

**Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2020**

Members Present: Mary Butler, Ron Abernathy, Jennifer Yasumoto, Robert Plummer, Barbara Nemko, Dr. Harold Pierre

Not Present: Allison Haley, John Robertson, Cynthia Smith, Catherine Chase, Alfredo Pedroza, Kerry Ahearn,

Others Present: Susan Kauss, Julie Burns, Julie Baptista, Sarah O'Malley, Susan Alvarez

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Introductions were made

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Ron Abernathy

Second: Barbara Nemko

UPDATE ON JUVENILE PROBATION PROGRAMS

Juvenile Hall has had some work done on two of the three yards. The yards are part cement where there is a half basketball court and part grass. The grass was not doing so good so Juvenile Hall had a project going with public works and now it is a state of the art astro turf. The youth are using it. Public Works did an amazing job. At the Board meeting on 1/14/2020, there was the second public meeting for New Horizons Academy. This is the onsite program for our youth. There was zero public comment at the meeting so the Board approved it and now we will be submitting our application to the state at the end of the month. New Horizons Academy will be certified as a Camp, once the program is approved there is additional state funding for the program. We will be able to add additional services for the youth. Program will be certified for up to 10 youth. There are only 8 youth in group home care now. The youth that are currently in program will be staying at that program. New youth that are found to be appropriate for our program will be at New Horizons. New Horizons will not accept youth from surrounding counties. This program will keep our youth in their community and keep them close to their families, school and possibly employment while receiving additional services as needed.

2020 MEETING DATES

New meeting dates for the 2020 year. It was decided to have three meetings per year; the bylaws were changed to reflect this. Meetings will be January, April and September. April will be the meeting that Child Welfare will come to talk about the Children's Trust Fund and Budget for the future year and what is going on with Probation. The September meeting will look at the plan for the year before in order to submit the annual report to the State by October 1.

MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS IN SCHOOLS

What are the needs of Mental Health in our schools? Is there a way to address it? What will it take? Are there additional types of funding that we can look at to be able to address these issues? There has clearly been an uptake in Mental Health needs in our schools. These needs cannot be attributed to any particular things, but so many kinds of onsets just in the external environment such as the fires, power outages, general tension and stress about what you hear is going on in the world. Kids are stressed and there is minimal help for them. The district has been cutting funding. There are wellness centers in the middle and high schools, but are not staffed by high-level Mental Health professionals. The district has been working with Keiser to get more of their staff to be at the sites. The practice of a parent to come pick up their child in the middle of the day and drive them to Vallejo, wait for them and drive them back in traffic is just not realistic. It makes no sense that parents would have to miss a day of work and the child would miss a large part of their school day in order to get services. The

kids are using the wellness centers, but the schools really do need them to be staffed by well-trained professionals. Sonoma is using the Jim Gordon Mind Body Connection program. It is a great program, but very expensive. Training cost for one person is \$5,000.00. It would be extremely helpful if there were a way to raise money in order to have qualified staff at the schools. Kids at Camille Creek come with every kind of abuse and neglect. Fortunately, at Camille Creek when kids come in, staff that want to be there greet them, which does make a big difference to these kids. There are Social workers, Psychologists and volunteers that are ready to help, but there is a need for professionals to be on staff. A stable trusted person for the kids to be able to come to would be of a great service to the youth. Could there be a Mental Health Clinician in addition to a paraprofessional of some sort to be there just to be there so that kids can go and talk with someone. There will be continued conversation on this topic

ROUND TABLE ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALDEA: Julie at Aldea is working on a grant to get funding to add an additional layer of Mental Health services at the schools. HHS is in support. It is being awarded based on County size. It is a very competitive grant, but the proposal being submitted is a strong proposal. The model being used is a model used to target substance abuse. The model uses prevention counselors, bachelor's level counselors, who are overseen by master's level clinicians this can also lead to an opportunity to have interns.

ALDEA is putting on a show February 8th at the Napa Valley College and February 9th in St. Helena called "This is my Brave". It is a show performed by youth and young adults' ages 14-24 living with mental health conditions or substance abuse disorders. They will be telling their stories and it would be great to show them support. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased at the ALDEA website.

MH: Is working with Stanford Youth Solutions who are out at Camille Creek two days a week doing assessments and providing individual therapy. It is only for Medi-Cal clients. It seems to be working. The need is significant beyond what MH is already providing. There are undocumented youth and there are those youth that have parents that do not meet the criteria to qualify for Medi-Cal. They make just a little too much money to qualify.

MH Reached out to the schools in order to identify elementary schools that have higher needs than others do. The schools identified are Willow, McPherson, Browns Valley, North Woods, Alta Heights, Mt. George. MH reached out and talked with those schools. Referrals have only been received from McPherson School. There have not been any referrals from any other schools. Do not know why. At the pre-school level, someone is being trained from 0-5 and will be available to do assessments. The pre-schools have decided to do their internal screening and then refer them to access. Paperwork seems to be the barrier. An advantage with having an intern is that they can see any kid. If they have Medi-Cal the intern can refer them to Stanford Youth, if they do not have Medi-Cal, the intern can see the youth and or help them find the services they are in need of.

With the new law that youth 11 and under cannot be arrested, maybe there are some programs or grants that can be looked into for services.

PD: Still hiring. New MH clinician is starting at the Department.

NCOE: Building new facility for Camille Creek. Unfortunately, due to budget, the building has shrunk a bit. It will fit current population, but the area dedicated to vocation had to be cut. Kids are back to school. It is great to see them.

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING

April 15, 2020