



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes
May 14, 2020

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX
First District
DIANNE JACOB
Second District
KRISTIN GASPAR
Third District
NATHAN FLETCHER
Fourth District
JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

Present:

Chief Adolfo Gonzales, Probation*
Ruben Leyva, Probation
Brook Smith, Children's Initiative
Randy Mize, Public Defender*
Scott Huizar, Probation
Tommy Winfrey, Children's Initiative
Stephanie Heying, Children's Initiative
Alex Zermeño, Probation
Chad Bourdeau, Sheriff's Department*
Dr. Cindy Burke, SANDAG*
Chrystal Sweet, Probation
Maryan Osman, Mid-City CAN

Dorothy Thrush, PSG
Erinn Herberman, Probation
Joy Singleton, Singleton Law Firm*
Lisa Sawin, Probation
Lisa Weinreb, District Attorney*
Sandra McBrayer, Children's Initiative
Yael Koenig, Behavioral Health Services*
Nathan Head, SDCOE*
Marc Regier, Probation
Sandy Keaton, SANDAG
Kristine Lefebvre, Probation
Bennett McManus, Children's Initiative

*JJCC members

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment:**

- Chief Gonzales asked if there were any public comments and, after some time, stated that there were none.

2. **Welcome and Introductions:**

- Chief Gonzales called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM. He welcomed the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. Introductions followed. Chief Gonzales welcomed Joy Singleton, who is the new Community Representative at Large.

3. **Review Minutes (Action):**

- Randy Mize motioned to approve the minutes from February 19, 2020. Lisa Weinreb seconded. All agreed. No one opposed. The minutes from February 19, 2020 were approved.

4. **Announcements:**

- Sandy McBrayer shared that, as of this morning, Governor Newsom announced California will start the process of closing all DJJ facilities and camps. They will no longer take any new youth into the facilities after January 1, 2021 and, through attrition, will close all facilities. The State will support counties to house youth locally, and will be releasing money through competitive grants to house the youth convicted of sex offenses and mental health at a local level.

5. **Drug Court Outcome Summary—Sandy Keaton**

- Sandy Keaton presented a 7-slide PowerPoint on the Highlights of Juvenile Drug Court Deep Dive. Research on JJCPA programs that SANDAG conducts during deep dives provides the public with more information than what is released in the annual JJCPA report.

- For this deep dive, there was a sample of 22 youth that exited the program between July 2018 and March 2019. Youth were on average 16 years old when they entered the program. All had extensive prior contact with the Juvenile Justice system before entering. Youth also had challenges with school engagement and poor school performance.
- All youth had reported using marijuana, with 90% reporting use of alcohol and 52% reporting use of “other” illicit drugs. 43% had one substantiated child welfare case, which is important: for every substantiated case, it is likely there were at least 10 referrals.
- Males were more likely to be unsuccessful at program completion. Youth who tested positive for “other” illicit drugs were less likely to complete successfully when compared to those who reported using only marijuana and/or alcohol. Those who spent more days detained prior to entering the program or who had a prior felony sustained petition were less likely to succeed. It was found that the longer they were in the program, the less likely they were going to succeed in completing it.
- Males in the study were more likely to recidivate. Those terminated were more likely to have a new probation referral. Sandy Keaton concluded that there is a question to the effectiveness of Drug Court on youth who use drugs other than marijuana or alcohol.
- Chief Gonzales asked what kind of recommendations Probation can infer or what direction Probation can go when considering how small the sample size of this study is. Sandy Keaton explained that, although the sample size was small, these data have been consistent with what they have seen across the years, especially when it comes to program outcomes. These warrant a critical review on the validity and efficacy of the program.
- Joy Singleton asked for the rough cost of Drug Court. Sandy McBrayer answered that there is \$1 million allocated in the current JJCPA budget, in addition to the amount of budgeted money that the DAs, public defenders, the bench allocate to working with this population, and the amount of time the youth are detained during the program.
- Sandy Keaton added that the amount of time the youth are detained could have a lasting effect on the continuity of care they receive within their treatment.
- Randy Mize stated he is no longer positive JJCPA should support Drug Court when looking at the cost and the results.

6. JJCPA Budget Modification—Sandy McBrayer

- Sandy McBrayer presented the Revised JJCPA budget and stated that as COVID-19 had not happened at the time of the vote for the JJCPA 2020-21 budget during the February 11, 2020 Coordinating Council meeting, she is going to make recommendations for a revised budget. There is a possibility that the base funding amount will not be met by the State and the existing Growth Fund will need to be used for the programs already in place that have a high success rate.
- The first recommendation is the elimination of Drug Court. Instead, Probation is looking at a triad approach, which will be three levels of intervention to give youth the best programs, closest to their homes, that also address their level of need. The first tier includes youth who are occasional users experimenting with just alcohol and marijuana. These youth are eligible for the CHOICE Program and the Achievement Centers, which would keep them at home and give them the interventions and pro-social behaviors that they need. Also, with the rise in the amount of youth eligible to Medical due to COVID-19, more will be able to utilize in the Teen Recovery Centers. The second tier includes youth who are regularly using drugs. The third tier includes youth who use heavier drugs and aren’t safe to the community. Probation is currently working with Behavioral Health to see what programs would work best in this case. The goal is to move from a punitive approach to a strengths-based approach. If adapted, the termination of Drug Court would officially

take place July 1, 2020.

- Lisa Weinreb expressed her concern that the new, three-tiered strategy won't be in place by July 1, 2020, which leaves Probation with a gap of what to do with the youth qualified for this program until it is fully developed. Sandy answered that they could have the first two tiers in place within the upcoming weeks.
- Chief Gonzales called for a motion to approve the elimination of Drug Court. Randy Mize motioned to eliminate Drug Court. Nathan Head seconded. All agreed. No one opposed. No one abstained. The termination of Drug Court was approved.
- Sandy McBrayer presented the JJCPA Growth Fund May Revision. It is recommended to save the money that was going to be used for newly proposed programs to help with any deficit from JJCPA base funding cuts.
 - **Support for Family Engagement:** this funding is for the facilities to try and get the families engaged with youth while they are in the facilities. It is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$40,000 a year for three years
 - **RISE Court:** this funding goes towards supporting youth with museum trips, backpacks, and clothes; things the youth have an interest in and will keep them on the right path. It is recommended to continue to fund this at \$45,000 a year for three years.
 - **Truancy Diversion Services:** this program tries to get youth back in to school and on their academic track. It is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$40,000 a year for three years.
 - **Running Club for Youth:** this program pays for registrations to running events, shoes, and staff overtime. It is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$25,000 a year for three years.
 - **ATD Clinicians:** this was a new position. It is recommended to postpone this for a short time until more is known about JJCPA base funding.
 - **Community Partnership Specialist:** this was a new position, it is recommended to postpone this until more is known about JJCPA base funding.
 - **JFAST Alcohol and Drug Specialist:** it is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$25,000 for only FY 2020-21.
 - **Achievement Center:** there are two Achievement Centers as of now which show successful results. It is recommended move forward to fund a third center in East County.
 - **SDRRC II - Training/Implementation Specialist:** there needs to be strong, consistent training moving forward to ensure this tool is used and used successfully. It is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$75,000 a year for three years.
 - **Expert in National Best Practices for Youth in Detention:** this program works with Mike Dempsey and CJCA to continue the work of the use of force and implementation of the recommendations. It is recommended to continue to fund this program at \$100,000 a year for three years.
 - **Facility Support Specialist:** this was to bring someone into the facility to work with staff to see how they are doing and what they need. It is recommended to postpone this new position until more is known about the JJCPA base funding.
- Chief Gonzales commented that Probation is looking at a 28-38% cut in their budget, however, Governor Newsom had presented that he is hoping for some Federal assistance to the state. He believed the proposed revised JJCPA budget recommended today is a sensible choice to make.

- Yael Koenig reminded the Coordinating Council of the shortfall in the budget of \$560,000 for the Bridgeways Program. With the economic realities, this will be a challenge for Probation and Behavioral Health to address.
- Ruben Leyva stated that all of the Coordinating Council has done a lot of work. He was pleased with the plan and infrastructure placed. He was concerned about the next steps and past timelines that were set back because of the circumstances.
- Cindy Burke motioned to accept the budget proposal. Randy Mize seconded. The Revised JJCPA budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 was passed with all in favor. No one opposed.

7. Probation Institutions—Alex Zermeño

- Chief Gonzales thanked Scott Huizar, Tim Hancock, Sandy McBrayer, Marc Regeir, Alex Zermeño, PSG, and others who worked on the Kearny Mesa Master Plan.
- Alex Zermeño announced the population of the Juvenile Institutions as of today was 205 youth, which was significantly lower than 2 months ago, 267 youth. East Mesa just received two youth from Michigan who tested positive for COVID-19, both of which went straight to isolation. No one besides Probation staff is entering the facility. Anyone who enters the facility must go through a symptom screening and must wear a facial covering. Every time youth step out of their rooms, they must wear facial coverings. Probation has instituted a policy of passive recreation, which means youth aren't playing contact sports such as basketball, but are playing non-contact games such as 21, HORSE, etc. There is a special unit in Kearny Mesa that is split into boys and girls that is specifically for quarantining new intakes.
- The halls now have tablets and other equipment to keep youth in touch with their parents and start school up again. School packets are dropped off every week and teachers are present over the webcams to help youth complete their work. Bridgeways and Second Chance programming has also been resumed. There was one graduation a couple weeks ago and Probation is expecting 8-9 more this year.
- With the current schedule, Probation has four officers per unit from 10 AM – 6 PM. The officers split the units in half to assist with social distancing, which equals about 16 youth per officer.
- Joy Singleton asked why there was such a decrease in San Diego Juvenile Probation's institution population. Alex Zermeño answered that there has been a new protocol for early release at Urban Camp and they have cut off intakes to try and avoid taking in youth for technical violations unless they are a danger to themselves or the community. Sandy McBrayer added that as of March 1st, 2020 the County signed off that Probation is not detaining youth with misdemeanors.
- Joy Singleton asked if other out of state youth were coming home besides the two from Michigan. Alex Zermeño answered that the Michigan youth were an isolated incident and these are the only two youth coming back to his knowledge. Lisa Sawin added that San Diego currently has about 20 youth detained out of state.
- Sandy McBrayer shared the video of the deconstruction of Kearny Mesa Juvenile facility that was taken earlier this morning. She reminded the Coordinating Council that they are planning for occupancy in November 2021. In August, timeline updates will be sent out.

8. Future Agenda Items

- JJCPA Budget
- Georgetown University Dispositional Matrix
- Kearny Mesa Master Plan
- Future of DJJ

Distributed:

- May 14, 2020 Agenda
- February 19, 2020 Minutes
- Highlights of Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Deep Dive PowerPoint
- Kearny Mesa Construction Photo and Video
- JJCPA FY 2018-19 Growth Fund Proposal
- JJCPA FY 2020-21 Budget Proposal
- JJCPA FY 2018-19 Growth Fund Proposal—Revised, May 2020
- JJCPA FY 2020-21 Budget Proposal—Revised, May 2020

Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 19, 2020

Meeting minutes were submitted by Brook Smith. Please call him at (858) 581-5882 if you have corrections or suggested revisions. He may also be contacted for agenda items or general information. Thank you.