



**JJDPC Quarterly Inter- Agency Meeting
Minutes**

July 14, 2022

Location: Rustin Conference Center (Entrance 1)
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507
Room#1016

IN ATTENDANCE: Christopher Collopy, Laurel Cook, Kelly Curtis, Elisa Judy, Deanna Micheal Malsed, Pam Torres, Cathy Piech, Cynthia Magill, Paul Parker, Charles Trembley, Tierra Bowen, Amrit Dhillon

ABSENT: None

GUEST: Deanna McCarty, Maura Rogers, Tammy Wilson, Bridgette Hernandez, Norma Biegel, Brandon Burns, Tuyet Nguyen, Albert Peyrefitte, Hunter Taylor, Natasha Dunlap, Jim Krachmer, Carrie Harmon, Heidi Marshall, Amrit Dhillon, Rachel Ligtenberg

Applicants: None

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- a. The meeting was called to order at 9:37 am.

2. Welcome and Introductions

- a. All the participants were welcomed by Chair Commissioner Christopher Collopy and given the opportunity to introduce themselves (by name and title).
- b. After the Commission's roll call, the following announcements were made:
 - i. Elections for JJDPC Officers were held at the June 9 regular meeting. The following have been newly or reelected as JJDPC Officers: Christopher Collopy - Chair, Michael Malsed - Vice Chair, and Tierra Bowen - Secretary - Treasurer
 - ii. Today is the last meeting for outgoing Commissioner Kelly Curtis

3. Riverside County Superintendent of Schools (RCOE) – Deanna McCarty

- a. Graduation ceremonies were held for Community Schools and Court School
 - i. 246 graduations (Come Back Schools)
 - ii. 102 graduations from Community and Court programs
 - iii. 100% Court School graduation is expected (once summer sessions have ended)
- b. Students are given the opportunity to enroll at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) in classes that offer AA++ certification, which they can translate into employment right away.
 - i. Twenty students have enrolled and thirteen have completed an IT Pathway through UCR
 - ii. Nine of those students were in court schools
- c. Web Security is the next job Pathway RCOE is looking into for next semester.
- d. There was a fifty-six percent decline in enrollment across all programs. Funding associated with the largest decline was in community schools.
 - i. Currently, there is no enrollment in community schools due to summer break.
 - ii. Thirty-seven students enrolled in the YTEC program
 - iii. Twenty-five students in the Indio program
 - iv. Forty students enrolled in Southwest Juvenile Hall
- e. When students are ready to leave the programs, they will have assistance from the transitional coordinator. There is also a “Free” mental health care space in all the community schools and is open to family members and to anyone in the community. Also, offered is a pregnant minor teens program (Cal-SAFE) in Hemet.
- f. Come Back Kids (CBK) Schools are open for enrollment and are “FREE” (no referral needed).
- g. Deanna provided a brief overview of Court Schools. She noted Court School provides a comprehensive instructional program for students in juvenile facilities operated by Riverside County Probation.
- h. Veterans Without High School Diplomas Sought for Riverside County Operation Recognition Program
 - i. Veterans who missed out on their high school graduation due to military service have until Friday, October 14, 2022, to apply for a diploma. Visit RCOE’s home page for more details.
 - ii. Graduation rates are going well.
 - iii. 100% graduation from Juvenile Hall.
 - iv. Eighty-three percent of students are in rolled in community schools.



4. Riverside County Probation – Chief Deputy Probation Officer (CDPO) Elisa Judy

- a. Institution Highlights:
 - i. YTEC - Saturday Family Day barbeque. All the guests were extremely happy to see their kids and we look forward to offering more family days in the future.
 - ii. College and Career Day - Booths were available to expose youth to a wide range of careers and colleges. A barber school that attended the event provided a variety of stylish haircuts for the youth.
 - iii. SB 81, Round Two - Went before the Board of Supervisors for approval, and Probation is meeting with the architect to begin the expansion of vocational class space located on the YTEC campus.
 - iv. Probation is also looking to partner with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to provide services for disadvantaged individuals.
 - v. Motivational Speaker Abe Cruz visited all three RCP juvenile facilities to share a message of hope. Abe went from being a former inmate to a successful entrepreneur. A snapshot of Abe's presentation can be found on Probation's Facebook page.
 - vi. Creative writing class - CDPO Judy, asked the Commission if they would judge haiku writing samples written by students and choose a winner. The Commission unanimously agreed to participate in the judging.
- b. Demographics of Population:
 - i. Detention - 91
 - ii. Camp and secure-track setting - 68
- c. Demographic Breakdown:
 - i. AMC detention - Two youth are in transition to either Indio or Southwest.
 - ii. Indio - 29 boys
 - iii. Southwest - 34 boys, 13 girls
 - iv. Camp numbers - YTEC 35 boys, Pathway 25 boys, YTEC 7 girls, and Pathways 1 girl
 - v. Budget for institutions is approximately \$50 million annually, with a total of 355 beds for all (3) sites.
- d. Staffing Update:
 - i. The Probation Department is currently recruiting Probation Correction Officers to fill multiple vacancies throughout Riverside County.
 - ii. Change in applicant testing process.
 - iii. Utilizing outside Sheriff's vendors for recruitment.
 - iv. We are still experiencing a higher than usual number of folks leaving their careers in the country for a variety of reasons.
 - v. Overall, open staff vacancies. Southwest at approximately thirty-eight percent; YTEC is approximately at twelve percent, and Indio is approximately at twenty-one percent.
 - vi. Title 15 - Is part of the California Code of Regulations entitled Crime Prevention and Corrections. New regulations and expectations for 2024.
 - vii. Raises were imposed on the Riverside Sheriffs' Association (RSA). The county is committed to boosting employee retention rates, as well as recruitment efforts. CDPO Judy, will provide updates as they develop.
- e. Transition assistance for youth returning from placement:
 - i. AB-200 - The bill would require the ward's baseline or modified baseline term to be adjusted to include credit for any time served by the ward in a less restrictive program if they are returned to a secure youth treatment facility. Currently, there are youth who were committed to two years that are now ready for release, and Probation is now in the process of providing a transition plan for these youth.
 - ii. Long-term planning
 - iii. Community partners
 - iv. Transitional housing
 - v. Step down process



5. Operation Safe House, Inc - Norma Biegel

- a. Operation SafeHouse, with Community Support, provides short and long-term services. Emergency Shelter Programs - Riverside and Thousand Palms.
- b. The Riverside facility served two hundred eleven youth last fiscal year.
 - i. Twelve hundred youth received individual counseling hours
 - ii. Ninety-four families received family counseling (two hundred thirty-seven hours).
 - iii. There was a total of nineteen hundred bed nights.
- c. Thousand Palms facility served one hundred twenty youth last fiscal year.
 - i. Nine hundred forty-nine youth received individual counseling hours.
 - ii. Eighty families received family counseling (one hundred thirty hours).
 - iii. There was a total of nineteen hundred bed nights.
- d. Staffing Update:
 - i. Staffing remains a top challenge and is the biggest issue. All programs have openings, and all staff are being trained due to staffing shortages.
 - ii. Received several grants from Riverside County and have been unable to full fill the positions of the grants due to a plethora of factors, including strict background checks and the newly implemented Guardian system.
 - iii. Long-standing federal grants (\$200,000) do not increase with the cost of the federal minimum wage or cost of living increases, rendering them unable to compete with the current job market. Even with raising the minimum range to \$16.00, they still fall short in such a competitive market.
- e. Higher level of Care (Adults/Youth):
 - i. Medication.
 - ii. Shelter.
 - iii. Increase in Mental health services for youth.
 - iv. Outreach teams.
 - v. Schools (Partner with Riverside University Health System (RUHS) in all regions.
 - vi. Exit Plan/Goals for youth in various programs.

6. Community Care Licensing - Natasha Dunlap

- a. Overview:
 - i. The Child Care Licensing Program provides oversight and enforcement for licensed Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes through 19 Regional Offices located throughout California.
- b. Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)
 - i. 18 licensed STRTPs providers.
 - ii. Nine pending applications.

7. DPSS – Bridgette Hernandez

- a. Stats end of Month (June):
 - i. Received two thousand two hundred referrals.
 - ii. Over one thousand five hundred required an in-person response.
 - iii. Hotline receives six thousand to seven thousand calls for a variety of reasons.
 - iv. By May of 2022, was over three thousand referrals.
 - v. By August / September, referrals usually increase.
 - vi. Currently, there is a high percentage of aged referrals (referrals open more than thirty days)
 - vii. Created Mobile Strike Team Created Mobile Strike Team.
 - viii. Twenty-nine hundred children that are in out of home care (in a variety of placement types).
 - ix. One hundred nine in congregate care or STRTPs. Dual status will be reported at the next meeting (number of children under Probation and DPSS jurisdiction).
- b. Staffing:
 - i. One hundred eighteen vacancies.
 - ii. Improved hiring and onboarding processes have led to us currently having only 25 vacancies.



- iii. Implemented difficulty in recruiting bonuses for child welfare social workers, along with adding an increase in pay to entry-level, social worker III's as well as the supervisor classifications.
 - c. Complex Care Funding (Legislative bills) Assist counties (Probation and Child welfare) to meet the needs of youth who have complex needs.
 - d. Overview:
 - i. Complex Care Funding: Child- Specific
 - ii. Complex Care Funding: Part II
 - iii. Complex Care Funding: Part III
 - e. Hotline Overview/Update:
 - i. Preventive Services Grant - Emergency Response Enhancement Fund. DPSS is in the process of adding a Preventive Service Unit to provide supportive services for referrals not requiring a response and those families who would benefit from a supportive response.
 - f. Commissioner request:
 - i. Commissioners would like to shadow the Hotline call center. Ms. Hernandez will follow-up and get back to the Commission on the next steps.
 - g. Existing STRTPs (Overview):
 - i. STRTP of 1 Model.
 - ii. Leveraging providers interested in adding the STRTP service to their current models
 - iii. Currently, there are NO STRTPs in Riverside County.
 - iv. Providers are interested in providing STRTP and STRTPs of 1 service (DPSS plans to apply for Startup Grant funding) for provider up-front cost.
 - v. Currently, a total of four (4) Riverside County youth in a STRTP of 1, and one who is getting ready to go into a STRTP of 1, typically there are five to ten youth in a STRTP of 1 (all out of the county).
 - vi. Emancipation / Adult Conservatorship Transition.
 - h. Commissioner request:
 - i. Introduction/ future site visit to Kern County STRTP. Ms. Hernandez will make inquires with the provider/site regarding the planning of a future site.
- 8. Juvenile Defense Panel – Brandon Burns**
- a. Overview/Update:
 - i. The Juvenile Defense Panel is an association of independent contractors who are private attorneys. Our attorneys provide legal representation to minors, their parents, and to those designated to care for these minors.
 - ii. Most clients have been from the City of Riverside and neighboring communities.
 - iii. Implementation of the Youth Assistance Program (YAP) – YAP is a diversion program for low level offenders designed to keep your child out of the Juvenile Court system.
 - iv. Funds are still being offered to CBOs to work with at risk youth before coming into the system.
- 9. Public Defender – Maura Rogers**
- a. Updates:
 - i. The Family Finding Model Overview: Developed by Kevin A. Campbell, the training offers methods and strategies to locate and engage relatives of children currently living in out-of-home care. The goal of Family Finding is to connect each child with a family, so that every child may benefit from the lifelong connections that only a family provides.
 - ii. The Public Defender's Office will be offering an LPS Conservatorship and Mental Health Issues in Youths and Intersection with Dependency Law training on August 10, 2022. Ms. Rogers will provide the training information to the Commission.
 - iii. SPARK Program - Snapshot: SPARK (Support, Partnerships, Advocacy and Resources for Kids). SPARK provides early intervention and prevention services to the juvenile justice system-involving youth and Transitional-age Youth in Riverside County. SPARK aids in the areas of: Special Education, School Discipline, Continuing Education, Immigration, Mental Health Resources, and more.



- b. Staffing:
 - i. In the process of hiring two social workers.
 - ii. Short one attorney in Southwest and have started the recruitment process.
- c. Youth / Adult (Over 18 years of age)
 - i. Age-appropriate programs
 - ii. Combine settings
 - iii. Transitional housing / Integrating into the community

10. District Attorney - Hunter Taylor

- a. Overview/Updates:
 - i. The Crime Prevention Unit started a partnership with the SAFE Family Justice Centers to deliver presentations to youth, parents, and professionals on topics of: Drug and Gang awareness, Online Predator Awareness, Hate Speech, and Anti-Bullying presentations and more.

11. Riverside Sheriff – Jim Krachmer

- a. Updates:
 - i. A partnership between College of the Desert (COD) and the sheriff's department. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department and College of the Desert have teamed up for the first time to lower crime in our communities through an inmate culinary arts program.
 - ii. Inmates registered as students at College of the Desert and can earn certificates in culinary arts. Programs and services are offered through the Sheriff's Inmate Training and education Bureau (SITE-B), which targets individualized reentry and transition needs, career technical education.

12. Oak Grove Center – Tammy Wilson

- a. Highlights:
 - i. There were several high school graduations this past June.
 - ii. Operating a bakery in Old Town Temecula (Oak Grove Center's Culinary Creations, a dessert boutique in Old Town Temecula).
 - iii. Three of the Oak Grove youth started at the bakery last week.
 - iv. Oak Grove Sanctuary Palm Springs (specifically designed to meet the needs of the LGBTQ+ community). One transgender teen will be able to go to the Palm Springs location when the teen turns eighteen.
- b. Challenges:
 - i. Number of referrals
 - ii. Over ninety packets/referrals are pending (from various cities/counties)
 - iii. Need for more beds
 - iv. Staffing
- c. Clients Served:
 - i. In 2021, One Hundred Fifty-six were served in the STRTPs.
 - ii. Thus far this year, One Hundred Thirteen have been served in the STRTPs.
- d. Census:
 - i. Currently, at fifty-three, and by the end of the week it will be at fifty-six.
- e. Partial Program:
 - i. Significant increase in suicide attempts. Ninety youth have been served thus far
 - ii. Oak Grove Partial Program - A Mon-Fri program for children and youth that do not need 24-hour care but do require more intensive treatment.

13. County Counsel – Amrit Dhillon

- a. Overview/Updates:
 - i. The County Counsel has primary responsibility for the administration and direction of a program providing legal counsel and representation to the County Board of Supervisors, officials, and representatives of various districts.
 - ii. County Counsel is comprised of six divisions, including the Child Welfare division with three satellite offices in Indio, Riverside, and in Southwest.



- iii. The County Counsel Research, Training and Appeals Unit provides training to various departments.
- iv. It was noted that the two Assistant County Counsel positions are vacant.

14. Riverside County Housing and Workforce Solutions – Carrie Harmon

- a. Overview/Updates:
 - i. Six Youth Opportunity Centers – Located in Hemet, Indio, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Rubidoux, and Moreno Valley. Comeback Kids are on-site at several of the locations.
 - ii. Youth Opportunity Centers - Exemptions for youth to be employed and still receive services
 - iii. Employment resources for justice involved youth.
 - iv. Approximately, one thousand young people aged 16–24 attend those six centers annually and receive a wide variety of services.
 - v. To honor youth, who have been able to pursue their education despite great challenges, they will be an event that will take place at March Air Force reserve base tonight. The event will be posted on the Housing and Workforce Solutions website.
 - vi. Housing and Workforce Solutions offers employment-related service for all ages.

15. Immanuel House (Guest) – Albert Peyrefitte

- a. Overview:
 - i. Immanuel House is a transitional living facility providing a safe, clean, sober living environment and supportive services and housing for males and females with mental health and or alcohol/drug rehabilitation needs and who wish to transition back to society. Immanuel House also engages in community outreach for people that may need these services.

16. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

- a. In his final public comments Commissioner Kelly Curtis spoke glowingly about the work and the many accomplishments of the JJDPCC over the past three years he served on the Commission.

17. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:53am

Next Meeting:

Date: October 13, 2022
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Rustin Conference Center (Entrance 1)
Room #1006