourth component of implementation, Level of Care Protocol, which establishes a Home Based Family Care rate structure based on physical, behavioral/emotional, educational, health and permanency/family service needs, and the County/local processes to apply to the assessment tool selected at the State level to determine the appropriate level of care for the child. The State has listed 67 triggers when reassessing a child’s level.
- Continuing to the last component of CCR implementation, Mr. Motta stated the legislation ends the use of community care licensing group homes for non-regional center for children; therefore, Group Homes will no longer be an option for dependency and juvenile justice youth. Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP), to some degree, will be taking their place. The conversion of long-term residential group home care to short-term (6 month) intensive residential care setting, is designed to transition a youth eventually to a permanent home-based setting. Some qualifications are:
  - If they are currently for-profit or privately owned they will need to convert to nonprofit status;
  - They will have to receive accreditation from the National Accreditation Bureau;
  - They will have to design a program statement for what they will do that receives support from one of our local County departments;
  - They will have to be Medi-Cal certified; and
  - They will have to secure a Mental Health Program Approval.

Mr. Motta summarized increasing capacity for Home-Based Family Care by mentioning Resource Family approval by counties and Foster Family Agencies (FFAs), meaning there is a lean towards the Resource Family Process whether as a FFA or the County, and the State has identified additional funding for support, retention, recruitment, and training of resource families. For example, there will be an allocation for Resource Family Recruitment which will

include hiring two (2) new Resource Family Recruiters. There is also focus and support for a diversity of homes that are trauma-informed and culturally relevant, and in those home settings, additional services can be delivered. For example, the Therapeutic Foster Care model and the Intensive Service Foster Care model the State no longer permits, and says it must be conducted in a RFA environment. Also, Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) need to be accredited, and there will be updated and expanded training requirements across provider and caregiver categories. Right now, the Department is currently looking for a May training on Child and Family Teams to work with community providers.

Ms. Ledesma provided an update on the progress of Behavioral Health in relation to CCR implementation by stating Behavioral Health will be releasing an RFP for both Therapeutic Foster Care and Mental Health Services that will be delivered in the STRTP, and looking at the vendor yield. Behavioral Health is also working with an interagency agreement with SHS and EMCS for a position called Transitional Care Social Worker (a Behavioral Health employee housed at Social Services).

Ms. Kegarice provided an update on the progress of Juvenile Probation in relation to CCR implementation by stating Probation will be working with Child Welfare to hire two (2) Resource Family Recruiters recently approved by the Board for a Social Worker II/III position.

Mr. Motta provided an update on the progress of Child Welfare/Social Services Agency in relation to CCR implementation by stating Department of Children and Family Services with Probation is hiring recruiters. The Department will be hiring five (5) Child/Family Team Facilitators to coordinate the teams.

After all present consented to forgoing the standard monthly reports, attendees asked clarifying questions:

Commissioner Gonzalez summarized the details of the presentation by stating the agencies want the current group homes to move over to this new process and be nonprofit and be all these other things, and after that is accomplished, maybe find new foster families to take on some more of the children. Mr. Motta affirmed.

Commissioner Macavinta followed up the question by asking if there are enough STRTPs. Mr. Motta explained they have worked and met with the current group home providers; many of them have identified they are going to convert to STRTPs. The smaller providers of group homes have identified they may not be able to make that threshold. Commissioner Macavinta clarified by trying to obtain information about the amount of available space for the children who need the service. Ms. Lauren Gavin reiterated the goal is to have a six (6) month length of stay. Ms. Francesca LeRue explained further by providing and transitioning to the described service, the system will be able to properly assess the needs of the child, hopefully reducing the length of stay time to 6 months.

Judge Bondonno mentioned the parents are sometimes the issue, and by having the parents' voice included in the decision-making process could cause a bigger issue. Ms. LeRue stated the Team will be able to assess all of those issues, and possibly provide help to the parents as well.

Commissioner Blake inquired about a State-provided "Plan B" to the State mandate. Ms. Ledesma stated the State has provided guidance on the specific processes. Ms. LeRue later stated

there is not a detailed “Plan B” if the process does not work; therefore, it is important for the collaborative agencies to assist however possible.

Commissioner Bunnett inquired about the rates of Resource Family Homes and whether there is intention to integrate aspects of the California Wellbeing Project with this implementation. Mr. Motta said he would provide the rates at a later date, but they were significantly higher, and there was intention to integrate the programs.

Commissioner Tarpey inquired if the program intended to move children back into their own county or closer to home. Ms. LeRue stated it is a goal of CCR.

Commissioner Macavinta inquired how the community advisement team or Commission would be involved. Mr. Motta stated these bodies would provide much needed feedback.

Commissioner Pennypacker had two (2) Behavioral Health specific questions regarding how the homes obtain the services specified by Behavioral Health, and the role of Behavioral Health. Ms. Ledesma responded by explaining the process vendor and facilities will go through to become certified, and services they need to provide. Ms. Ledesma also explained Behavioral Health provides oversight to all Medi-Cal contracts.

Commissioner Colunga thanked Mr. Motta, Ms. Kegarice and Ms. Ledesma for the presentation.

**Chair’s Report:** Due to the length, depth and questions regarding the presentation, all present were willing to forgo their standard monthly reports.

**Juvenile Justice Court:** No Report.

**Dependency Court:** No report.

**Probation Department Juvenile Program:** No Report.

**Department of Family and Children’s Service/Children’s Receiving Center (DFCS):**  
No Report.

**Behavioral Health – Mental Health Services:** No Report.

**Behavioral Health – Alcohol and Drug Services:** No Report.

**Law Enforcement Agencies:** No report.

**District Attorney’s Office, Juvenile Justice:** No Report.

**Public Defender’s Office:** No Report.

**Independent Defender’s Office:** No report.

**Alternate Defender’s Office:** No Report.

**Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY):** No Report.

**Medical Services:** No Report.

**Alternative Schools Department, COE:** No report.

**Victim Witness Assistance Center:** No report.

**YWCA Support Services:** No report.

**Announcements/Correspondence:** Ms. Kathy Martinez from Probation introduced Mr. Alex Villa, who was recently promoted as a Probation Manager, and assigned to the Juvenile Division. Commissioner Colunga congratulated and welcomed Mr. Villa.

Mr. Mario Lopez, Policy Aide for Supervisor Dave Cortese, updated the Commission on the parking validation equipment. It has been submitted to Administration and should be included in the budget, or will be its own line item after approval from Administration. Validator Parking Tickets will continue to be issued in the meantime, so as not to cause an interruption.

Mr. Lopez also stated on April 19, 2017, a bus will travel to La Paz to pay homage to César E. Chávez from 6:30 a.m. and return at approximately 7:00 p.m. There is limited seating and tickets are free. Commissioner Colunga will send a flyer after the meeting.

A member of the public, Ms. Michelle Osborne, requested information regarding post trauma resources for people who were in the system, and suggested the issue should be examined by race because each race has a different traumatic experience. Commissioner Bunnett and Commissioner Macavinta suggested Adverse Childhood Experience Services (ACES Connections) to find resources, as well as suggesting a Department of Public Health meeting in May. Commissioner Bunnett stated although the Commission is not currently involved, other agencies in the county are reviewing these types of services.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Colunga adjourned the meeting to the Executive Session at 1:22 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** May 2, 2017, DA Crime Lab Conference Room, 250 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Jones  
Recording Secretary