

**AGENDA**  
**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**  
Clark County Juvenile Justice and Family Services Merged CAC  
May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 8:30am

- I. Call to Order – 8:32am**
- II. Introductions**
- III. Public Comment**
- IV. (For possible action) Approval of:**
  - a. Proposed minutes DFS 4/20/23** – Minutes from 3/23/23 were approved.
  - b. Proposed minutes DJJS 4/5/23** - Approved
  - c. Today’s Agenda** - Approved
- V. Merged meeting: Intent, Goals, Feedback, etc.**
  - a. Schedule future merged CAC meetings** – Both departments agreed to meet twice a year; DJJS will join DFS’ meeting one month and another, DFS will join DJJS’.
  - b. Policy and Fiscal Affairs Meetings** – These meetings will continue to be virtual until the Judges and County Commissioners decide otherwise. DJJS and DFS do not have any control on this.
- VI. Director’s Report (10 min each)**
  - a. Jill Marano**
    - i. Director Marano discussed:**
      - 1.** creative new ways to recruit foster parents and offer families more support and resources. They are consulting with a nationwide Foster Parent Placement/Recruitment Expert to assist with the placement process and a primary goal of finding the best fit for each child’s specific needs. They are hoping these efforts will help retain foster homes and find forever homes.
      - 2.** An amendment to the 4E plan for additional reimbursements.
      - 3.** Submitting an amendment to provide additional post services to youth leaving the system.
      - 4.** DFS submitted the general fund budget request and supplemental positions to the finance department and is expecting to hear in mid-June about what was approved. Many of these positions requested were a result of the upcoming workload and administrative supports surrounding the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). This includes more robust eligibility requirements and reviews as well as positions dedicated to developing programs to support this new population.
      - 5.** DFS piloted a successful two week, expedited Foster Care Licensing class for families interested in fostering infants. The families were licensed in record time, have taken placements of infants, and have built a support network.

6. Due to the success of the expedited program, DFS has developed expedited classes for the various other groups of children needing placements. DFS has classes scheduled for families interested in fostering Teen youth and Sibling groups.

**b. Jack Martin**

- i. Our JPO vacancy is at 47. Recruitment remains a difficult task. We are working with downtown HR on ways to expedite the process. We usually have over 500 applicants for JPO, this round we had less than one hundred.
- ii. Detention population increased to 150 while Use of Force incidents and room isolation has decreased. SMYC has opened an additional dorm to help detention.
- iii. Waiting for word on our supplemental and budget requests.
- iv. We recently implemented individual training modules. These can be created specifically for someone needing additional help.
- v. Please share any feedback you have on Harbor locations. Over thirty thousand families were serviced in 6 years since opening. We went from one location to five! There is an 80% success rate for youth not re-entering the juvenile justice system after Harbor intervention. Please call the DJJS Director's office if you would like a tour.
  1. UNLV is completing an analysis to ensure we align with best practices.
- vi. Forestry Program began at SMYC! Staff and youth love this time of year. Please join us at the Forestry Picnic in August to celebrate them. DJJS cancels their August CAC meeting so members can attend as well. All are welcome.
- vii. Pivot Point is open and provides 12 beds for girls. The second home will also provide 12 beds. There is still discussion on what girls will be placed there. Please call DJJS Director's office for a tour if you have not been by!

**VII. RFK Reform**

- a. **Dually Involved Youth (DIY) Caseload** – Group discussed how to create consistency in this program and how to offer caseworkers additional support. Policies are being reviewed and revised.
- b. **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)** – Recently there have been new placement resources opened for CSEC youth. Strong Home, an Eagle Quest home, opened in April and is funded solely by DFS. Pivot Point provides 12 beds and the second home will open later this year. The more joint resources we can provide, the better our service to the community will be.

**VIII. Strengthen DFS and DJJS Partnership** – Both departments agreeing to merge two CAC meetings each year will assist this goal. The chairs also agreed to share minutes between the two and stay more involved throughout the year to see if we are able to assist each other.

- a. **Improve Communication and minimize disconnections**
- b. **Improve transitional services and mental health services between two agencies** – The Crossover team has assisted this goal. Teams agreed to be more intentional in the growth of our partnership and stay focused on children.
- c. **Identify resource and service priorities for both departments** – Group agreed to form a sub-committee that can find funding for both departments to provide more services to youth and families.
- d. **DFS AB 350 Program**

- e. **Legislation** – All CAC members from both committees asked how they can support department initiatives and the bills we are supporting through this session.
  - i. DJJS is monitoring the Restorative Justice Act from 2019 and the Community Service bill. That bill would assist in making community service hours more productive for youth or possibly add vocational training as options.
  - ii. Legislation is slow this year for DFS. There are school bills they are monitoring as well as an amendment to a Childcare bill that could create a new level of care for youth in the system.

**IX. Informational Items**

**a. Identify emerging issues**

**b. Other information that may be of interest to the Committee and the Public**

- i. May is Foster Care Appreciation month. If you know any, please take the time to thank them for helping our most vulnerable children.

**c. Announcements**

**X. Public Comments**

**XI. Adjournment – 10am**