

JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE AND STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE

Juvenile Justice Director's Office Conference Room

May 11th, 2022, at 12 PM

Minutes

- **Probation Reform Update**

- 13 cadets graduated the JPO Academy! Most will start in Detention and a few at Spring Mountain Youth Camp.
- Mr. Martin shared a new and exciting program at Workforce Connections that he plans to bring to DJJS. They have a Virtual Reality program that contains 27 career explorations. The program exposes youth to programs they may have never considered and can lead to a successful career. We would like this program added to Harbor locations, TPOP, and probation sites.
- The Clark County Breakthrough Series Collaborative (BSC) team just returned from an intensive four-day program in Washington, D.C., as part of the Georgetown University certificate program designed to address barriers and reduce disparities for youth of color. The history of racism in America and how it has impacted the formation of modern-day youth justice systems was the focus. Our team discussed ways to use this information to change the ways local youth serving systems work within each of our communities. This collaborative provides a unique opportunity to bring together the expertise of youth, families, and community to learn from each other, strategize, and implement changes in policies and practices in each jurisdiction.
- The US Economic Development Administration will be awarding the Department in partnership with the City of Las Vegas with grant funding for the Culinary Training program set to launch in FY2023. The program will expand current training programs for youth in the highest-need communities across Clark County through the implementation of two mobile kitchens/learning labs.
- Probation system reform will be continuing with the support of the RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice in FY23, Phase II. We made progress with the 15 recommendations from last cycle so we are excited to continue improving and making efforts moving forward. This phase has outside stakeholders and will focus on cross-over youth.
- Detention removed the last restraint chair! There will be 3 padded rooms added. A new Wrap is used now. It is much less intrusive and will reduce injuries and trauma for youth and staff.
- We are researching case studies to reduce room time as that is always a goal.
- Looking for possible programs that DCFS youth can start while waiting for placement in DJJS Detention.

- **Harbor Update**

- Ilia Sanchez, LCSW, is the new DJJS Manager of The Harbor Division. Ms. Sanchez has experience in both the private and public sectors, expertise in clinical work, case management, and billing/insurance. She earned a bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Social Work with a minor in Criminal Justice. We are excited to welcome her to the DJJS Management Team.
- The Harbor Mojave is working with DFS on a pilot to support the youth and staff at Child Haven. Through the pilot, The Harbor will provide a cooling off

period for youth that are struggling with their behavior and provide the youth with tools to better manage their emotions. An assessment including recommendations can further support stabilization.

- As the school year comes to an end, we anticipate referrals will decrease. In response, The Harbors are in the process of planning outreach events over the summer months to ensure we are reaching the most underserved communities throughout the valley.
 - There is a restorative justice training available at the Harbor. Trainers are vetted providers and will provide classroom and experience aspects to this training. We are looking to extend this contract to provide training to others.
- **Spring Mountain Residential Center Girls Program** – No update. Still waiting for RFQ.
 - **Truancy Prevention Outreach Program (TPOP)**
 - Summer is fast approaching and TPOP is currently collaborating with several neighborhoods that are experiencing high truancy rates to provide ongoing services. Community Navigators will frequent the identified areas to provide summer school registration information, advise parents of the new law regarding age requirements for school attendance and provide ongoing food and educational resources.
 - In order to have navigators closest to the schools they serve and the youth and families on their caseloads, TPOP has opened another location on the DJJS main campus. Workstations have been set up and offices have been furnished.
 - TPOP continues to engage with the community and CCSD to introduce the program and form relationships that will address the ongoing truancy and chronic absenteeism issues within the community. However, as schools continue experiencing an increase in social-emotional challenges with youth; the priority shifts from addressing academic services to stabilizing the behaviors contributing to a disruption in education. TPOP continues working with ESD to provide early intervention services to decrease the time that youth are separated from the learning environment.
 - Seven thousand youth have received services at TPOP. Attendance has improved 60% since TPOP opened in August 2021!