



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission
222 Paul Scannell Drive • San Mateo, CA 94402

Minutes of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission

July 27, 2021 | 5:15-7:15 pm
Remote Meeting

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Toni Barrack, Co-Chair; Debora Telleria, Co-Chair; Rebecca Flores, Administrative Co-Chair; Melissa Wilson, Membership Vice Chair; Paul Bocanegra; Rocsana Enriquez; Karin Huber-Levy; Monroe Labouisse; Victor Lecha III; Sathvik Nori; Johanna Rasmussen; Susan Swope

Commissioners Absent: Douglas Winter, Austin Willis

Additional Attendees:

Judge Susan Etezadi – Juvenile Court
Jehan Clark – Probation
Melanie Stauffer - Probation
Ameya Nori – Youth Commission Liaison
Kate Hiester – Fresh Lifelines for Youth
Judith Gable – Acknowledge Alliance
Mary Lynn Fitton – Art of Yoga Project
JoAnne Bailey – Community Member
Zachary Kirk – Community Member

Sharon Cho – District Attorney’s Office
Aurora Pena – Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Ligia Andrade Zúñiga– SMUHSD Board of Trustees
Karen Gnusti – San Mateo County of Education
Chelsea Bonini – Commission on Disabilities
Michael Lim – Mental Health & Substance Abuse Recovery Commission
Chris Rasmussen – Mental Health & Substance Abuse Recovery Commission

I. Administrative Business

- a. **Call to Order:** Co-Chair Telleria called meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. **Roll Call and Establish Quorum:** A quorum was established at 5:15 p.m.
- c. **Welcome and Introductions**
- d. **Agenda Review:** Approved as distributed
- e. **Approval of June 29, 2021 Minutes:** Approved as distributed with correction to rename project “Increasing School Attendance”.

II. Oral Communication: *None*

III. Updates

- a. **Juvenile Court** (Judge Etezadi)
 - Still wearing masks in the courtrooms and government buildings. Bulk of hearings are for 300 cases; not many 602 hearings. Some are still appearing in person and some via Zoom.
 - Judges are meeting with Probation in August to discuss Secure Track. DJJ stopped accepting youth June 30, 2021 and will close June 30, 2023.
- b. **Private Defender Program** (Telleria)
 - Training for attorneys on the Secure Track program has begun and Realignment will start soon.



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c. County Office of Education (Karen Gnusti)

- Just finished the extended school year. Working on the new community school model, which will focus on a mental health and trauma informed environment. Students will go to the community school for a period of time and then return to their home school district.
- Focused on prevention, they are collaborating with an agency to see what the classroom environment should look like in terms of social emotional health. Will start with 10 students in August/September with a maximum of 60 students by the end of the school year. There will be a therapist onsite at Gateway. The name of the school may or may not change.

d. Probation (Stauffer, Clark)

- There are 161 youth on supervised probation (six-month informal contracts, deferred entry of judgment cases and formal probation cases), 65% of cases are low risk out of the 161 cases, there are zero youth in placement.
- There are 10 youth receiving AB12 services (completed placement/ receiving extended foster care services); five youth in DJJ; 64 youth in Assessment Center being processed for diversion or referral to the DA's office; four on informal contract (do not go through the court system); 14 youth on electronic monitoring and 21 DPO's. 65% of youth are Hispanic Latino.
- Continue to do business as usual. All PO's are back in the office and are going out into the field and some families are coming into the office as well.
- Institutions: There are 16 youth in YSC, and six youth in the Girls Camp. Continue to do business as usual. Some service providers have not returned in person, but they do have a few in person. Youth will be on summer break until August. Girls camp just had their JJDCP inspection and the YSC inspection is scheduled for next month.

e. District Attorney Office (Cho)

- No Updates

f. Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (Pena)

- Staff continue to provide TeleHealth services in the hall and in the community.
- An inspector from the Title 15 audit recommended courtside services and would like to see mental health along with correctional health providing very brief assessments for youth and family needs. Courtside services are for youth that come in for their court hearings. We will triage to make sure youth get medical and/or mental health services and parents get resources too.

IV. Inspections (Flores)

- Camp Kemp inspection is complete, working on executive summary
- YSC to be scheduled in August
- Schools scheduled for August
- Canyon Oaks inspection completed for the facility may need to go back to interview residents



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V. Final Project Report: Lessons Learned from COVID-19 (Rasmussen, Wilson, Nori)

- Interviewed 26 people in the juvenile system, including: seven law enforcement agencies, juvenile court, probation, juvenile hall staff, and education partners.
- Key take away: Did not see an increase in juvenile crime or recidivism during COVID-19, and are waiting on actual statistics to confirm.
- Positive impacts of COVID 19: Bookings have significantly decreased, family visiting time was extended, and Zoom has made operations smoother and more efficient. Will keep Zoom for family connectivity. Created and implemented new therapeutic programs at YSC.
- Interviewed four youth in YSC who mentioned that they all felt safe at YSC and have a trusting adult they can talk to. Most take pride in their education and want to do better. They said the quality of food and portion size are not ample and they are still hungry afterward meals. Concerned with COVID vaccine and are not vaccinated because they do not trust it.
- Recommendations: 1) Create future booking policy that has limitations. 2) Return to prior food services system where it was a family style meal. 3) Provide youth with a robust COVID-19 educational campaign to inform them of vaccine choices. 4) Continue Zoom family visits. 5) Expand the use of education technology at YSC to continue educational programming. 6) Explore opportunities to contract with Seton Medical Center to provide YSC Booking Medical Screening and Clearance for northern San Mateo County. 7) JJDP meetings should continue to conduct meetings via Zoom to increase attendance and outreach.

VI. Final Project Report: Create Dashboard to Monitor Data (Barrack, Lecha III, Telleria, Willis)

- Tackling the project in two phases: monthly data and then annual data. The data is from BSCC and the Probation department.
- Monthly data includes eight charts, which will be publicly available on the JJDP website.

VII. Final Project Report: Analyze After School Programs (Barrack, Huber-Levy, Nori)

- Summarizing key findings and will provide written report in September. Also developing a plan to advocate for filling unmet needs.
- **Aspiration:** All elementary and middle school children in underserved neighborhoods in San Mateo County have convenient, affordable access to programs the engage and support them after school.
- **Purpose:** Understand the structure of the after-school programs; identify gaps, and advocate for unmet needs.
- **Process:** Reviewed websites of all stakeholders, researched structure of extended learning, conducted hours of expert interviews, attended meetings of key groups, created a catalogue of providers, and prepared an analysis of programs/providers by school district.
- **Catalogue:** Includes after school programs for youth in each school district, organized alphabetically.
- **Key Findings:** All districts have some form of after-school program in place. Programs varied in quantity and depth. There were also unmet needs in all areas, including: applications by lottery and waitlists; not enough staff or range of providers/CBO's; costly facilities; transportation issues and high program costs.



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VIII. 2021 Project Plan Updates

a. Increase School Attendance

- Scheduled to hear from David Kopperud on the State SARB and State requirements for following up on truant students on August 6, 2021.

b. SMC Diversion Programs

- Still interviewing police departments. There was a problem getting a hold of East Palo Alto. There is interest in the parent handbook.

c. Communicate with Elected Officials

- No new meetings with elected officials in the last month due to vacations or other business.

d. Alternatives to Incarceration

- There has been some communication with supervisors, but progress is slow.

e. Outreach to Underserved Youth/Families

- Meeting with regular groups, posting on social media, and sharing our reports.

f. Peer Court

- Making great progress. Met with Probation. Applying for foundation grants, but need something more sustainable.

IX. Commission Report Outs

a. Youth Commission: Have not started meetings yet.

b. Legislation

- Promise Act is not proceeding. Right of Appeal for Transfer to Adult Court will pass. AB503 extensions of probation is limited to six-month increments and will be proceeding. AB1127 sentence enhancements was ordered inactive. Senate Bill 81 has moved to assembly. It provides guidance on sentencing enhancements to improve fairness in sentencing.

c. Membership

- There are five commissioners who will be coming to the end of their term in December. The selection committee for 2022 officers will be assembled soon.

d. Marketing: Still marketing on social media and sharing reports.

e. Police Liaison: No update

f. Community Ambassadors: Commissioner Barrack attended a presentation by community member Tom Leung on vocational training opportunities for San Mateo Youth. He is continuing to research this area and will provide us with future updates.

X. Announcements: *None*

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 31, 2021