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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

***JUVENILE JUSTICE***

***COORDINATING COUNCIL***

**Minutes**

**May 25, 2023**

**Present:**

Chief Tamika Nelson, Probation\*

Denise Huffines, Probation

Nathan Head, SDCOE\*

Matthew Strickland, Probation

Randy Mize, Public Defender\*

Karl Peralta, Probation

Gabriel Tapia, Probation

Cyndy Trinh-Keo, Probation

Corissa Edwards, SDPD\*

Cynthia Gamboa, Probation

Jason Druxman, Probation

Shawnalyse Ochoa, District Attorney\*

Dr. Octavio Rodriquez-Ferreira, SANDAG\*

Kathleen Flannery, PSG

Tabatha Wilburn, Probation

Erinn Herberman, Probation

MarySue Gail, Probation

Arvin Ramos, Probation

Frank Feliccia, Sheriff\*

Dana Maier, SD County Council

Brook Smith, The Children’s Initiative

Chyann Cox, The Children’s Initiative

Victor Mora, SANDAG

Mindy McCartney, SBCS

Yael Koenig, BHS\*

Lon Chay, Asian Solidarity Collective

Manuel Enriquez, Mid-City CAN

Mailissa Flores, California Youth Connection

**\*JJCC Members**

1. ***Opening and Opportunity for Public Comment***

* Chief Tamika Nelson called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.
* Brook Smith invited the public to provide comments.
  + Manuel Enriquez spoke in support of the newly awarded grant to end girl’s incarceration and asked the Chief and Probation department to share next steps publicly and how they will be integrating community input.
  + Lon Chay and Mailissa Flores also spoke in favor and echoed the same request.
* Chief Tamika Nelson greeted the JJCC.

1. ***Welcome and Introductions***
   * Chief Tamika Nelson informed the Council that one of the members, Yael Koenig, was participating remotely due to exposure to a contagious illness.
   * Brook Smith guided the Coordinating Council through introductions.
2. ***Review Minutes (Action)***
   * Randy Mize motioned to approve the minutes from February 22, 2023. Nathan Head seconded. All agreed. No one opposed. The minutes from February 22, 2023, were approved.
3. ***JJCPA Budget (Action)***
   * Brook Smith gave an overview of the proposed JJCPA base and growth budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the programs that it will be funding. There are no proposed budget cuts.The total proposed budget vetted and approved by the Technical Work Group is $9,067,151
     + Base Programs Budget with no changes from previous year.
       1. CAT/Law Enforcement Diversion: Brook reported that last year they received over 5,000 referrals and supported over 2,000 youth in long term case management.
       2. Substance Abuse Services (SAS)
       3. JFAST: the partners involved with JFAST recently held a retreat regarding changing their name from Juvenile Forensic Assistance for Stabilization and Treatment to Behavioral Health Court.
       4. Alternative to Detention (ATD) & CHOICE: Brook reported that 500-600 youth received services through this funding.
     + Growth Fund (tied to vehicle licensing fees). The total proposed budget is $4,745,463. Brook stated the Technical Work Group proposed the following:
       1. A small part of the growth fund will be used to fund the standard programs budget for the upcoming fiscal year
       2. RISE Court: continuation
       3. Running Club for Youth supports buying tennis shoes for youth, entry fees into races, and funding for running tracks at our facilities.
       4. Achievement Centers:
          1. Funding for the facilities themselves
          2. Funding for meals
          3. Funding for 3 full time clinicians (1 for each facility)
       5. Youth/Parent Support Specialist YTC Pilot Program
       6. Expert in National Best Practices for Youth in Detention: continuation for the next 3 years

Brook reported that they are also proposing to increase the budget for youth incentives in institutions from $15,000 to $30,000.

* + - Cynthia Gamboa shared that they need an increase in funding for incentives and excursions for the youth, which includes girl’s empowerment events.
    - Matt Strickland added that they also provide events at the facility for youth who are not eligible to leave. Gabriel Tapia further added that these events have been working well as incentives and many of the youth are motivated to become eligible for them.
    - Manuel Enriquez asked if these events are run solely through Probation or if they also partner with community vendors and organizations. He also asked about the previous year’s budget. Cynthia answered that they do partner with community organizations.
  + Randy Mize motioned to approve the budget. Corissa Edwards seconded. All agreed. No one opposed. The JJCPA base and growth budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 was approved. Also, youth incentives in institutions was increases to $30,000.

1. ***Updates*Probation**
   * Cynthia Gamboa provided an update for the Youth Transition Campus (YTC), which is now operating at full capacity with all 8 cottages open. There have been 28 high school graduations and 16 youth are currently in college. There are several extra curriculars offered, including a driver’s ed program where youth can get their driver’s permit. They have also implemented their behavioral management system, which is a more therapeutic approach with an incentive-based level system. There is a Youth Support Day planned for the summer in lieu of Mother’s or Father’s Days events. There have been no fights between the girls since YTC opened. Some youth have transitioned out of YTC and into employment with David’s Harp Foundation.
   * Matt Strickland provided an update for the Youth Development Academy (YDA), which is currently serving 44-youth. The cohort is split into two groups depending on their current placement in the program. One of these groups is performing particularly well behaviorally and will be split into two groups when the softened units open, which will be next month or July. The softening project is an ongoing process currently underway to make the facility better suited for long term habitation, softening it into a more homelike environment. Matt provided updates on the construction and decoration, which is all moving forward at a steady pace and going well. The 44-youth population consists of 24 returnees from the Department of Juvenile Justic (DJJ) and 20 direct commitments.

* Mindy McCartney with SBCS provided an update regarding contracted services for the YDA population. They now have a full complement of staff at East Mesa, including 2 coordinators (1 with lived experience), 4 case managers, 2 group facilitators, and 1 recreational facilitator. The remaining staff are being onboarded. The programming currently includes music classes from David’s Harp Foundation, life skills curriculum from Men of Honor, financial literacy from Mission Federal Credit Union, stress management classes, and programming from Lockeroom Barbershop, whose owner has lived experience and is offering both haircuts and safety classes. They are currently partnering with San Diego County Office of Education for summer college courses and contracting with Southwestern College for fall classes that will be offered both online and in person at the facility. A recreational program with Victim’s Impact is coming soon and will take place once a week for six months. There will also be CPR and first aid training, equipment was purchased for cooking classes, and they are also looking at starting parenting classes for those who are parents.

**Public Defender**

* Randy Mize provided an update that the Public Defender’s Board has approved funding for the Partners for Justice client program, which will provide support services. Brook Smith congratulated Randy on his retirement and thanked Randy for all his support to the JJCC and his work supporting the juvenile justice system.

**District Attorney**

* Shawnalyse Ochoa reported that the SANDAG report on JDI is completed, and that the DA’s office will be presenting more information on the findings at the August meeting.

**San Diego County Office of Education**

* Nathan Head gave an update on the progress with the YDA population. They are currently working with SBSC and Southwestern College for summer and fall classes respectively. Nathan reported that there is an increased demand for education and there was a town hall held earlier this week where the youth expressed the freedom to take on more classes if desired despite the increased workload. SDCOE is currently looking at a 5-year grant through the Rising Scholars program, with possible partners being Southwestern College, California State University San Marcos, or San Diego State University.

**Behavioral Health Services**

* Yael Koenig provided an update that BHS is focusing on CalAIM efforts and working to ensure that their providers are making the necessary adjustments. There are important and helpful advisories and reports coming from the Surgeon General in regard to youth social media use, healing through social connections, etc. Tabatha Wilburn added that they are currently forming a team in preparation for the work surrounding the Vera grant for Ending Girl’s Incarceration and will be holding meetings soon.

1. ***Kearny Mesa Master Plan Phase 2***
   * + Gabriel Tapia reported that the housing units are nearing completion. He reported that the will also be 6 classrooms and a multi-purpose room. There will be a sports field that will include a track, soccer field, and outdoor body weight workout area. The construction is trauma-informed to create a more homelike and welcoming environment, including high ceilings and a patio area. There will also be a Juvenile Probation Center.
2. ***Legislative Update***
   * Brook Smith provided a legislative update that highlighted juvenile justice related bills and their progress. June 2nd is the last day for each house of the state legislature to pass their respective bills.
     + **AB 505:** Will transfer all current juvenile justice duties and operations from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR). In regard to the JJCPA budget, those funds would fall under OYCR instead of BSCC. It has passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee and is scheduled for a third reading within the next week.
     + **AB 1186:** Would implement restorative justice and community service services for youth rather than paying a dollar amount to pay in restitution. The Court would also calculate a dollar amount for loss and suffering of victims to be paid by the California Victim Compensation Board. It has passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee and is scheduled for a third reading.
     + **SB 22:** Would extend the deadline that allows for remote Court proceedings until 1/1/2026. If it does not pass, remote proceedings will no longer be permitted after 6/30/2023.
   * The Children’s Initiative will send updates as these bills progress.
3. ***Future Agenda Items***
   * DA presentation with SANDAG
   * JJCPA budget outcomes from the previous fiscal year
   * Partnership between Cal Fire and East Mesa for programming
   * Next meeting is August 23rd, 2023
4. ***Adjournment***
   * Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM