



ALAMEDA COUNTY

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
2500 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, CA 94578
Room C-1002
ZOOM Teleconference

Commissioners Present:

- Shay, Shani (Chair)
- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larios, Xochtil (Vice Chair) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frye, Jasmine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshall, Paul | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peregrina, Jessica | Youth Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asberry, Aminah | <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson, Aaron | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Palagummi, Vamsey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott, Richard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faiyaz, Sara |
- Member Emeritus:** Anderson, Louise Metz, Elana Nair, Kamal Nunley, Patricia

Collaborative Partners Present:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Badiey, Naseem, ACPD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ford, Brian, Chief, ACPD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pappas, Carissa, ACPD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Banuelos, Albert, ACPD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gomez, Antonio, ACBH | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross, Javay, UCSF |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brown, Jenifer, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Gratz-Lazarus, Zach, CAAP | <input type="checkbox"/> Sekany, Amy, SCAC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buckner-Preston, Mia, SSA-CWS | <input type="checkbox"/> Goode, Jessica, ACOE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taizan, Juan, ACBH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Castro, Arturo, SCAC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harris, Lisa, AC Library | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tate, Hattie, OUSD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cercone, Dante, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Dickson, Ursula, DA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walton, Robert, ACPD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chandler, Cynthia, CAAP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Khan, Shereen, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Wegley, Rebecca, ACPD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conner, Shauna, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Maemori, William, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Williams, Shahidah, BOS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donovan, Allyson, DA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mance, Alphonso, Public Defender | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wu, Michael, Public Defender |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ebrahimi, John, ACPD | <input type="checkbox"/> Morimoto, Mas, DA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yun, Jennifer, ACBH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farrell, Sabrina, DA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moritz, Lucia, ACOE | |

- Call to Order and roll call** – Vice Chair Xochtil called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM.
- Review and adoption of meeting minutes from December 10, 2025.**
- Commission Update(s), Announcements and Comments:**
 - On Christmas Eve, the Commission visited Juvenile Hall and Camp Sweeney, providing a meal of chicken gumbo, chicken tamales (cheese and bell pepper), and donuts and cupcakes.
 - Commissioner recently met with Senator Aisha Wahab to discuss the Social Services Audit.
 - The Commission also met with Michelle Love from Alameda County Social Service. When her schedule permits, she will participate in this meeting, sharing her perspective about the audit findings.
- Partner Updates**
 - Education
 - ACOE – **Lucia Moritz**
 - One graduate from the post-secondary program is on their way to start at a Historically Black College and Universities (HBCU). This was a collaborative effort with ACOE, Laney College, Probation, and the court.
 - The one-year cohort graduation rate for court school was 96%. This differs from a four-year cohort graduation rate. If a student was expected to graduate by the end of the year and they remained in-custody, the statistic indicates the 96% of students did graduate as expected.
 - ACOE Principal Jessica Goode has been nominated by the Association of Schools Administration for our region. She will be recognized in May for her achievement.
 - The post-secondary program begins the spring semester next week.

5. Both Laney College and the College of Alameda will be present for in-person session. Laney will head the culinary program at Camp Sweeney.
6. **Question from the Commission**
 - a. What type of certificates will they receive? Is there a continuance of job readiness programs?
 - i. The community college network is incredible, notably the Rising Scholars program. Youth who may not be accepted to vocational programs because of their background and status are able to take another path through the community college pipeline.
 - ii. OUSD
 1. In partnership with ACOE's PAC Team, we have been able to determine when a student was sent to school but did not show up. We work directly with the PAC Team to locate the student. This narrows the gap where our kids are getting lost.
 2. At a future meeting, I would like to invite our new Chief of Staff for Oakland Unified School District, former City of Oakland Councilwoman Lynette McElhaney. She is a part of the work in Oakland that established the Department of Violence Prevention.
- b. Courts
 - i. Judiciary
 1. No update.
 - ii. District Attorney
No update.
 - iii. Public Defender – **Al Mance & Michael Wu**
 1. On December 19th, the Public Defender's Office provided a pizza party for the youth in Juvenile Hall and Camp Sweeney. We enjoyed being able to talk with the kids casually.
 2. We now have two new judges, essentially at the same time. Both judges are new to delinquency. Judge Castro was doing dependency before, but this is his first time with delinquency. Judge Sekany came from adult criminals. She has criminal experience, but no juvenile experience. Both have been great. They're listening and we all are learning a lot.
 3. There is a complication we have with the kids we have had go to college. This is completely beyond everyone's control.
 - a. If a kid comes in to Secure Track on a homicide case, they get a base term that is between 4 and 7 years. We have a hearing to determine what is appropriate, where we brief the issue, and the judge sets the hearing.
 - b. Some of the time, the kid will spend in custody. And then typically when they go to school, it is a step down. And what that means is that a significant amount of their time has passed, a significant amount of the base term has passed. You go to the end of the base tournament, and there's another 6 months that they can have.
 - c. The funding that probation has is attached to the court's jurisdiction. So, you can easily end up with a situation where the kid, particularly if they need some remediation, has more time left in school, but the funding has run out. This is a matter of jurisdiction, the funding, and state law.
 - d. The financial barrier and lack of job experience makes vocational programs more attractive. Some of the programs pay participants. Also, there is opportunity to join a union and potentially secure a job before the program ends.
 4. Earlier this week, one of our clients left a Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) This was the longest time the client had stayed in an STRTP. The program staff indicated the client had been engaging with therapy and participating despite challenges. They also anticipated that client would have graduated in a month or so.

- a. When a client leaves for whatever reason, a warrant is issued, and the client is in the wind. They are disconnected from any kind of services, particularly mental health services.
 - b. We would like to collaborate with some of our fellow stakeholders to get basic data about all our young people going to STRTPs, how many of them are completing the program successfully, and how many are AWOLing? Additionally, we would like information on AWOL rates from Camp Sweeney.
- iv. Court Appointed Attorneys – **Cynthia Chandler**
1. Cynthia is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Alameda County Bar Association. (ACBA). ACBA administers the Court Appointed Attorneys Program (CAAP), which is the county conflict panel.
 2. Currently, the leadership is in transition. The former director left the program, and we are in the process of hiring a new director of CAAP.
 3. During the interim period, we have 3 people, me included, that are serving as sort of an acting interim team. I oversee compliance and bigger, broader systems improvement, development. Hadassah Hayashi, our CEO, oversees financial compliance and staff management. We have also taken on Annie Bellis, a private defense attorney, acting as an outward-facing community liaison.
 4. Expect for Annie or me to reach out this month and next month in an intensive way, this includes having meetings with the judiciary, Public Defenders, and community organizations.
 5. We are actively recruiting juvenile attorneys, preventively. We do not want to find ourselves in a situation where we have a backlog in juvenile. Additionally, we are providing, training and support and opportunities for attorneys to elevate the class of cases that they can take competently.
 6. The attorneys on the conflict panel are all independent contractors; they all have their own firms. They are all their own individual actors.
 7. We are looking at sort of like a panel of subcontractors that can very aggressively take on Racial Justice Act claims.
- c. Integrated Healthcare
- i. Medical
 1. No update.
 - ii. Behavioral Health – **Jennifer Yun**
 1. Since last meeting, we onboarded our clinician. She is about three-and-a-half weeks into her new role. We hope to set her schedule in the next few weeks from Wednesdays through Saturdays.
 2. Human Resources is finalizing their list for the behavioral health clinical supervisor, the next step is interviews.
- d. Probation
- i. The Probation Department went before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) requesting an allocation of \$200,000 to be dispersed over the next two fiscal years, which enables the department to respond swiftly to the fiscal barriers our youth face with higher education.
 - ii. Our Credible Messenger contract is scheduled to end soon. Before we put a new contract out, we are conducting a listening session on February 10, 2026, from 4 pm to 4 pm, tentatively held at the Lakeside Garden Center. A Flyer will be sent out soon, so please share it with your networks.
 - iii. Facilities Updates – **Albert Banuelos**
 1. We have implemented a new technical tool for youth accessible on their tablets. This gives them access to many Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI) designed to move them towards a CBI component. In line with Evidence-Based Practices (EBP), increased intervention dosage correlates with positive behavioral outcomes.
 2. We have completed our second Camp's Giving. Accompanied by staff, a group of camp kids go into the community to be of service. This was the first time the youth interacted with the unhoused population, working in a food bank.

3. Facilities Demographics: Juvenile Hall – 54 youths in Juvenile Hall (50 male, 4 female), 28 youth on GPS (17 male, 9 female), 0 youth on Home Supervision. Firm Roots Academy – 12 Youth (10 male, 2 female). Camp Sweeney – 10 youth (6 camp commitments, 4 Step downs).
4. **Questions from the Commission**
 - a. Are there collaborations with community members or organizations here in AC? Such as Town Nights, or other events?
 - i. Always interested in collaborated, need to look at safety and look at measures so it is a positive experience.
 - ii. Send camp any opportunities youth can engage in “giving back” that can check camps safety policy.
 - b. How often are youth getting outside at JH?
 - i. Those stats are not available to report on in this moment.
 - ii. The youth go outside daily for PE, while some youth are comfortable inside. There is not a lack of going outside. The are incentivized to go to the blacktop.
- iv. Positive Youth Development (PYD) Updates – **Antonio Gomez**
 1. Transition Center (TC) stats for December 2025: 47 youth were serviced by the TC; of the youth serviced 30 youth transitioned out of detention. The remaining 17 were out-of-custody/walk-ins. There were 83 referrals for services, 56 education, 13 Public Health, 11 Behavioral Health, and 3 life coaching. \$3,090 in concrete services were provided to youth.
 2. The next Positive Futures Fair will be on April 29, 2026, at Tennyson High School in Hayward. We are focusing on south county for this event. We are recruiting vendors for the email. Look out for the flyer via email. Also, if you know anyone interested or you are interested contact Shereen Khan at skhan@acgov.org.
3. **Question from the Commission**
 - a. How do you pull your data?
 - i. From parent forms as well as video.
 - ii. Reentry plan for youth released into custody → excel spreadsheet
 - iii. Data on those released from custody.
- e. Social Services – **Mia Buckner-Preston**
 - i. Out transitional shelter care facility is soon to be licensed. The facility will care for children an youth, who are brought into protective custody or that need a change of placement.
 - ii. Since our last meeting, we have passed both of our inspections. Our building inspection through Public Works has been completed and signed off, as well as our fire clearance for our fire code compliance. Both of those were completed, signed off, and sent to the state.
 - iii. On December 30th, Community Care Licensing, our licensing entity came to the facility to do a walkthrough for our pre-licensing inspection. That walkthrough went very well. Our program statement, order of operation, and staffing is being reviewed at the state level through CDSS. We have passed one level of review. It is now being reviewed by the region's, manager, and then the final review will be completed by, CDSS, the, Children's Bureau.
 - iv. We are getting closer to being opened. Once we do open, we will be able to begin caring for children and youth, 0 to 17 to start. We will have a capacity of six (6).
 - v. We are only opening house A, as house B still needs to go through some renovations and some compliance so that we can receive a permit, on the property.
 - vi. We are still operating utilizing emergency providers that support our children who need placement services throughout the community and county, and also three (3) providers in Contra Costa County that we continue to work with.

5. **Public Comment(s)**

Erica Gulbranson shared the challenges her son has in STRTP homes. Additionally, she shared concerns about the capacity of various attorneys. Her experience with attorneys have consisted of a short amount of time to check in with youth and families just before court.

6. **Meeting adjourned** at 1:58 pm.

Next Meeting Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

Location: Juvenile Justice Center, 2500 Fairmont Drive, Room C-1002, San Leandro CA