

**Juvenile Justice Commission
Meeting Minutes – October 1, 2019**

Dr. Shelley Aggarwal, Valley Medical Center
Jessica Neideffer, citizen

Call to Order and Introductions: Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m. All who were in attendance stated their names and organizations.

Agenda Approval:

Moved by Commissioner Rhoads and seconded by Commissioner Walton, the agenda was approved unanimously.

Public Comments/Announcements:

Britney Huelbig announced that the Civil Grand Jury is taking applications through April 1st, 2020. There are currently 19 vacancies. Brochures, applications and Business cards will be placed on the sign in table.

Commissioner Hansen as a previous grand juror encouraged anyone who'd like to volunteer.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Pennypacker and seconded by Commissioner Rhoads, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Presentation by Alex Villa, Probation Department- *Reimagining Juvenile Justice, Santa Clara County.* – Mr. Villa and ShaKenya Edison from East Side Union School District (who has moved to Southern California) collaborated in this effort. In March 2019, the Probation Department submitted an application to the Annie E. Casey Foundation to participate in Reimagining Juvenile Justice. Multiple agencies across the country wanted to be a part of the process. States like Nebraska, Maryland, Ohio, Washington, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Massachusetts, all wanted to be a part of this initiative. Santa Clara County was the only one who had a cross-systems application and was one of fifteen sites selected. Mr. Villa along with Ms. Edison were both a part of a “Train the Trainer” opportunity.

What is *Reimagining Juvenile Justice*? It is professional development provided by Annie E. Casey and is sponsored by the School & Main Institute. Different jurisdictions across the country participated in this training. They had the opportunity to challenge each other and learn how to do the work *differently, better* and how to reimagine the process for the systems within. Instead of working in silos, the goal was to learn how different agencies could work together in order to provide better options for youth. The framework encourages looking beyond the problems, issues or challenges and finds solutions, strengths and assets.

The framework is broken down into **Six Core Modules**: Module 1: *Positive Youth Development*, Module 2: *Utilizing a Cross-Systems Approach*. Module 3: *Addressing Racial & Ethnic*

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Disparities, Module 4: *Engaging Authentic Youth Voice*, Module 5: *Fostering Positive Family Relationships* and Module 6: *Transforming Policy & Practice*. The weight of the work being in Module 1: Positive Youth Development. One question looks at how do systems use the knowledge of how the adolescent brain develops and incorporate it into the work that is being done. All 15 jurisdictions had challenges in how to incorporate youth in a positive way within the systems and learning across systems, working with racial disparities and how to bring youth into the work authentically.

Three Core Values: Dignity, Equity & Compassion. If the work is not increasing each of these three things, the question then becomes, “Why are we doing the work?” Additionally the team worked on recognizing that all system partners are *allies* and that disagreements do not make them *enemies*. Looking at different time periods amongst different decades and noting what has changed, what has not changed and how to use that information to develop new agreements was a big takeaway. It is important that when thinking about the youth one reflects on what labels are being placed upon those youth (gang member, truant, delinquent, mentally ill) and what are the hopes, goals and expectations for those youth. The importance of collaboration between all systems in order to accomplish such goals will help create support within families and build healthy communities.

The “ISMS” Racism, Sexism, Ableism. The idea is to challenge these isms and be willing to confront some of these types of labels. One of the most challenging things in this work is addressing the racial and ethnic disparities. Call it out, bring it to the light and address it! All systems have decision points which lead to disparities. Looking at the historical standpoint and questioning about the work being done today leading to these disparities is a start.

Positive Youth Development (PYD) is intentional in helping young people meet their basic developmental needs, by focusing on the whole child and not just a single problem that needs to be fixed. It builds off of young people’s *strengths* and is age/developmentally appropriate. PYD has *three key concepts*; 1). Positive Relationships, 2) Clear, Fair and High Expectations and 3). Opportunities to Connect, Navigate and be Productive. Out of all 15 Jurisdictions, not one had a Strength Based Assets Assessment and that is something that needs to be worked on and will be a work in progress. Another part of the framework is the **5 C’s of Positive Youth Development: Connection, Confidence, Character, Competence, Contribution**. Recently a sixth C was added- *Caring*. The 6 C’s are key elements to healthy relationships and all are connected to help youth become more productive in a positive way. Work such as “*The Developmental Relationships Framework*” may help provide insight on the different elements (Express Care, Challenge Growth, Provide Support, Share Power & expand Possibilities) and the comparison between Traditional Juvenile Justice to Positive Youth Development.

ShaKenya Edison began work within the East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD) in first having an “*All students are welcome as they are*” module and recognizes that their growth is known and supported. ESUHSD believed adults could positively respond to the social-emotional and academic needs of every student and developed strategic thinking skills for full participation in their local communities. In 2014-2015 they had nearly 200 citations in the district and by 2019, they only had 33. Directly resulting from reframing a lot of things, i.e. “Do we want to do

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it differently?” The leadership made it a directive to only involve law enforcement when appropriate and looked at opportunities as *teachable moments*. An updated memo was created with the San Jose Police Department, policies were updated and MOU’s were created. A Stakeholder Equity Committee was established to monitor the district and uphold them to their commitments. Mandatory trainings for staff and officers on campus were also provided.

“What Did We Learn” It is not *if*, it is *when* we begin to reimagine doing the job differently that we can learn new ways of thinking and working together. Bringing new ideas to light and shifting the way policies and practices have been done in the past is a way to begin the shift. As a jurisdiction Santa Clara County is good at collaborating, the question is when is Santa Clara County as a system going to create something new?

YouTube Video: michaeljrcomedy – **Know Your Why**

Mr. Villa concluded his presentation with a quote- “How many chances a day are we given an opportunity to practice sacred presence smack dab right in front of our eyes? We miss so much ‘Now’ because we are rushing to ‘Next’.”

-Father Gregory Boyle Founder of Homeboy Industries

Commissioner Manchester asked how Santa Clara County Probation Department is implementing Reimagining Juvenile Justice.

Mr. Villa responded there are a few things that this County has done without knowing it, a lot of it from work and policies and having conversations and strategic planning which enables a shift in calling out positive youth development.

Commissioner Parakh asked for clarification regarding the drop in citations in 2015 and what is being done now after participating in this project. Mr. Villa responded that although the committee was in process at that time, today they are meeting to go over data and provide the information to the leadership which is now taking their recommendations.

Commissioner Rhoades asked how Santa Clara County will continue to make this sustainable in and across systems. Mr. Villa responded cross systems is occurring naturally today and one must remember where to elicit support. Mr. Villa recognized that having these conversations and sharing data is not something that has always been done in the past. Commissioner Rhoades followed up asking if it is embedded in the culture. Mr. Villa responded that it is and it will continue to develop especially when some youth are touching the different systems. Mr. Villa would like to see more involvement from the health system.

Commissioner Thiele asked about how the transition back into home schools can be difficult for youth and if there is talk about creating some kind of mentorship making it easier for youth to access the social-emotional learning opportunities there currently are. Mr. Villa stated it is occurring as COE was present at that conversation. Mr. Villa also mentioned the Ed-Liaisons and Social Workers who are there to provide support to the youth are also involved.

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Judge Bondonno asked what is being done to develop a tool to capture strengths. Mr. Villa responded that although Santa Clara County uses CANS as a tool, the next step and challenge is developing an actual tool. As a County the conversations have begun and the data is beginning to be analyzed.

The Juvenile Justice Commission thanked Mr. Villa for his presentation.

REPORTS

Chair’s Report: Chair Hansen reported on the following:

- The passing of Commissioner Vince Tarpey who served 8 years on the JJC. Commissioner Tarpey is survived by his two daughters. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, February 29th, 2020.
- Commissioner Vacancies- If any candidates come to mind please direct them to the JJC. Applications for the commission can be found on the Juvenile Justice web page.
- Annual Juvenile Hall inspection is proceeding and the final report will be expected in April, 2020
- The James Ranch Inspection report was completed in December and posted on the website- Victoria BurtonBurke who is the Chair of the Report provided a summary-
 - Glad to see successful transition of the youth into the new dorms.
 - Probation has seen a reduction in number of incidents at the Ranch.
 - Adding new programs, e.g., time away from the Ranch to visit new sites like the Oakland Zoo.
 - Commended COE for repurposing the facilities and setting up the classrooms with laptops.
 - New gym and new kitchen are still being completed.
 - Finalizing in installing the new cameras.

Presiding Judge’s Report: Judge Lucero reported on the following:

- All reports can be found on the Superior Court Juvenile Justice Website.
- Troubled by the lack of Psychiatrist/Psychologist able to do evaluations, which has some youth waiting for months. And due to new regulations/statutes the usage of interns is not an option.
- Juvenile Justice is transitioning to paperless. Stakeholders may be contacted to obtain access to reports.
- On March 11th, 2020 from 12-1pm there will be a Court Systems Training: “Implicit Bias” Conducted by San Jose State University, MCLE and WRE Credits will be available.
- March 13th, 2020 Children Summit with Kids in Common.

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- Beyond the Bench will be on May 15th, 2020 “Youth Voice”, led by youth who will be organizing and presenting throughout the day. There will also be a presentation regarding Brain Development.

Judge Bondonno reported on the following:

- Following up on the new regulations regarding evaluations in that the person evaluating the youth must be the actual person thus not allowing for a supervised intern.
- A memo was sent out to the Presiding Judge to increase the amount of money paid for such evaluations in hopes other agencies will want to partner with the court.

Judge Alloggiamento reported on the following:

- DIY retreat on February 5th, 2020 for Probation and DFCS.
- Dually Involved Youth cross systems training will be held on the 19-20th of February for social workers, attorneys and staff.

Dependency Court: Judge Chung reported on the following:

- Provided a graphic created by Judge Schwarz regarding 2019 statistics.

Alternative Schools Department, COE: None.

Probation Department – Juvenile Program: Sean Rooney reported on the following:

- The new camera/audio installation is close to being completed.
- State Inspection will take place the first week of March for both the Ranch and Juvenile Hall.

Vone Kegarice reported on the following:

- Started Core for the new hires, 15 new hires in total.
- JPD 7 new staff will go to Core. 9 probation officers were promoted to Supervisors; two will come into Juvenile Hall.
- Looking forward to fill the vacancies.

Carl Tadamaru reported on the following:

- On the 21st of February they will be participating in interviews for Supervisors for Juvenile Hall in order to fill the 2 vacancies.
- Would like to recognize Sean Rooney regarding the updated Camera project in Juvenile Hall as he was the person who was in charge of this big project.

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Department of Family and Children’s Service/Children’s Receiving Center (DFCS): Wendy Kinear-Raush reported on the following:

- Provided data and will email it to everyone regarding the Child Abuse Hotline. They have seen an uptick in dropped calls due to a glitch in the system.
- Keiki report of kids coming into the system will also be provided. They are working on the draft dashboard to see tracking data for kids regarding Medi-Cal, Dental, Runaways, and 7 day notices.
- Currently working on Out of Home placement report.
- Working on 2019 fact sheet.
- There are 10 in the academy and currently have 40 vacancies for Social Worker level
- 2 higher bureau manager vacancies.
- Hiring for Acting Director Position.
- April 4th, 2020 Youth Empowerment Conference at West Valley College.
- Elisa Carias from Probation Department was acknowledged last month for human Trafficking Awareness month.

Behavioral Health – Mental Health Services: No report.

Law Enforcement Agencies: None.

District Attorney’s Office – Juvenile Justice: No report.

Public Defender’s Office: Nisreen Younis had no report, but asked a question regarding the Juvenile Hall population being 107-108 and looking back at the Juvenile Hall population sheet distributed from last year showing it tends to go up in February. Any ideas why?

Sean Rooney indicated that within the last week or so there were a lot of cohort cases. But is not sure why the pattern has shown an increase during this month.

Nisreen Younis followed up with a question regarding the camera systems and wondered if the kids and staff knew where the cameras are located and if they are located in common areas such as hallways and how long are the recordings kept for. Mr. Rooney stated the cameras are recording in common areas but that the recordings aren’t reviewed unless there is an issue. Such recordings are kept 13 months.

Commissioner Hansen asked if the common areas where the cameras are recording are indicated with signage. Mr. Rooney stated they are. Commissioner Hansen followed up regarding Ms. Younis initial question and stated that in reviewing the reports it shows that spring has the highest population and has been that way for the last 5 years.

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Carl Tadamaru stated it can be related to the weather as days get longer, people start staying out later.

Alternate Defender's Office: No report:

Independent Defender's Office: No report.

Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY): Andrew Cain reported on the following:

- March 12th, 2020 LACY is hosting a clinic at the HUB where youth can request free credit reports in order to monitor their credit.

Medical Services: Chia-Chen Lee reported on the following:

- The two vacancies are filled after interviewing 30+ applicants. The two new nurses will begin on March 9, 2020.
- Due to the Corona Virus effective today they will be adding some questions to triage Corona Virus for everyone entering Juvenile Hall.

Office of Mediation and Omsbuds Services: No report.

Announcements/Correspondence: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Hansen adjourned the meeting to the Executive Session at 1:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 5, 2019, DA Crime Lab Conference Room, 250 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Arranaga