

Juvenile Justice Commission
Remi Vista Conference Room
2701 Park Marina Drive, Redding, California
Thursday, January 23, 2020
3:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Steve MacFarland, Chairman
Betty Cunningham
Susan Duncan
Troy Foster
Kaitlynn Hancock
Jennifer Richards
Sophia Miller
Joseph Hanna
Cindy Vogt

Others Present

Chelsey Chappelle, Probation
Carla Stevens, Probation
Jackie Durant, Hope City
Twyla Carpenter, Probation
Tracie Neal, Probation
Lena Reich, Probation
Jordan Stokes, Probation
Brittany Moore, Probation
Ben Hanna

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Introductions

3. Minutes

Cindy Vogt moved to approve the meeting minutes for July 25, 2019; Seconded by Betty Cunningham; Motion passed. 9 Ayes, 0 Noes.

4. Introduction of New Deputy Probation Officers

Brittany Moore, Jordan Stokes, and Lena Reich were introduced to the Commission. Each gave a brief overview of their education, work, and career history.

5. Probation Reports

a. Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility (JRF)

Carla Stevens reported the current population is 33, including two out-of-county youth and one youth pending adult charges. She said Probation has hired four full time Juvenile Detention Officers (JDO) and one extra help JDO in the last quarter. Carla stated the JRF population during the holidays was lower, which helped with the staffing ratios but there is still an occasional need for Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) to fill shifts. She reported high mental health and special educational needs in the facility with 13 of the 33 youth on Individual Education Programs (IEP) and nine of those thirteen youth in the Special Day Classes, with a full-time teacher and aide.

Carla stated there are five high school graduates in the JRF, with one student enrolled in Lassen College. Carla reported there was one graduation during the last quarter.

Carla said the GROW program is in operation with a new AmeriCorps worker who is currently working with in-custody youth and will be developing a program for the out-of-custody youth. Tracie reported Probation is moving the goats to a more secure area in the JRF.

Carla stated Probation is working on two contracts, one for a fine arts therapy program for in-custody youth and one with a Mental Health Provider. She reported, starting in February, a therapist that works with CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children) youth, will be working 20 hours per week in the facility. She clarified that eventually these hours will be shared with out-of-custody youth as well but, for now, she's just working with those in-custody.

Tracie stated Probation is working on a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a mental health services provider as well as working with HHSA to increase mental health services in the JRF to support the youth.

Due to the high JRF population, Tracie reiterated the number of out of county youth has decreased to assure beds are available for Shasta County youth. She explained there has historically been about four out of county youth in the facility but there is currently only two.

. Tracie stated the State inspection is scheduled for the last week of February.

Chelsey reported she has been meeting with Shasta College and SCOE, working on a plan to provide college prep or college readiness programs to the youth in the JRF who have graduated high school or will be graduating soon. She said they are still developing this program and should have an update by the next meeting.

Steve McFarland asked Carla about the increase to incidences of the use of OC Spray in October as well as the increase to the suicidal ideations during the reporting period. Carla explained there was a two-week period of time where there were a group of youth who were rough and were acting out in a way that required action. Chelsey pointed out the population during that time was at 36 which is much higher than normal.

b. Juvenile Supervision

Chelsey announced that Jeremy Kenyon is the new Division Director for Juvenile Probation but he is out of town for this meeting and will meet the Commission members at the next meeting.

Chelsey stated Probation is continuing to meet Children and Family Services (CFS) about a protocol to determine which system would be the most appropriate for crossover youth. Chelsey reported that most of the placement youth transition to STRTP's with a few transitioning into resource families. She said there is currently eight youth in the JRF awaiting placement and a total of 30 youth with placement orders. She reported continued conversations with Children's services regarding the provision of mental health services within the JRF to establish a continuum of care.

Chelsey stated in addition to a new Division Director at Juvenile, there has been some restructuring of the Division and a change in staffing. Tracie stated there is approximately 100 youth on supervision at a time with a number of them in the JRF or placement leaving about 40 youth being supervised in the community.

Tracie mentioned Judy Flores with Shasta County Office of Education (SCOE), is reviewing the SARB (School Attendance Review Board) process and has been holding regular meetings with school staff, Superintendents, community partners, and Probation to improve the SARB process.

Tracie reported with North Valley School closing, five youth transitioned to the Excel Academy campus on Oasis Road. She said Probation's Juvenile Prevention Officer, who is assigned to Gateway School District, has been assisting with transitioning, engaging, and supporting the youth.

Tracie reported Probation did not receive the Title II Grant but did received the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) three-year grant and has partnered with City of Redding's Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Shasta County Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council's Anderson Teen Center, and Youth Options to provide education, intervention, and prevention services.

Jennifer Richards asked if Tracie will attend the Transforming Pipelines to Prison into Stairways to Success in Rural Northern California initiative, February 27-28, 2020. Tracie indicated probation staff will attend in collaboration with a county group. She said the Court received funding to send eight members and Probation is sending three staff through a different funding source. Jennifer stated this initiative is specifically tailored for Northern California rural counties with unique challenges in addressing chronic absenteeism and exclusionary discipline practices, particularly for court involved youth. There was a discussion about the SARB process and the challenges schools face.

6. Judge's Comments

None

7. Discussion Items

a. Report on the inspection of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility

Steve MacFarland stated the JRF inspection report is in the packet the commission members received. Steve said this year's focus was to interview staff and youth, but time ran out and the group was not able to interview the youth. Betty Cunningham recommend the inspection be split into two days, to allow time inspect the facility and to interview staff and youth. Steve reported a recommendation to explore promotional and career opportunities to retain experienced staff that may not have the educational requirements to promote to Deputy Probation Officers. Tracie stated Probation is looking at converting six of the JDO I/II positions to JDO III positions for the next fiscal year to provide for promotional and career opportunities for staff members. Tracie reported the County Personnel Director supports the proposed JDO III classification, but it is up to the Board of Supervisors to approve the new job classification. Tracie said that the new JDO III's will come with an increased cost of about \$18,000 per year, but feels confident the department's budget can cover the costs.

Tracie mentioned a new legislative bill, SB 889 referred to as Elevate Justice that Senator Nancy Skinner is working on which would move 18 & 19-year olds from the adult criminal justice system to the juvenile justice system. Tracie said Probation has been looking at the impact this would have on the Juvenile Division and JRF.

Tracie said with the loss of STRTP's homes, the third pod in the JRF is being considered for an in-custody treatment program. Planning meetings are taking place. Steve asked if the pod was being considered as a camp program. Tracie answered in the affirmative and added it would be focused on treatment, rehabilitative services, incorporate family and local supports, community activities, education and vocational opportunities, and reentry planning. She said currently there is eight youth in the JRF awaiting placement and the average wait time is 101 days.

The Commission members accepted the inspection report. Steve stated that next year the inspection report needs to be an action item.

b. Report on the inspection of Victor Treatment Center

Tracie gave a recap of the concerns from the last meeting in October in which it was decided the Commission would conduct an inspection on the STRTP. Tracie stated the inspection was completed on November 5, 2020 and, around the same time, Chelsey and she were participating in calls with the state concerning Victor. Tracie said following the receipt of the inspection report from the Commission, Probation met with Victor on November 20th. Tracie said the inspection opened the door to ask questions of Victor and to request documents from the STRTP. Tracie stated the Department of Social Services scheduled a community stakeholders meeting on December 5, at the Redding Library. Tracie said she and Chelsey left the meeting early but Tracie received a phone call from Victor letting her know they were meeting the next day to determine if they were going to continue to operate or close. Tracie said on Monday, December 9, she received a phone call from Victor saying they were going to close. Tracie reported the closure affected one

Shasta County probation placement youth who was moved to another STRTP home. There was more discussion by the Commission members about the group home inspection and findings.

c. Receive an update on Local Short Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP)

Tracie reported prior to CCR there were 947 group homes in the State of California and post CCR 360 have transitioned and have been licensed as STRTPs, 136 are in process of getting their STRTP license, and 471 are closing. She said there are 3300 youth in the state between Probation and CFS who need to be placed in an STRTP. This data is from the last state issued data report. The discrepancy in the need and the number of available beds is what causes there to be eight youth awaiting placement in the JRF. Tracie stated the State has been working since 2015 on the transition from group homes to STRTPs. Cindy asked how long youth stay in an STRTP. Tracie answered that CCR policy/procedure indicates an STRTP length of stay is about 6 months. She explained the amount of treatment and support the youth need is often longer than six months. Tracie clarified that youth needing sex offender treatment averages between 18 to 24 months. Tracie talked about the challenges with finding an RFA or FFA home for Probation youth.

8. Commission Member Comments

Sophia Miller reported on West Valley High School Campus (WVHS) several bathrooms were closed four times in the last three months due to vandalism and there has been an increase in the number of fights. Sophia said WVHS has a Resource Officer as of the beginning of the second semester. Betty stated the tobacco grant is funding the Resource Officer. Sophia said she has not seen as much vaping at West Valley, but has seen an increase at Peer Court. Betty said that Shasta County Chemical People is scheduled to do vaping prevention at West Valley.

Tracie provided the group with a flyer on a tobacco prevention event on March 17, 2020.

Joe Hanna reported that some eight grade girls were caught drinking at UPREP and were suspended. Joe said when the girls returned to school they were caught smoking marijuana in the bathrooms. He said students now need a hall pass to visit bathrooms and teachers monitor the bathrooms during passing periods.

9. Other business

Steve MacFarland stated that the next quarterly meeting is scheduled at **3:00 p.m., on Thursday, April 23, 2020, at the Remi Vista Conference Room, located at 2701 Park Marina Drive, 3rd Floor, in Redding.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Twyla Carpenter

APPROVED:

Steve MacFarland, Chairman