

Juvenile Justice Commission
Remi Vista Conference Room
2701 Park Marina Drive
Redding, California

Thursday, October 22, 2015
3:30 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Steve MacFarland, Chair
Susan Duncan
Barbara Van Dyke
Yuvonne Tate
Susan Wilson
Tamra Linebarger
Sam Bellingan

Others Present

Carol Ulloa, Probation
Honorable Monique McKee, Courts
Danny Harrison, Probation
Erin Ceccarelli, Probation
Twyla Carpenter, Probation
Tracie Neal, Probation
Sarah Till, Probation

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. Minutes

The meeting minutes from the July 9, 2015 meeting were approved.

3. Introductions

4. Schedule the Annual JRF Inspection

An inspection will be scheduled in December. The inspection will be conducted by Susan Wilson, Yuvonne Tate, Sam Bellingan and Susan Duncan. Susan Wilson will send an email to schedule the inspection.

5. Introduction of New Deputy Probation Officer

Danny Harrison was introduced to the Commission. Danny gave a brief overview of his education, work and career with Probation.

6. Juvenile grant(s) status

Shasta County was awarded the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). In the past, JAG has only funded drug task enforcement. This year Shasta County's application included intervention funding which will, in addition to other activities, fund counseling services for minors involved with Probation.

UPDATE: Susan Wilson and Steve MacFarland sit on the board for this grant which is now in its third quarter. The Probation Officer funded through this grant has been filled by Justin May. Justin, who previously worked in the Adult Division, started at the end of September and has begun participating in grant activities with the rest of the SINTF Team. The contract for several counseling services was approved on October 13. We anticipate the services included in this contract will start soon.

Title II Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Intervention Grant, Gardening Responsibility, Ownership of Self and Community Well Being (GROW) will fund a garden program for in-custody youth. It is a federal grant that started October 1, 2015. This grant allows the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF) to partner with Providence International/Garden of Hope, Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE) and Shasta Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council to implement prosocial activities surrounding gardening and farming both inside the JRF and in the community. The grant application included funding for a Skill Builder, raised bed gardens, green houses, and a chicken coop. The program includes an education component in the JRF kitchen ROP program to teach the Farm to Table concept and should be sustainable following the end of the grant by supplying food to the JRF and potentially selling some of the fruits and vegetables within the community.

UPDATE: Probation was awarded this grant which provides \$145,000 annually for four years. The grant process was competitive and resulted in a ranking process in which Probation's submission ranked second among small counties. The classroom portion will teach the life cycle of plants and chickens, and will have an incubator in the classroom. The Skill builder will teach social skills and provide rides for minors who are participating in the community garden portion of the program. Activities will include the building of nine 10x50 green houses and 180 4x4 raised garden beds. It was suggested to make the raised beds 3x4 to make it easier for the minors to reach the center of the beds.

7. Probation Interns

Probation currently has four interns from Chico State. Two are working in Adult Programs and the other two are working in Juvenile Programs. In addition, two volunteers from Simpson College are working at the JRF and with the Community Services Coordinator.

8. Juvenile Populations for the Juvenile Division and JRF

The population at the JRF is currently smaller than it has been previously. This population level is low enough to have impacted the school. Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE) has been required to modify the program, teachers and aids to accommodate the decrease. The population in the other juvenile programs has decreased significantly as well. These lower numbers impact the number of participants in Peer Court and other programs. Law enforcement referrals have been trending lower over the last several years statewide. In Shasta County, there were 1,500 referrals in 2008. These numbers declined to 875 in 2012. During the current calendar year (through August 2015) there have only been 307 referrals.

9. Juvenile Logic Model and data collection

Erin reported that Probation is working on two Logic Models, one for JRF and one for Juvenile Probation. The logic models will establish short, medium and long term outcomes for each division. Both logic Models are currently in draft form (draft logic models were passed out). The JRF logic model includes outcomes like decrease in "Use of Force" and increase in staff well-being. The Juvenile Probation logic model includes outcomes like increase in parenting skills, pro social skills, and high school graduations. Data related to the outcomes will be collected during a baseline year with data for future years being collected and measured against the baseline year. The decrease in population could affect the data collection and will be accounted for during the comparison process.

10. Placement Homes (not on the agenda)

Ed Miller is currently serving on a committee to assist with implementation of AB 403 which intends to increase permanency among the juveniles in the foster care system specifically within the group home setting. Currently many juveniles placed in group homes remain in the group home setting for long periods of time. Spending an extensive period of time in a group home is not the best environment for minors. AB403, as it is currently written, requires that juveniles placed in a group home reside in that group home for no longer than 6 months. While the concept of ensuring minors do not spend extended periods of time in groups homes has merit, the implementation is challenging at best. Currently minors involved with Probation who have been removed from the home are difficult to place in traditional foster homes or with Foster Family Agencies because the majority of these families and agencies are unwilling to accept kids that have been involved in the criminal justice system. The committee is working toward solutions that will implement AB403 in a way that is realistic but keeps the welfare of those juveniles in a group homes as the top priority. Probation will have additional time to implement this plan. There is some concern that foster homes will not be found for the minors in placement and these minors will then have to be housed in the JRF. Probation will be focusing efforts on developing relationships with local foster homes and providing education and resources to homes willing to take the Probation youth.

Ed, Tracie and Chris McFarland went to a training at UC Davis on Continuum of Care Reform (CCR). Shasta County Probation was the only probation department in attendance. Tracie will email a flyer on the overview of the program along with AB403.

11. Juvenile Drug Court Program

The Juvenile Drug Court Program was recently reviewed by an outside evaluator to assist with developing a new model. The Drug Court Program will now be modeled after the WINGS program. In addition to the current team members, the team will now include a mental health therapist as well as a Parent Partner and Skill Builder.

12. Probation Reports

a. Juvenile Supervision

Carol Ulloa gave an overview of the Juvenile Division. The currently juvenile caseload consists of complicated, difficult kids who continue to commit crimes. Staff are focusing on ways to interact with the parents and minors that will result in an increased enrollment in programs.

Susan brought up that 5% of Probation's juvenile population are homeless sometime in the school year.

b. Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF)

Sarah Till gave an overview of the JRF.

The JRF monthly reports were distributed and discussed.

Certain treatment programs are now being offered both in and out of custody. Storyline and Pathways to Hope are currently being offered and Boys Council and Girls Circle with be starting soon. The exercise program has been opened up to all minors in custody.

13. Other Business

Preston Jacobs turned in this letter of resignation due to a conflict of interest created by his wife's employment in the JRF.

The next meeting is scheduled at 3:30 p.m., on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at the Remi Vista Conference Room, located at 2701 Park Marina Drive, 3rd Floor, in Redding.

Respectfully submitted,

Twyla Carpenter

APPROVED:

Steve MacFarland, Chairman