

MINUTES
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
Clark County
Department of Juvenile Justice Services
Director's office conference room
Telephonic Conference: (857) 357-0254 Access Code 943-495
April 5th, 2023, at 9am

- I. Call to Order - 9:07 am**
- II. Introductions**
- III. Public Comments - NA**
- III. Approval of 2/1/23 CAC minutes - Approved**
- IV. Approval of Agenda - Approved**
- V. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) – Report given by Deputy Directors Eboni Washington and Cheryl Wright.**
 - a. Budget/Personnel**
 - i. County budget is delayed due to the legislative session. We requested new positions and an expansion of services in the preliminary budget.
 - ii. There are currently over 50 vacant JPO positions. We are partnering with downtown County HR to expedite the hiring process and find creative ways to recruit. Shannon will share an informational poster once that is created.
 - iii. JPO Academy started this week with 7 cadets.
 - b. Legislation –** There are several bills we continue to monitor such as one that will expand services for autism programs, a certification bill specific to sex offenders, and others that will increase transition services for youth aging out of our system. Another important bill we are watching is 62G. If the bill passes, staff would be provided 270 days for a disposition for certain crimes. This timeline would be difficult to manage as we'd have to hold positions vacant. This goes for child abuse allegations as well. We were happy to see many bills regarding CSEC and will be in support.
 - c. Juvenile Justice Probation Reform**
 - i. We are continuing to see a decrease in use of force incidents as well as employee injuries since the CASE Token System began. In the first quarter, we reduced room confinement approximately 75-80%. In the second quarter, we saw another reduction of room confinement of approximately 35%.
 - ii. Our 8 new Juvenile Probation Supervisors worked hard on new mission and value statements for DJJS. They presented to M-Team and everyone loved them. Vision statement: To inspire a successful future for youth, families, and our community. Mission statement: To improve and strengthen youth and families through positive relationships and targeted programming. We will be branding both statements for recruitment and will share with the group.
 - iii. We implemented a new policy on April 1st through our contract with Robert F. Kennedy (RFK) regarding dually involved youth (DIY) in hopes to better partner and assist youth through both systems of care.
 - d. Juvenile Justice Programming**
 - i. We continue to manage a large number of female youth lingering in Detention due to multiple mental health and trauma related issues. As reported, these challenges

are extremely difficult to manage in a detention setting and we are meeting with partners and other community stakeholders to find more appropriate placement options for these youth who typically have low levels of criminality and high levels of therapeutic need.

- ii. Spring Mountain Residential Center (SMRC) is open! Capacity is 12 but we are placing only 4-6 girls until we smooth out minor growing pains. Construction on the second home is now complete! It is an exact replica of the first house. We still plan to place girls in this home. Depending on the type of programming available in the house will depend on what contract is necessary. Will have more updates as decisions are made. Please email Shannon if interested in any facility tours.
- e. **The Harbor Update**
- i. Harbor Mobile and Rural have been launched. The Harbor Rural team is serving the communities of Moapa Valley and Laughlin. Mobile program brings Harbor services and resources to these communities by providing assessments on the spot at schools, apartment complexes, community centers, etc. We are also extending services to Searchlight!
 - ii. Harbor Crisis Response Services also launched in February! We have received 66 referrals so far. We are able to connect and respond quickly while the family is still in crisis and assist getting them through it. We hold the case open 30-60 days to ensure families receive the services they need.
 - iii. Staffing continues to be a challenge at The Harbor Mojave as partner agencies struggle with hiring and retention. We have made headway with some agencies through our increased communication. We are still working internally to fill multiple vacancies.
 - a. If approved, supplemental position requests will assist us in filling key roles at The Harbor.
- f. **Truancy Prevention and Outreach Program Update**
- i. Retention remains an issue for TPOP.
 - ii. We continue to grow our relationships with high schools and find creative ways to engage this age group. We are able to assist high schools with specific problems they are having and finding creative solutions.
 - iii. Partnering with Acceleration Academy has made graduation more realistic for youth that are not a good fit for a regular school setting. We are able to assist youth that dropped out of high school graduate with an actual diploma!

VI. Discuss and change CAC Strategic Goals as follows – Group discussed merged meeting next month with DFS’ CAC. Shannon will contact their chair and ensure there is a plan or agenda for this meeting.

- a. **Increase programming to improve client outcomes, using evidence-based practices and measuring performance**
- b. **Reduce disproportionate minority contact through the use of targeted strategies and programs**
- c. **Post juvenile justice services**
- d. **Improve facilities to provide increased security and increased rehabilitative and vocational opportunities**

VII. Informational Items

- a. **Identify emerging issues to be addressed by the Committee at future meetings**
- b. **Other information that may be of interest to the Committee and the public**
 - i. Sharifa Ghafoory shared information on an event at UNLV, April 15, with Silver Summit.

