

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

**June 12, 2023**

**NEXT MEETING:**

July 10, 2023  
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Pam Darcy (voluntarily stepped down effective 6-11-23)

**Other meeting attendees:** Aramis Nahabedian, Mike Kitchen, Mark Howe

Discussion/Conclusions	Recommendations/Actions	Responsible
<p><b>1. Call to Order</b> Chris Modica called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.</p>		
<p><b>2. Announcements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noe announced that his team is noticing an increase in youth being housed in hotels because there isn't a suitable placement for them. HSA staff assist and supervise these youth. Noe explained this is a challenge amongst many counties.</li> <li>• Jennifer announced that her team recently attended the CMHACY Conference. They provided many workshops that covered topics such as trauma informed care and how to better engage youth and their families. Jennifer explained this was a great networking event.</li> <li>• Jennifer announced that starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, VCBH will begin using the Smartcare system. This new system should be more efficient and streamlined. The Smartcare system will incorporate both client care and fiscal services. Jennifer explained that VCBH has been with the current system for the last 10 years. Jennifer explained that VCBH will have access to both systems.</li> <li>• Maureen announced that she recently attended a Restorative Justice seminar in San Diego. Maureen stated that they are implementing this program across the nation and diverting youth.</li> <li>• Veronica announced that THRIVE has upcoming parenting classes. The classes will be a 6-week workshop. They will be held at 1911 Williams Drive. The classes will be held from 5:15pm-6:45pm and begin on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Veronica stated they are wrapping up their SARBs for the year. Veronica stated there will be some staffing changes and they will be meeting with Probation to discuss these changes.</li> <li>• Michael announced that he didn't have anything new to announce except he has a great team right now.</li> <li>• Chris announced that Probation will be pushing out the RFP for the program coordinator position.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>3. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None heard. None received telephonically or via email.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>4. Approval of the March 13, 2023 Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maureen moved to approve the May 8, 2023, meeting minutes; Michael Rodriguez seconded the motion All in favor; minutes approved.</li> </ul>		

Discussion/Conclusions	Recommendations/Actions	Responsible
<p><b>5. Discuss and vote to request funding for a full-time education advocate (United Parents)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris introduced Melissa Hannah, Executive Director from United Parents.</li> <li>Melissa thanked everyone for allowing her to come present. Melissa provided the history of the educational advocate position. The position has been funded by HSA for the past 13 years. Services are provided only to HSA or Probation clients.</li> <li>Melissa explained that currently there is only 1 educational advocate for the entire county, Marisol Garduno. Marisol is bilingual (English and Spanish). Melissa stated that Marisol will advocate for the families attending IEP meetings. Melissa explained that Marisol is a tremendous help to these families who may not understand the process or their rights. Marisol educates the families and will help them to understand terms they may not understand. Melissa stated that Marisol will attend SARB meetings and CFT's as well.</li> <li>Michael inquired about outcomes. Melissa stated that their outcomes are measured by when the parents feel empowered, more knowledgeable and don't require their services anymore.</li> <li>Melissa stated that United Parents would like to ask the JJCC to fund an additional educational advocate This advocate would serve both probation clients and community referrals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to recommend to the JJCC to fund an educational advocate utilizing JJCC funding, to the extent it is permissible by JJCPA funding requirements, including extending to other youth populations if possible. Chris moved; Michael seconded; All in favor; motion approved. Direct and partical indirect costs approved NTE \$85,000. Indirect costs can be approved, but United Parents will need to better articulate what those specifically are.</b></p> <p>Chris will be unable to attend the next JJCC meeting. Michael will take this recommendation to the JJCC on June 28<sup>th</sup>. SDPO Rosa Padilla will assist.</p>		

Discussion/Conclusions	Recommendations/Actions	Responsible
<p><b>6. Follow-up request for LIFT diversion program gap funding.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris stated that Interface provided additional data and information that this subcommittee requested at the previous meeting. Chris explained that Interface also modified their gap funding request. Instead of asking for \$88,000 for 3 months, they'd like to ask for funding to span 6 months. This would carry them through the 1st semester of school.</li> <li>Chris explained that Interface was unable to provide drop-out rates</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to recommend to the JJCC to provide gap funding for the LIFT diversion program, provided by Interface, utilizing JJCC funding, to the extent it is permissible by JJCPA funding requirements, including extending to other youth populations if possible. Chris moved; Michael seconded; All in favor; motion approved.</b></p> <p>Michael will take this recommendation to the JJCC on June 28<sup>th</sup>.</p>		
<p><b>7. Roundtable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark shared that fiscally, the restorative justice program is going very well. Mark stated that they are currently working on a memo to amend the contract to bring the amount allowed below \$200,000.</li> <li>Aramis shared that he's identified 2 Mixteco to English interpreters. Aramis explained that the county can bring them onboard if we are able to get other departments to agree to a master agreement. Aramis stated that both interpreters would provide services in-person.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>8. Adjourned – Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.</b></p>		