

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2024
Via Zoom**

Commissioners Present: Stephen Betts, Chair
Dev Ghoshal, Vice Chair
Marcie Bellicitti, Secretary
Victoria BurtonBurke
Nora Manchester
Penny Blake
Heather Angove
Vaishali “Shali” Sirkay
Diana Traub
Darius Parakh (*virtual*)
Karen Guldan
Howard Pomerantz

Commissioners Absent: Jean Pennypacker
Rayan Sengupta
Neha Parthasarathi

Also Present: Kara Garasky, Superior Court
Veronica Robles, BHSD
Mayra Vargas, BHSD
Grace Gonzalez, BHSD
Trina Gauthier, Probation Department
Elsa Jennings, Probation Department
Melissa Garcia, Probation Department
Gladys Tran, Probation Department
Kimberly D’zatko, Probation Department
Elisa Carias, Probation Department
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Department
Kristin Keller, Probation Department
Damon Silver, PDO
Paul Jhin, DAO
David Epps, ADO
Lana Kreidie, IDO
Amanda Kennedy, LACY
Eugene Santillan, SCCOE
Mark Camilleri, SCCOE
Lissa Thiele, SCCOE
Maria Yakoub, SCCOE
Lanphoung Le, Medical Services
Marie Mauboussin, DFCS
Patty Ramirez, DFCS

Naveen Sangwan, DFCS
Rocio Abundis, DFCS
Delayna Rosas, FLY
Ruth Maurice, OMOS
Ashley Dargert, Office of County Supervisor Otto Lee
Matt Cammann, Seneca
Sergio Gonzalez, SJ YEA
Patrick Tondreau, citizen
Ray Blockie, citizen
Vianni Garcia

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Betts called the meeting to order at 12:18pm.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved by all Commissioners present.

Swearing In: None.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Approval of Minutes: April 2, 2024 Minutes approved by all Commissioners present.

REPORTS

PRESENTATION: Families First County Prevention Plan – DFCS (Rocio Abundis, Patty Ramirez, Naveen Sangwan)

- What does prevention mean?
 - Tertiary: Provides interventions for children experiencing maltreatment; focused on trauma mitigation and recurrence prevention.
 - Secondary: Programs and direct services to families objectively assessed to be at-risk of child abuse or neglect with targeted direct services to alleviate identified problems, amplify protective factors, and address their needs.
 - Primary: Programs to address general population needs and child well-being in order to provide support and education before maltreatment occurs.
- Child, Family, and Community Well-being
 - Housing stability, financial stability, quality education, physical and mental health, social supports, safe neighborhoods.
- DFCS strategic focus area
 - Building key partnerships
 - Safeguarding children
 - Workforce support and development
- SIP Goal 1: Ensure the safety of children by preventing recurrence of maltreatment.
 - S1 – Safety planning
 - S2 – Parent engagement, especially father engagement
 - S3 – Improve access, availability, and efficacy of community services,, especially for substance abuse and mental health
 - S4 – Enhance department training and coaching
- SIP Goal 2: Systemic factor – quality assurance
 - Develop CQI infrastructure with DFCS

- Commissioner Blake asked: Does “preventing recurrence of maltreatment” mean once the child has gone all the way through the system and been dismissed, then a recurrence?
 - Naveen responded: Within 12 months after a substantiated claim, there should be no repeated substantiated maltreatment.
- County Prevention Plan (CPP) – Implementation work plan organized around five objectives:
 - Increase access to services to be more relevant to family needs.
 - Change agency culture to work differently with families.
 - Address systemic disproportionality.
 - Establish a sustainable infrastructure.
 - Utilize continuous quality improvement and feedback loops to ensure accountability.
- SCC’s priority population – Children at imminent risk of harm or neglect
 - Families or youth struggling with substance abuse.
 - Pregnant and parenting foster youth.
 - Homeless youth or families.
 - Families struggling with domestic violence.
- The CA 5-year prevention plan identifies 3 pathways to prevention services:
 - Child welfare
 - Probation youth and their families
 - Community pathway
- Proposed new culturally specific programs
 - Fatherhood support – For substance abuse, residential services, and general parenting
 - Parent education/parent navigation – Addressing mental health, substance abuse, parent education, resource linkages, parent skill-based programs, etc.
- Supporting program fidelity – Motivational Interviewing
 - Insert MI into existing programs and expand training
 - Exploring Lyssn technology to support fidelity monitoring
 - Partners: Probation, DR CBOs, DFCS, Behavioral Health, Staff Development, Office of Research and Evaluation
- Commissioner Sirkay asked: Can you explain what motivational interviewing is?
 - Rocio responded: It’s a practice to help solicit engagement from our families.
- Building evidence based programs:
 - Differential response – Support to become evidence based (in progress)
 - Partners: BHSD, Probation, DFCS, CBO, ORE
 - Safe, Secured, and Loved – Support to become evidence based (in progress)
 - Partners: Sacred Heart, Santa Clara University, ORE
- Building on existing programs:
 - Parent child + -- An early childhood program designed to promote parent-child interaction and positive parenting to enhance children’s cognitive and social-emotional development.
 - Guaranteed basic income pilot – Young mothers to receive \$1200/mo for two years to improve access to childcare and overall well-being.
- Community Pathways
 - Phase 1: Strengthening all families equitably – Serves families that may have a need for support but are ineligible through child welfare
 - Phase 2: City of San Jose demonstration sites – To include two additional demonstration sites.
 - Phase 3: Evaluate different entry points

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

- Will be approving Juvenile Hall inspection report soon.

- Beginning SYTF inspection report.
- Working on Welcoming Center and Satellite Sites inspections.
- May 10th at 3:30pm – JJC in person mixer event
 - 333 W Julian Street (in the auditorium)

Presiding Judge: No one present to report.

Dependency Court: No one present to report.

Alternate Defender's Office: David Epps had nothing new to report.

Independent Defender's Office: Lana Kreidie had nothing new to report.

Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY): Amanda Kennedy had nothing new to report.

Dependency Advocacy Center (DAC): No one present to report.

The Office of Mediation and Ombuds Services: Ruth Maurice had nothing new to report.

Alternative Schools Department: Eugene Santillan reported on the following:

- Able to go to the Children's Summit recently.
- Students continue to engage in the Opioid Awareness Art Campaign.
- Osborne recently expanded music lab to include synthesizers, DJ controller, and two new drum machines.
- Team wrote a letter of support for Library Department so they might be honored with an award from the state.
- Working on contract development with SCI Inc. for Solar Building and Maintenance curriculum.

Mark Camilleri reported on the following:

- Youth at the Ranch are participating in a welding program.
- Started a cheerleading team at the Ranch.

Lissa Thiele shared two success stories about SYTF youth.

Department of Family and Children's Service (DFCS): No one present to report.

Probation Department:

Ashanti Hayes reported on the following for Juvenile Hall:

- Current population: 59
 - 26 SYFT
- Newly reopened Unit 3
- DJJ youth have been successfully integrated into the SYTF units.
- Commissioner BurtonBurke asked: How did you decide which youth get to go to the new unit?
 - Ashanti: We just closed one unit and moved them to another. There was no special assignments.

Elsa Jennings reported on the following for the Ranch:

- Current population: 35
 - 9 SYFT (7 male, 2 female)

- Acknowledge Probation staff who helped plan CBO appreciation lunch.
- SYTF unit has been busy with many outings.
 - Attended a visit to Cal Berkeley
 - One week later, SYTF young man was accepted to attend Cal Berkeley.
 - Opportunity in the summer for the youth to apply for an internship program through Stanford.
 - Took trips to Monterey county zoo, showing of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, laundromat to learn laundry, Cirque du Sole.
- Ranch youth visited Cabrillo College
- Commissioner Blake asked: The kids going to college – are they able to be connected to a support person when they go to college?
 - Elsa responded: Yes, they will stay connected with Lissa, and be connected to an academic counselor wherever they go.

Elisa Carias reported on the following for services:

- Gender Responsive Best Practice Guide published on Probation website.
- Celebrated National Victims of Crime week April 22-26
- Participated in Young Women’s power lunch

Behavioral Health: Veronica Robles had nothing new to report.

Medical Services: Lanphuong Le reported on the following:

- April 22 started providing Narcan to youth upon release.
- Celebrating National Nurses Week!

Law Enforcement Agencies: No one present to report.

District Attorney’s Office: Paul Jhin has nothing new to report.

Public Defender’s Office: Damon Silver had nothing new to report.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Betts adjourned to Executive Session at 1:10p.m. The next meeting will take place on June 4, 2024 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Garasky