

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

February 9, 2022

Microsoft Teams Teleconference

12:00 p.m. – 2:16 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Palagummi, Vamsey (Chair)	Mchombo, Pamela	Nair, Kamal
Metz, Elana (Vice Chair)	Galvis, George	Norris, Zachary
Anderson, Louise	Larios, Xochtil	Peralta, Gina

Collaborative Partners Present:

Buckner-Preston, Mia, <i>Social Services</i>	Mitchell, Alicia, <i>Director, Probation Department</i>
Chambers, Adrienne, <i>Deputy Chief Probation Officer</i>	Moffatt, Sean, <i>ACOE Director of Court Schools</i>
Dawal, Marcus, <i>Interim Chief Probation Officer</i>	Pappas, Carissa, <i>Probation Specialist, Probation</i>
Ford, Brian, <i>Assistant Chief Probation Officer</i>	Rivers, James, <i>Superintendent, Probation Department</i>
Fort, Jessica, <i>Superintendent, Probation Department</i>	Ross, Javay, <i>ACBH</i>
Gerchow, Christine, <i>ACBH</i>	Vaughan, Monica, <i>ACOE Chief of Schools</i>
Jones Dickson, Ursula, <i>Presiding Judge, Juvenile</i>	Wegley, Rebecca, <i>Probation Specialist, Probation</i>
Konover, Kimberle, <i>ACBH</i>	Zambrana, Andrea, <i>Conflict Counsel</i>
Middleton, Natasha, <i>Probation Specialist, Probation</i>	Kane, Anna, <i>Secretary, Probation Department (Recorder)</i>

Approval of minutes: January minutes to be approved at the March meeting.

ACOE

- Final walkthrough February 22 with Laney College
- College class starts March 8
- FLY starting in Unit 6 and Camp
- Hired new teacher for Unit 3

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

Question

How is the FASFA handled while the youth are in juvenile hall?

Answer

We are getting training on that currently.

Question

How many youth do you anticipate will participate in the class?

Answer

All high school graduates and high school students in Unit 3; We anticipate 10-12 students will start on March 8.

Question

Are there any prerequisites to take the class?

Answer

No prerequisites required. The course is designed to provide college experience. The students will receive heavy support and counseling.

Comment from the Commission

Unit 3 graduates and some youth from Unit 5 have already started several college classes on January 23.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Question

Is ACOE tracking the effect of OUSD school closures on the youth?

Answer

We have been in close communication with OUSD. Oakland Community Day School will close, however OUSD has reduced the number of expelled students. The impacted students will be able to attend ACOE schools.

Question

How is transportation handled?

Answer

ACOE provides transit passes for all enrolled students.

Question

Since most students are from Oakland, how will ACOE accommodate the students impacted by Oakland Community Day School closure?

Answer

ACOE has several campuses and satellite locations in Oakland. Students can also opt to go to Hayward or San Leandro locations.

Behavioral Health

- Christine Gerchow is the new Juvenile Justice Health Services Director
- Total 70 youth detained
- 67 youth opened cases with clinicians
- January numbers:
 - 142 referrals - 17 crisis referrals; 34 regular intake referrals; no urgent referrals; 93 that came from other sources

Medical Health

- January numbers are as follows:
- 44 admissions/ 46 discharges
- Physician appointments: approximately 30 physicals and 60 sick visits
- Nurses had over 600 visits; COVID symptom checks are included in that number
- Currently there are 8 COVID positive youth
- January's highest was 17 COVID positive youth
- Medical has created an information handout for COVID positive youth
- Tablets uploaded with COVID educational videos
- 25 vaccines given in January
- 70 detained; 45 are fully vaccinated or in the process
- All COVID positive youth have had either mild symptoms or been asymptomatic

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Social services

- Assessment Center (AC) update
- January 50 new intakes
- 18 overstays due to COVID; youth could not go home due to either parents or siblings being ill; or parents sending youth away due to them not following safety rules
- Failed placements due to caretakers no longer being able to care for the youth due to health reasons or relatives believing youth were bringing COVID home; youth were sent back to AC
- AC tried to not have COVID positive youth and worked to find placements, however, did host several COVID positive youth who had to isolate and were able to do so in the transition room
- Having youth who had exposure to COVID at the AC hampered the AC's ability to take additional youth
- Rapid testing is now provided at the AC. Catching cases early; developing emergency placements
- Majority of kids at the AC are teens, females, and African Americans; Overstays are mostly African American or Latinx youth
- Working with two consultant agencies for recruitment campaigns;
- AC is working with consultants, state, and STRTPs to find a way to serve kids better and faster

Question

What is our recourse if the STRTPs are not accepting youth? Can we cancel their contract?

Answer

Data from Behavioral Health (BH) found that many Alameda County STRTPs are not taking Alameda County youth. When the STRTP does not take a placement, we are asking for a reason in writing. Placement workers ask for technical assistance call with the State. CDSS meets with the Placement team and comes up with a recommendation. When state interferes, the STRTP issues a 14-day notice. There is a meeting scheduled to address this issue later this month.

Question

What happens to kids when the AC can't take referral?

Answer

Make calls to friends, relatives, and caregiver communities to find someone to take the youth. We call FFAs and RFA families.

Question

Provide more information about overstays.

Answer

Shortest overstay was 80 hours, longest was 358 hours. All overstays are reported to the state monthly.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Question

Would increasing money to the RFAs would help boost numbers?

Answer

Yes, but not for the population with the greatest need (teens).

Question

How STRTPs respond to vaccine status? Does it make a difference?

Answer

Yes, they are more open when youth are vaccinated and testing negative. Foster parents are hesitant to get youth vaccinated. Foster parents prefer kids to be vaccinated before they arrive.

Question

Do youth have a say in the placement process? Do you try to keep youth local?

Answer

We try to stay local and then move out as needed. Youth meet with their placement worker every day. Youth generally prefer to stay close to home, but it may not be possible due to their history.

Probation
Juvenile Hall Update

- 58 youth in custody; 8 female
- 5 youth under 14 years of age or younger
- 8 youth positive for COVID
- 8 staff positive for COVID
- Positive youth are isolated but go out at least once in the AM and PM shifts
- Programing at JH and Camp is suspended; virtual programming is provided
- Incident reports and demographics have been provided to the commission
- 15 new JIOs have been hired; 4 have finished training
- Phone call reimbursement forms, in English and Spanish, have been mailed.

Track the phone call fees reimbursement forms and report back

Question

What's the plan for positive youth development, socialization, and outdoor time for COVID positive youth?

Answer

JJPC Chair and Vice Chair have also expressed concerns; they have been invited next Monday to discuss conditions of confinement with Medical and BH. Other commissioners are welcome to attend.

Georgetown Presentation

Michael Umpierre, Director, Center of Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University - (PowerPoint attached)

Question

What recommendations and solutions can you offer to Alameda County?

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Answer

For youth that are involved in multiple systems, it is important for folks around the child to come together to lift up and elevate their strengths and reimagine the ways families and youth are viewed and treated. Case planning, multidisciplinary team meeting should involve youth's and their families' input and connect youth to services in the community.

Question

What changes have you seen in ACPD since they started working with you?

Answer

It has been a number of years since our team has been on the ground with Alameda County. Georgetown would need to do an assessment to provide an answer. However, there have been studies that when the Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) is practiced with fidelity, there are positive outcomes for the youth.

A federal study was done to identify what makes the CYPM successful. A rubric was developed and identified 11 key domains. The County can use the rubric, with or without our assistance, to do a self-assessment to evaluate progress.

Question

How much data do you have on the characteristics of congregate care?

Answer

We do not have a study done in Alameda County. This data may be available through probation or social services. In addition to quantitative data, talk to the youth who have been to congregate care to ask them about their experiences.

Question

What are we doing to engage communities? Who else should be looking for foster parents?

Answer

We agree that congregate care should be our last resort.

Question

STRTPs get a lot of money per month. Why don't we provide more funding to foster families?

Answer

The rates are set by CDSS. The more expensive STRTPs are usually for teens that need more extensive services. The Assessment Center is open to having conversations on making improvements to finding placements.

STRTPs are for treatment. The decision to place a youth there is made by a multi-discipline team. The youth can stay longer than six months if the treatment needs have not been met. There is a process for continuation of mental health services, see AB 1299.

AGENDA

DISCUSSION

ACTION NEEDED

Public Comment: No public comment

Next Meeting Date: Meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Location: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Teleconference