SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Probation Administration, 175 West Fifth St., 3rd Floor, Room 300

April 23, 2024 Minutes

CHAIR: Tracy Reece (909) 387-5693

COORDINATOR: Kathleen Huaman (909) 387-7425

PRESENT: Chris Armijo, Heather Beidler, Robert Brown, Jonathan Byers, Paul Durham, Daniel Edber, Kathleen Huaman, Thomas Kamara, Jevin Kaye, Mara Montelongo, Gayle Morrow, Myrlene Pierre, Briana Porras-Stephens, James Porter, Jamie Ryan, Anthony Sanchez, Richard Sterling, Rachel Tolber, Jennifer Villa, Scott Wyatt, Esteban Valenzuela, Jeany Zepeda

Absent: Ed Barry, Don English, Michael Fermin, Rebecca Irwin, Kim Knaus, Ann Marie Pierce, Lynn Poncin, Tracy Reece, Iliana Rodriguez, Theresa Rodriguez, Henry Rosas, Jennifer Roth, Cynthia Roth-Felter, Robert Saldana, Claudia Walker, Cynthia Wallace-Guerrero, Kenneth White

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I. Welcome & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm. A quorum has been established.	K. Huaman	
II. Review & Approve Minutes of 02/28/24 Meeting	It has been moved and seconded that the February 28,2024 meeting minutes are approved.	1 st Motion – Robert Brown 2 nd Motion – Scott Wyatt	
III. Financial Report/ AB1913	The JJCC financial report for the 3 rd quarter has not been finalized yet. The JJCC financial report will be sent via email by the end of the week. The budget looks standard, like the one from the 2 nd quarter. At the last meeting, it was discussed that 5 million dollars per year over a period of five years was available and could be allocated to JJCC Board members who submitted proposals for programs and services for at risk or system involved youth. It will be discussed during this meeting how it will be distributed.	T. Kamara	
	There is a copy of all the proposals in everyone's packet. There is a financial chart so everyone can see what the proposed allocations will be. The Probation and Children and Family Service allocations have been broken up over three years. The reason this was done is because the projects are long term and require RFPs and contracts with the providers.	J. Villa	
	Just to recap, the vote at the last meeting was on a 5-million-dollar amount per year for the next five years. The reserve balance was approximately 25 million dollars and possibly grew from savings in the current budget. The plan was to come up with a structure where we could receive proposals that would use up the 25 million over the next five years. The plan is that we would allocate the proposals and consider the 5 million cap. Probation will still accept proposals on the threshold. Any unspent allocations at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) will be put back into the available reserve pot for reallocation in future years. For example, if an entity submits a proposal in July 2024 and	T. Kamara	

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	only spends 50% of the funds allocated by June 30, 2025, the remaining 50% will go back into the JJCC reserves and made available for new proposals in the upcoming fiscal year.		
IV. New Proposal Presentations	The Children and Family Services is bringing forward a proposal that will expand upon a successful Housing Navigation Initiative that supports families involved with Child Welfare Services, as well as former foster care young adults between the ages of 21-24. With the allocation of this funding, CFS will provide direct housing support and housing navigation to prevent children from being removed from their families, to support families during the reunification process, and to divert youth from the justice system. For young adults, the goal is also to provide stability and offer programs such as living skills to help them maintain their independence. Staff members (also known as Housing Navigators) provide housing navigation and work with homeless/at-risk families, and young adults. Children and Family Services is requesting 3 million dollars over the next three years.	J. Byers	
	Children and Family Services is bringing forward another proposal that will implement an innovative mentoring/counseling program for youth in open CFS cases who are at risk of juvenile justice system involvement. The mentoring program, which will be established through contracts with community-based organizations, may include mentors who have experience in overcoming and healing traumas like those experienced by CFS youth. The benefits to the youth will include learning effective strategies for regulating their emotions; building positive relationships; changing negative core beliefs about themselves; a reduction in risky behavior; healing from past trauma(s); learning alternative coping strategies regarding substance abuse; and developing social and emotional resilience to be successful in life, work, and school. The target population for this program will include youth with complex needs who regularly spend time in CFS offices awaiting placement because of the same maladaptive behaviors that put them at risk of juvenile justice system involvement. The Children and Family Services are requesting 1.5 million dollars over the next three years.	J. Byers	
	The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS) is bringing forward a proposal that will enhance and enable SBCSS to increase the number of Alternative Education students who graduate from high school, while also developing job skills, gaining job exposure, and gaining meaningful employment, which are key interventions to improving attendance, reducing truancy, raising graduation rates, reducing crime, and ensuring a successful transition from high school to college and/or career. SBCSS is requesting one-time funding of \$694,242 for the Community Access Program (CAP) which will pay for eight (8) large vehicles to be utilized for home visits, wellness checks, field trips, parents/family engagement, getting students to school and for providing transportation for students to gain meaningful employment and higher education opportunities.	S. Wyatt	
	The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS) is bringing forward a second proposal to assist youth in foster care and probation involved youth due to their poor educational		

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	outcomes compared to any other group of youth. This is particularly of importance for these youth because evidence shows that education is one of the biggest contributing factors to ending family cycles of abuse, addiction, poverty, and other negative family outcomes. It is essential that foster youth students in addition to probation involved youth referred to SBCSS school sites are offered skilled assessments, support services, transition preparation and readiness, trauma informed best practices, prevention and early intervention programs and educational case management. These services must address the referred problematic behaviors as well as identify whether a mental illness, living conditions, and/or basic needs may be contributing to the impairments evidenced in academic, social, or behavioral functioning. San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools-Children Deserve Success will partner with University of Redlands Student Success Partnership, California State University Office of Pre-College Programs (First Star & CALSOAP), San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools-Student Services Counseling, and Give Something Back-Pre/Post College Mentoring Program. SBCSS Children Deserve Success will work individually with each of the four collaborative partners and as a collective whole emphasizing community, sharing of a collective mission, and collective outcomes. The SBCSS is requesting one-time funding of one million dollars for this proposal.	
	Probation is bringing forward a proposal to identify and collaborate with a qualified professional and/or community-based organization (CBO) that can act as a Program Administrator and oversee the development, management, and coordination of subcontracted non-residential programs with an array of treatment and rehabilitative services. The program will be designed to offer evidence-based services that target risk/need criteria strongly correlated to preventing criminogenic behavior and/or re-offending tendencies and to provide at-risk youth and their families the programs and resources to support successful foundations. The outsourcing of this vital function would allow for an external Program Administrator to manage the scheduling and delivery of treatment, rehabilitative, educational, and vocational services, and to oversee organization and implementation of pro-social activities and events for at-risk youth and/or their families. Under the purview of the Probation Program Manager, the Program Administrator would be responsible for developing a comprehensive strategy to work with relevant partners and CBOs to provide evidence-based programs and strategies that have been found to reduce concerns such as recidivism and substance abuse to promote prosocial behavior. The Probation Department is requesting a total of \$3,965,758 over three years.	J. Villa
	The Redlands Police Department is bringing forward a proposal to provide an after-school program that will foster physical challenges, social and community fitness, and mental well-being among local youth. Lasting 90 minutes, it will be overseen by on duty personnel and community members, offering Go Ruck Tribe 'N Training, Jiu Jitsu, and mental well-being exercises. It will operate twice a week, one day consisting of a preprogrammed Go Ruck workout and jiu jitsu, while the second day will focus on Go Ruck training and emphasize mental health and leadership. They will collaborate with	

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	their local high school counselors and teachers to select 20 local youth to participate based on their at-risk involvement, alongside at least ten Redlands Police Department employees involved in the project and community members. The Redlands Police Department is requesting one-time funding of \$40,000.		
	The San Bernardino County Sheriff Department is bringing forward a proposal that provides educational, rehabilitative, and developmental programming for the incarcerated population and post-release justice involved adults and their children. This funding request is to specifically support the Love 4 Literacy (L4L) program, a partnership between the Sheriff's Department and the Superintendent of County Schools. Literacy is one of the greatest indicators of success or struggle in life.L4L aims to directly impact children of incarcerated parents who face so many challenges by both working to rebuild the loss of child-parent bond that follows incarceration and working to build literacy in both the child and their incarcerated parent. By the very nature of the program, every child who participates is the child of an incarcerated parent and every inmate who participates is the parent of an at-risk child. Under the direct supervision of literacy coaches from the Superintendent of Schools Office and social workers from The Community Service and Reentry Division (CSRD), children of incarcerated parents are brought into a day-care like setting within the jail system. CSRD social workers engage the incarcerated parents and their family after each session to reinforce the good and work through challenges and ensure the children and their caregivers to continue to participate in L4L sessions. The San Bernardino County Sheriff Department is requesting \$150,000 over three years.	J. Porter	
	The San Bernardino County Sheriff Department is bringing forward a 2nd proposal that will secure storage for items provided to L4L participants. Between a combination of funding sources and donations, CSRD obtains and stores items for use in L4L and other programming. These items include things like clothing, shoes, blankets, sleeping bags, backpacks, school supplies and more. These items can also include cash equivalent items like gift cards. Some items are small and easy to store while other items – backpacks, clothing, etc. – can consume significant space. The budget being requested is an estimate and is based on approximate costs of items currently available through Grainger. Actual items to be purchased may be somewhat different in style and costs depending on what is available from approved vendors at the time funding becomes available. The San Bernardino County Sheriff Department is requesting one-time funding of \$50,000 for this proposal.	J. Porter	
	The Public Defender (PD) is bringing forward a proposal that will target youth at risk of, or already involved in the juvenile justice system, with everything they need to participate in extra-curricular and/or recreational diversionary activities/programs for one year, two seasons, or two activities throughout the year. PD will contract with Children's Fund as an expansion of the extra-curricular	R. Sterling	

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	and/or recreational scholarship program that began in fiscal year ending June 2023. To expand and improve this program, the PD will work closely with Children's Fund to refer and approve requests from community partners. The referral process will be to open to existing PD and Children's Fund partners and leverage existing funding for these services. The program aims to find the most suitable recreational and/or extracurricular experiences for each at-risk and system involved youth to keep them engaged in positive and developmentally appropriate activities and away from delinquency. The Public Defender is requesting one-time funding of \$200,000 for this proposal.	
	A motion was suggested by Probation to vote one time for all the proposals with the stipulation that each voting member would not vote to approve their own proposal and the record would reflect an abstention for each agency's own proposal.	1 st Motion – S. Wyatt 2 nd Motion – J. Zepeda
	Voting: We had eight (8) yes votes and zero (0) no votes. All nine of the proposals that were submitted were approved by the voting members of the committee.	
V. Annual Plan FY24/25	The annual report for the BSCC is being worked on. Probation was excited to see what was on paper with all the proposals and great ideas being presented. Moving forward, if we can continue to do things like this for the youth in the community it will be great. A draft of the annual report will get sent to each person for their review before being submitted to the state on May 1st.	J. Villa
VI. DA LET Updates	Ann Marie Pierce is assigned to the Colton, Rialto, Alta Loma, Central, Cucamonga, Etiwanda, Mountain View, Upland, Ontario-Montclair, and Chino Valley school districts. Since the last meeting she met with approximately 313 students and their families at SARB panel meetings. This was almost twice as many students from the previous quarter. Common issues they encountered continue to be either undiagnosed or unaddressed mental health issues, lack of childcare particularly for early morning hours when parents must start their commute to work, transportation issues for families who can't walk due to distance or safety yet don't live far enough to qualify for school bus service, and other parenting issues such as lack of good routines at home.	R. Brown
	Ms. Pierce made referrals to the DRC and other community resources for tutoring, various types of counseling, parenting classes, case management services, and drug & alcohol classes for youth. She also gave out several alarm clocks at meetings as an immediate intervention to students who needed them. High school students at districts that conduct SARBs for high schoolers were often referred to a different campus or different program within their existing campus to help them overcome their graduation credit deficiencies as efficiently as possible. Ms. Pierce distributed three gift cards from the DA's office as incentives for students at follow up SARB meetings, who had improved their	

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	attendance to nearly perfect within 6 weeks of their initial SARB meeting. The Chaffey Joint Union High School District sends them direct referrals for families who need to have letters sent from the DA's office about their legal obligations. During this past quarter they sent the District Attorney's office 727 referrals.	
	She led two group SART presentations at elementary and high schools in the Chino Valley Unified School District. SART meetings differ from SARBs in that it's an early intervention by the school site to inform families of their obligations and of resources available to them. Group SARTs invite several parents together to one meeting to learn about attendance once their student has more than 5 absences, with the hope that the family will not need to be referred to SARB. Ms. Pierce attended two career fairs at middle schools in Rancho Cucamonga. She also had the opportunity to engage with a lot of students and talked to them about why attendance matters in addition to what's necessary to become a lawyer and what prosecutors do. She distributed school supplies at the career fairs. Upcoming, Ms. Pierce is scheduled for SARB meetings continuing into June. She will be working with	
	school districts and their SROs on their planning for next year. Ms. Pierce will be teaching a class session on the consequences of truancy at the Rialto Police Department's PRIDE Platoon program for youth. Lastly, she anticipates distributing several more gift cards to SARB students who have improved their attendance during the past school year.	
	Henry Rosas is assigned to the Central, Mountain and Morongo Basin school districts. Since the last JJCC meeting, Mr. Rosas has attended approximately 22 SARB panel meetings and has met with approximately 230 families of students. The most common barrier to student attendance among the several school districts that he has worked with continues to be mental health and/or emotional issues that the students are struggling with.	
	Throughout the school districts they have referred many students to school counseling and outside counseling and therapy to address such issues as anxiety, depression, and even self-harming tendencies. Lack of family stability, including homelessness, continues to be another barrier for many families struggling to get students to go to school. Students and parents were referred to Truancy classes, Parenting classes, counseling, and tutoring. Mr. Rosas distributed four alarm clocks to students who lacked their own alarm clock and showed improvement in their attendance. He also distributed approximately 15 gift cards to students who have significantly improved their attendance since being placed on a SARB contract. Those gift cards were to Subway, Starbucks, Walmart, and Target. He participated in San Bernardino Unified School District's Operation Student recovery. He continues to participate in the San Bernardino Safety and Attendance Committee.	

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Henry Rosas participated in the Safe Routes and Attendance events for San Bernardino Unified School District. Mr. Rosas presented the Act Now training on Fentanyl at Summit Intermediate School and Heritage Intermediate School in Fontana and taught truancy classes at the FLIP program. He attended and presented at several Career Day's throughout the county, including San Bernardino Unified, Fontana Unified, Colton Unified, and Etiwanda Unified. He taught the Civil Liberties Class from January to March at three high schools throughout the county along with District Attorney Jason Anderson.

Jennifer Roth is assigned to the desert division. Ms. Roth attended SARB meetings across the Desert Division jurisdiction, including Trona, Baker, Needles, Lucerne Valley, Barstow, Silver Valley, Snowline, Hesperia, Victor Valley Union High School District, Victor Valley Elementary School District, and Apple Valley. They saw some common themes for why students are missing school, including concerns with mental health, substance abuse, bullying, transportation issues, and lack of motivation. They had a success story come out of Needles. They just heard the news that the Needles Unified School District SARB Panel won the award for "Model SARB" from the CA Department of Education. The SARB Panel will be honored at the upcoming California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance (CASCWA) State Conference later this month. This is an exciting update from one of our rural desert communities.

Ms. Roth taught a class on Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Truancy for the S.H.O.C.K. Program- Spring 2024 Class. The program is run by the Apple Valley Police Department and works with at-risk youth to provide structure, support, and education. She presented it to a group of students ranging from middle schoolers to high school. They discussed the criminal justice system, as well as truancy and juvenile law issues. Ms. Roth will be presenting at Barstow Unified School District's SARB graduation ceremony in May 2024. They will be celebrating students who have greatly improved their attendance.

Each summer, Ms. Roth works with the Millionaire Minds Kids Program in Victorville, in conjunction with the San Bernardino County Probation Department and Sheriff's Department. In June, she will be running a week-long summer camp called Law and Justice Academy for about 30 middle school and high school students. This summer academy is aimed at students who have an interest in the Criminal Justice System. They spend the week learning about various careers in law, and meet with law enforcement partners, District Attorneys, Public Defenders, and Judges. The students take a tour of the High Desert Detention Center, and meet with Probation and learn about careers in the Probation Dept. At the end of the camp, the students perform a mock trial at the Victorville Courthouse.

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VII. PD LET Updates	During this quarter, the L.E.T. Social Service Practitioners serviced 84 new clients, attended 12 Student Attendance Review (S.A.R.B.) meetings across four school districts (Fontana Unified School District and Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District, Snowline Joint Unified School District, and Victor Valley Unified High School District). SSPs have teamed up with SARB board members to further engage parents and students outside of the formal SARB meeting setting. These engagements include before and after school meetings and weekly home visits. Additionally, Parent Engagement is currently being conducted at Sequoia and AB Miller.	B. Porras-Stephens
	The ongoing partnerships established during this period have proven successful, providing students and families with valuable access to additional resources and services through the L.E.T. program. This initiative aims to identify high-risk students and families, offering them enhanced support from both the school and the Public Defender's Office, fostering a sense of community among students, school officials, and collaborating organizations. Over this quarter, SSPs have connected the youth and their families to the following: • Completing Children's Fund referrals for emergency needs assistance • Provided Shoe Assistance through a partnership with Shoes That Fit • Assistance with school enrollment for students • Sitting in IEP meetings, and disciplinary panels for suspension or expulsion to offer support to students. • Advocating for students within the administration of the districts • Connecting families with food resources • Referrals to counseling agencies and mental health agencies • Students received referrals to Hazel Health for telehealth services addressing mental health or medical support. • Referrals to mentorship programs • Assisting with access to tutoring services	
	The partnerships that have been strengthened during this quarter are as follows: Project Fighting Chance/Young Visionaries (mentorship), South Coast Community and IVRS (mental health), Shoes That Fit (clothing), Children's Fund (Rental and Utility Assistance), and the Harvey-Mudd Homework Hotline (tutoring). Some community outreach events happened were the School Career Fair at Manuel A. Salinas	
	Creative Arts Elementary School on March 14, 2024, and the Snowline Joint Unified School District's 1st Annual Community Resource Fair on April 13, 2024. Below are some success stories from clients serviced by our SSPs over this quarter:	
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	1. A student consistently faced academic and behavioral challenges, failing all middle school classes. However, after facilitating a parent, teacher, and counselor meeting, the student seemed more motivated. The students narrowed their focus to two manageable classes, resulting in an improvement in grades of B-, D-, and C+ (considered passing in high school). With these achievements, the student has earned credits, enhancing their likelihood of graduating. Notably, the student now displays increased excitement and motivation, recognizing their capability to complete schoolwork.	
	2. Several students faced the risk of not meeting graduation requirements. In response, the SSP organized counseling meetings, and spoke with parents, to develop tailored plans with these students, ensuring they were on the path to graduation success. As part of these efforts, several students were enrolled on the waitlist for credit recovery for the upcoming school year (2024/2025), to reintegrate into traditional school for their senior year.	
	3. A student initially struggled with managing their mental health in the school environment. However, after engaging with the SSP, significant improvements were noted in their attitude towards school and mental health management. The student has shown remarkable progress and is now able to advocate for themselves with minimal support from the SSP. Notably, the student has gone from earning 0 credits this semester to achieving 15 credits, which demonstrates academic advancement.	
VIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting	There were no suggestions from any of the members to add to the agenda for the next meeting.	K. Huaman
IX. Roundtable	J. Villa – Thanked everyone who submitted proposals. Can't wait to see what comes out of the proposals.	K. Huaman
	J. Kaye – He asked if the Sheriff's request was for \$150,000 for three years, does that mean there is more money up for grabs. T. Kamara states that it is entirely up to the committee on how they want to reallocate the funds. All the funds don't necessarily have to be allocated right now. If any ideas come as we progress through the fiscal year, proposals can be submitted and voted on by the committee.	
	J. Porter – May 25 th there will be an event to introduce the HOPE Team in the High Desert.	
	M. Pierre – She wanted to thank everyone for the opportunity to present their proposal and the approved funding.	

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Agenda Items	R. Brown – There is a bill worth watching that could affect the JJCC committee. It is SB1057. It could do two things. It could change the make-up of JJCC committee because it will reconstruct the community-based organization membership. It also might change the financial oversight of the committee and who leads the JJCC committee meetings. At the hearing on 04/23/24, the District Attorney and Probation opposed the bill, and the Public Defender supported this bill. J. Villa states that the County is going to oppose it, and the Chief Probation Officer has already written memos to vote against this bill.	ACTION
X. Public Comments Next Meeting	C. Armijo – Thank you to everyone on the committee that submitted proposals. There were no public comments. Meeting Adjourned at 3:04pm. Next meeting is scheduled for July 23,2024, at 1:30pm.	