

**Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
Program Review and Development Subcommittee
MINUTES**

September 09, 2024

NEXT MEETING:

October 14, 2024

3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

JJCC Subcommittee Members Present: Chris Modica, Jennifer Dougherty, Noe Villa, Maureen Byrne, Michael Rodriguez, Veronica Martinez

Other meeting attendees: Shawna Hunt, Kate English, Linda McKenzie, Interface representatives: Deidre Smith, Yesenia Munoz, Jennifer Lopardo, Lindsey Magana, Erik Sternad, Nicholle Gonzalez-Seitz

Discussion/Conclusions	Recommendations/Actions	Responsible
<p>1. Call to Order Chris Modica called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.</p>		
<p>2. Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noe – Interim Deputy Director Leticia Morales is working on the CFS Complex Care cases framework, EBP approaches, training, etc. • Maureen – District Attorney has 2 new attorneys in the Juvenile Unit as well as 2 new trial attorneys. • Jennifer – Division Chief, Substance Use Services, Raena West, is covering for Division Chief, Youth & Family Services, Cheryl Fox, while she is on leave. • Veronica - Getting ready to work with new attorneys for SARBs. Will share flyer for Breakthrough Parenting classes starting October 9. Feel free to refer clients. In Quarter 3, 52 families received certificates for completion of the course. • Chris – Change in booking criteria for JF making an impact. There were 150 bookings in Quarter 2, with only about 50 bookings projected for Quarter 3. 		
<p>3. Public Comments for Items not on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None heard. None received telephonically or via email. 		
<p>4. Approval of the April 8, 2024, meeting minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen moved to approve the April 8, 2024, meeting minutes; Noe seconded the motion. All in favor; minutes approved. 		
<p>5. Discuss and vote to recommend to the JJCC, funding for expansion of diversion and pre-diversion services countywide for youth through Interface Children and Family Services.</p> <p>Chris summarized the role of the JJCC Subcommittee and gave examples of the many services that have come through the subcommittee.</p> <p>Several months ago, he published an RFI for Countywide diversion options. Interface responded with LIFT. Currently have contract thru OJJDP. Their proposal would take the existing LIFT program and expand it to all middle and high schools.</p> <p>Chris introduced Deirdre Smith, Director of Justice Services - Interface Children & Family Services, who presented the Youth LIFT Partnership Program (Lead. Inspire. Focus. Transform.)</p> <p>The need for a diversion program was identified by YES, and a BSCC grant was secured to establish LIFT, working in collaboration with Oxnard PD, Probation, and Oxnard Union High School District.</p> <p>Referral system uses a 3-tier system for pre-charge</p>		

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<p>diversion to reduce the number of youth entering the juvenile justice system.</p> <p>Referrals for Tier 2 (no conditions) and Tier 3 (conditions and/or services) are for Law Enforcement (LE) only.</p> <p>Survey shows LIFT Case Managers on site at schools was an advantage, referrals were relevant to client needs, and inspired hope in clients. Approximately 60% of 1,500 citations/year would qualify for LIFT.</p> <p>Interface proposes countywide expansion of diversion and prevention programming that will build upon the existing LIFT Partnership.</p> <p>Dierdre presented two options for the subcommittee's consideration:</p> <p>Option A - Countywide Tier 2 & 3 referral system for school personnel and law enforcement, with Tier 3 referrals being given priority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget year 1 - \$1.4 million • Budget year 2 - \$1.6 million • Program Staff – 15 (8 full time Case Managers) • Year 2 expansion of Tier 2 into East County campuses and possible expansion into targeted middle schools. <p>Option B - Countywide Tier 3 referral system for law enforcement (citations only).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget year 1 - \$900,000 • Budget year 2 - \$1 million • Program Staff – 10 (5 full time Case Managers) <p>Presentation included information on the cost benefit of LIFT vs incarceration at the JF or school suspensions.</p> <p>Both options will utilize Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs) in Simi Valley and Fillmore until access to campuses are obtained for EC schools.</p> <p>Deirdre noted that Interface is talking to schools about how they can fund some of the projects. It may be possible to have some projects funded through CalAIM.</p> <p>Erik Sternad, Executive Director - Interface Children & Family Services, suggested an opportunity to embed data tracking through the Community Care Exchange, adding \$50,000 to the budget. Discussion ensued.</p> <p>Due to concerns about confidentiality, sealing, and more, Chris tabled the suggestion.</p> <p>Deirdre concluded with a question-and-answer session, clarifying aspects of the two options, addressing concerns, and giving more details about the educational background of staff, the availability of Case Managers, what happens to services after a youth completes the program, how long it will take the program to get up to full stride, and more. Chris noted that specific requests can be negotiated when the contract is created.</p> <p>Fiscal sustainability was discussed and options to use JJCPA and JPCF funds will be explored.</p> <p>Interface representatives were excused from the meeting at 4:35pm.</p> <p>Chris asked for the members' preference of Option A or Option B. All members voted (5-0) for Option A with</p>		

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<p>partial funding (potentially) from JPCF and removal of the \$50K data tracking option.</p> <p>Motion to recommend to the JJCC, funding for expansion of diversion and pre-diversion services countywide for youth through Interface Children and Family Services; unanimous vote to approve; motion approved.</p>		
<p>6. Roundtable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer – Collaboration with CFS and Probation after the AB 1051 update for presumptive transfers effective 7/1/24. For youth placements in STRTPs, the county of jurisdiction is responsible for payment of mental health services. Ventura is mostly an “importing” county, so this is good news for us. • Michael – Attorney Matthew Terry retired. Andrew Lassen will fill that vacancy. • Kate English – Youth Equity Initiative free learning lab series will start 11/12/24 at the Williams building. Register before 10/1/24. • Kate English – YES is formulating ideas for ways to support youth who don’t meet the new JF booking criteria, such as an on-call network or utilization of organizations, such as ERCs. 		
<p>7. Adjourned – Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.</p>		