



PROBATION DEPARTMENT



Kalisa Rochester
Chief Probation Officer

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Subcommittee
Commission Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2021
Meeting via Bluejeans

Attending

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| 1. Kalisa Rochester, Chief Probation Officer | Probation Department |
| 2. Sarah Marsh, Director of Administrative Services | Probation Department |
| 3. Lisa Maples, Deputy Chief Probation Officer/Superintendent | Probation Department |
| 4. Joel Daffron, Program Manager | Probation Department |
| 5. Joseph Owens, Program Manager | Probation Department |
| 6. Zach Robertson, Special Projects Coordinator | Probation Department |
| 7. Beatriz Ramirez, Program Specialist | Probation Department |
| 8. Vincent Andrade, Public Defender | Public Defenders |
| 9. Mark Bacciarini, Judge | Superior Court |
| 10. Genevieve Valentine, Director | BHRS |
| 11. Jacqueline Coulter, Assistant Director | BHRS |
| 12. Jeff Sabeau, Division Director | BHRS |
| 13. Kelly Turner, Founder/Director | Symple Equation |
| 14. Debbie Perez, Attorney | Fitzgerald, Alvarez and Ciummo |
| 15. Yvonnia, Brown, Director | Human Services Agency |
| 16. Alyssa Castro, Program Coordinator | Youth Leader Institute |
| 17. Nancy Murillo, Program Director, WRAP Around Services | Aspiranet |
| 18. Jermaine Paster, Coach | SWAG |
| 19. Holly Newlon, Director of Educational Services | MCOE |
| 20. Dennis Haines, Family Social Services Supervisor | MCOE/Family Resource Center |
| 21. Derrek Dean, Principal | MCOE/MC Court School |

Meeting called to order at 3: 05 pm.

Introductions where necessary

Kalisa verified who will be voting on the DJJ presentation from each of the required offices.

DJJ Presentation-Copy attached with minutes

Kalisa briefly went over the presentation and the issues related to the bill. She wanted to make sure that everyone received the proposal for the expenditures. She spoke about that we need to set aside. She wants to make sure the needs of the youth/young adults are being met.

Kalisa is in contact with other Counties working on collaborative efforts. She went over the things we need to work on and factors to consider. Through discussions, we realize we need more vocational education at the Facility. There is just not a lot of funding available at this time. We also need to beef up some of our transitional services for the youth/young adults to transition back into the community. This is something for this group might want to consider at a later date.

Kalisa went over the collaboration with BHRS to provides services out at the facility. This is a huge benefit for the clients at the facility.

We need to vote today to make sure we are all on the same page. She will display the power point presentation and will entertain questions as she goes. The DJJ Realignment Plan was submitted for the groups review. She is hitting the high lights of the presentation as it was previously sent to all the team. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

Some of the highlights she hit on were:

- We will be serving 2 age populations.
- Secured tack under 707 (b) adjudication.
- We cannot serve female youth or those requiring sex offender treatment due to limited resources and low numbers in these population.
- Programming plans.
- Flexibility to move kids within the curriculums.
- Both high school and college curriculums will be offered.
- Solar programs and food services programs will be offered.
- Concerns about maximum security and separations. Further discussion may be needed.
- All Title 15 standards applicable to camp youth still have to be met.
- Post-secondary education.
- Try to keep kids as local as possible for easier transitions upon their release.

We have nine (9) 707 (b) offenses pending judication in the Hall right now. When we look at past commitments, we have decreased the number of commitments significantly.

Programming

Beatriz presented the section on programming. She briefly explained the overview of the guiding principles and services of our integrated model. She explained the outcomes, focus and goals for the youth/young adults. It is not a one size fits all approach. Each youth has specific needs to transition back into the community. Our focus will consider all the elements. The hope is to reduce recidivism and build up accountability. There was a roundtable discussion.

Education and Training

Kalisa presented the information on educational services for the youth/young adults. We will be providing online college courses for these kids. In person tutoring will be provide to assist the kids with their college studies. Career technologies are being explored.

We will be getting \$575,934 for this fiscal year. We hope to cover the salary for the full-time solar construction technician and a community integration specialist through MCOE. Holly explained some of the duties this job position will entail. The model and program set people up for success. They create action plans that give people a sense of hope for the future. There was a roundtable discussion.

Kalisa explained about our partnership with MCOE with the RISE Program and Food Services Program. She explained how employers will team with us to hire these trained youth. The Probation Department will pay for the probation period with the hopes the vendor will pick them up under their employ.

She explained about other partnerships. Time was not on our side to get this plan up and running. It can always be revisited at a later date. The rush is to have a plan in place with a separate trust set up for this group to make future decisions. There was a roundtable discussion.

There was discussion of a one time grant fund which would have been about \$1.6 million. Kalisa wanted to use this money for a vocational shop at the Facility. Unfortunately, the funding was not approved. This may be a project for a later date. Next year, funds will involve more money than this year. It's something to consider building this shop at the facility out of next years budget.

Kalisa would like to see an evaluator come in and make sure the youth/young adults are benefiting from the programming provided.

Merced Junior College is the first choice for the college curriculum. There was discussion about the bonding piece for employment. The vendor might need help to get the youth/young adult bonded. Holly explained how this program works. The employer has this tool available to them. The Fidelity Bonding program works with MCOE. She also briefly explained about on the job training. She reminded the team that the solar materials are not included in this year's budget, only the instructor who can certify candidates.

Kalisa reminded the group this process has been rushed but we can always get back together to decide to add something else. She also reminded the team about the two populations we cannot serve and funds need to be reserved for these populations. Females are the hardest population to house. Fresno County will take our sex offenders on this secured track. It is possible that perhaps a Bay Area County may take the female offenders. Though it is not ideal, it would be better than a facility in Southern California. Changes may need to be made but this is the proposed plan for right now. There was a round table discussion.

Jermaine expressed then interested of the Fire Camps. This might be a possible partnership. Kalisa said there is a possibility of keeping one fire camp open. Pine Grove may be kept open if there is enough interest. We have to explore the pros and cons. We have to consider all the aspects.

All the plans can be changes on an annual basis. The evaluation by a bipartisan party will be very helpful. Yvonna suggested a survey of the youth currently in the facility. Beatriz explained about the discussions with the youth and the survey they took. We want to be accountable and measure if we are successful in the programs. Working together builds a solid foundation. We want to bridge the gaps with contractors. The cost of the independent data consultant needs to be factored in to this year's budget.

Recap

Kalisa reminded the group that we need to factor in reintegration services for these youth/young adults next year. AB 109 funds might also available. We can focus on what steps are needed to make this happen. If the kids are placed on a secure track this year, it is highly unlikely they will return to the community this fiscal year.

Nancy asked about family stability and engagement. Beatriz explained the process and how they are linking families and reaching out. They are trying to connect family support services when ever possible. Family stability and healing are important.

Kalisa introduced Jeff and his roll in the clinical piece of our collaboration with BHRS. Jeff stated they are working on getting three (3) full time staff out to the Facility. He explained the curriculum and their plan for services with evidence-based practices. The clinical team is already exploring the reintegration process.

Vote

Kalisa clarified that the Board of Supervisors will have the final vote. We need your approval to move the plan forward to them. This proposed plan is what you are voting on right now.

DA- not present

HSA-Yvonna

MCOE-Holly

Public Defender-Vincent

BHRS-Genevieve

Judge-Mark

The votes passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Kalisa will set the meetings late in the afternoon. We will continue to meet so that everyone has a voice. She may have to come back to the group regarding the cost factors for the females and sex offenders.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

The next meeting TBA.

Minutes scribed by Maurina Erickson, Secretary III