



**JJDCP Quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting
AGENDA**

October 12, 2023 @ 9:30 AM

Rustin Conference Center (Entrance 1)
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507 (Room #1056)

Please Note: Regular Monthly JJDCP Meeting follows the Inter-Agency Meeting.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review general program metrics, successes, and challenges: comments, programs and latest reports from department heads or assigned designees of:

Riverside County Superior
Court
Riverside County District
Attorney
Riverside County Probation
Department
Riverside County Public
Defender
Riverside County Counsel
Riverside County Juvenile
Defense Panel

Riverside County
Department of Public Social
Services
Riverside County
Superintendent of Schools
(RCOE)
Riverside County Sheriff
Department
Riverside County EDA/
Workforce Development

Riverside County
Correctional Health
Services
Riverside City Police
Department
Riverside Unified Health
System-Behavioral Health
(RUHS)
Riverside Community Care
Licensing

Youth Program Guests:

Voices for Children
Operation Safe House
Oak Grove Center
Kids in Konflikt
Access California
The Happier Life Project
Moving Mountains Unlimited

4. Adjournment
5. **NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING: January 11, 2024, 9:30 am**



- b. Probation Report - CPDO Joe Doty
- i. CPDO Judy made a brief introduction to CPDO Joe Doty, who had taken over Institutional Services. CPDO Judy announced she was now over Field Services, with an emphasis on juveniles. She noted she would still be connected to the JJDPC, and there would be a lot of energy and efforts put into the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to build a stronger network and communities.
 - ii. CPDO Doty summarized his professional experiences with the probation department, and noted he is looking forward to implanting the department's plan for change, transformation processes, and functions within the institution.
- c. Current Population:
- i. One hundred sixty-two (162) youth are being housed between the three (3) facilities.
 - ii. Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH) - Forty-four (44) male detention youth. Six (6) are pending placement, one (1) is pending Pathways to Success / Secure Track order, one (1) youth unfit for Juvenile court, and there are thirty-three (33) in court status. In addition, there are three (3) DJJ returnees at IJH.

The Four (4) youth brought back from DJJ. One (1) female, aged 16, is not eligible for the secure track program, and housed at YTEC as a detention youth. Of the youth brought back from the DJJ. One (1) female, aged 16, is not eligible for the secure track program, and is housed at YTEC as a detention youth.

The DJJ youths have been cooperative, and there have been no assaults by the DJJ youth on staff. IJH has offered programming to them, but they are refusing. The DJJ youth state they do not belong in a Juvenile Hall facility, and either want to be released or returned to custody to a county jail. IJH continues to offer programming and work with them, and IJH is seeing small improvements.
 - iii. Southwest Juvenile Hall (SWJH) - Forty-seven (47) youth. Males: 47. Of those, there are four (4) that are serving Ricardo M time, nine (9) are pending placement, One (1) unfit for juvenile, Thirty-two (32) going through the court process, and one (1) transfer.
 - iv. Alan M. Crogan Youth Treatment and Education Center (AMC-YTEC), Thirty (30) youth. Males: 27, Females: 3, Detention: 7 (females). Currently, all females are being housed in one unit, and they are receiving separate programming. There is a plan to separate the females out. The plan is to move the detention females to SWJ, and keep YTEC females in a separate unit at YTEC.
 - v. Pathways (PTS)–Thirty-four (34) youth. Males: 33, Female: 1. The one (1) female has been ordered into a step-down program. She was receiving PTS services prior, and will now receive services similar to YTEC.
- d. Significant Events. (June 2023)
- i. Fights: Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH), total of seven (7), fights.
 - ii. Higher populations in institutions than in the past.
 - iii. Multiple gang shootings in the Valley and the Desert.
 - iv. Southwest Juvenile Hall (SWJ) had fourteen (14) fights. There were only six in July. So far there have been only two. Also noted was that the youth are the same population from the desert, that are spread between the two facilities, and sometimes the youth try to fight, and probation's focus is on trying to reduce that number of fights.
 - v. No youth was hospitalized after any of the brawls. If a youth becomes injured, an onsite, 24/7 correctional health nurse will see them. If needed, correctional health will recommend a youth to receive medical service at the hospital to assure there are no severe injuries.
 - vi. Further, discussed amongst the group on the one (1) Pathways female ordered to a step-down program, after the in-depth discussion, it was noted she is still Pathways To Success (PTS) youth.
 - vii. Of the three youths who returned from the DJJ, one (1) was ordered into the Pathways program, and has a commitment of time to serve of six (6) months or less. The youth, aged 24, will be out at 25.
 - viii. The young lady currently at YTEC, housed with the other female youths, is not eligible for the Pathways to Success program because she committed her crime at age 13.
- e. Updates / Highlights / Staffing:
- i. Solidified a process for having individuals with lived life experience volunteer in probation. As part of the legislation, there are CBOs working with our Pathways to Success programs. One of those details is being off of supervision for one year. Probation will continue to exclude any crimes against children, any active gang registration, etc., that would be harmful to the youth. Probation is making strides to open the door to gang registration, etc., that would be harmful to the youth.
 - ii. Behavioral Health is the entity that supplies substance abuse in the institutions. Currently, there isn't anyone designated for substance abuse.
 - iii. Staffing: Probation has set a goal to hire 6 PCOs per month. From November through the end of June, probation was plus 24 PCOs, and the last three months averaged plus six a month.



- iv. One way to help increase the hiring goal is to adjust the job descriptions for correctional officers, by removing the education requirements to match our surrounding counties. Including Orange and San Diego counties. However, that is still, and is still tentative.
- v. Currently, the PCO vacancy rate is about 30%. The target is 217 PCOs. There are approximately 70 vacancies. During the last year, 10% of the new staff were Probation Officers I (PCO-I). Probation is locking in trainings for new staff to assure newly hired staff feel ready to perform the functions of their duties.
- vi. It was noted there was no reduction of services to youth because of staffing challenges within Institutional Services. No youth has experienced confinement time due to lack of staffing.
- vii. Chief Wright has implemented a unifying uniform for the whole department. There will no longer be a difference in uniforms for both PCOs and DPOs, they will now all have shared uniforms..
- viii. Further conversation ensued about the newly installed scanners in the institutions to detect contraband, the over 30 youth who are on the Pathways to Success program who would have been sent to DJJ in the past, the department's plans for a step down program, and the work of the reentry plan.
- ix. The chair inquired about the construction project at the YTEC facility and made a request to view the plan's construction project. CPDO Doty will circle back to the commission with the plans.

4. Riverside County Superior Court - Judge Mark Petersen

a. Highlights / Updates:

- i. Recap on the return of the youth returning from DJJ. Courts are working with Probation now that the DJJ youth have fully integrated back into Riverside County. Space in IJH is being used for some of them and the others are in Riverside. Judge Petersen noted, things are going well.
- ii. The courts are still operating with the same number of courtrooms. They slightly reopened j2, with a judge presiding there (3) days a week in the afternoons. The duration of the current circumstances is currently being evaluated.
- iii. Number wise. Cases are staying around the same for dependency and delinquency, with a slight uptick in the filings, and almost every case involves a gun. The judges that they were seeing a bit of a pattern noted it, and seeing a bit more gun charges.
- iv. Further discussed was how gang members having the youth carry out crimes, and with the changes in the law of recent years, crimes committed by 14- and 15-year-olds are handled differently legally than a 16 or 17-year-old who commits a crime.
- v. Drug Court/Justice program. There has been little success with the program lately, as in years past. More youth is not completing assignments, or graduating from the Justice program, and they are being removed from the program and being returned to the normal calendar. Judge Petersen noted the youth are given multiple opportunities to comply before they go back to the regular calendar. The numbers of youth in the Justice program were about eight (8) or nine (9), and are now down to about four (4) or five (5).

5. Probation Report: Special Services Division - Division Director, Shannon Crosby

a. Youth Report:

- i. The number of youth currently in probation placement facilities is thirty-nine (39). Of those, thirty-five (35) are in STRTPs, Three (3) are in relative placement, one (1) in FFA, twenty-five (25) youth have dual status with DPSS placement, and thirty-three (33) are participating in extended foster care. One (1) youth was placed in the country at this time, with the others being placed out-of-county. DPSS also noted the majority of their youth are placed out-of-county as well.
- ii. Further conversation ensued on the lack of available beds, STRTPS not being able to meet the treatment needs of the youth, STRTPS not accepting youth because of those treatment needs, and the closure of several group homes that used to be in the county. In addition, conversations are being had to recruit individuals to find the value of building homes in Riverside county. The group also discussed the homes purchased in Riverside county, by Muir Woods treatment facility out of Northern California, that are not STRTPS, and only accept private insurance/referrals.
- iii. Several CBO's voiced their concerns, challenges and barriers they've experienced Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) model.
- iv. Further discussed amongst the group, was the level of oversight sufficiency for out-of-county youth. Probation emphasized that probation makes visits outside of the county youths every month, and if a serious incident is reported, a probation placement monitor will respond to the facility if needed. In addition, there are partner agencies / networks of probation departments in those other counties that can also respond in the case of a serious incident.

6. Community Care Licensing (CCL) Licensing Program Manager, Natasha Dunlap

a. Updates:



- i. Informed the group that CCL does not have placement numbers, since CCL does not place clients.
- ii. Out of the last group of the STRTPS, that were pending applications, five facilities recently received a permanent license. One applicant reverted to a group home facility, and will only take private placements. The other facility has withdrawn their application.
- iii. CCL is working with a Technical Support unit to offer provider training on the interim licensing standards and various compliance issues. It is currently in development and has yet to be implemented. And there is no date.
- iv. As of July 1st, CDSS and UC Davis have a new training web course for providers regarding sex trafficking, and include 3 modules. The training is online and is a new resource available to providers.

7. Office of the Public Defender - Attorney Joelle Moore

- a. Updates / Overview / Highlights:
 - i. There are two new attorneys in the juvenile unit. One will join the Juvenile Justice team in Southwest, and the other attorney is for our Southwest region Spark team. She was previously an educational rights attorney, so she will bring a wealth of resources to the team to help the Spark team expand.
 - ii. The Youth Miranda program, previous discussed at the last meeting, is still in the developmental phase.
 - iii. The Public Defender office is taking over the Chapman Restorative Justice program contract. Hopefully, they will start getting those services to the youth between the Public Defender office and Chapman, as well as referrals from Probation, Riverside County Department of Education and other community-based organizations.
 - iv. The group further discussed the Restorative Justice program's success and tracking measuring, effectiveness of the program, long-term effects, and recidivism. It was noted that The Restorative Justice program is a holistic approach to criminal justice.
 - v. Ms. Moore noted she was willing to follow up with Dr. Alexander, who runs the Restorative Justice program and asked about long-term data tracking and the system in place for their program.
 - vi. The biggest ongoing project is the Spark Program. The numbers are increasing rapidly, and are up 20% this quarter from the same time last year, and with the additional attorney, they are hoping to focus more on data management to tell a better story of the services that they have been providing to the youth in the community. Because there are some great things happening out there. Just in one week, they prevented 4 expulsions.
 - vii. New additional educational support services are being put in place through IEPs, preventing some lower level discipline because of means from special education services that haven't been identified yet. Through those services, families could get help in getting the assessments, and getting services in place and preventing the additional discipline.
 - viii. In-dept conversation ensued on violence in high schools, and the lack of no reporting structure within the school districts. The JJDC is trying to identify pockets within the county where violence is more prevalent, with the goal of trying to set up some proactive programming for schools with a partner that can provide proactive programming to derail school violence. Chair Collopy inquired if that information could be something the Public defender's office could assist with. Ms. Moore offered to do some research on who's reporting what to who, and report back to the commission.

8. Operation Safe House, Inc. - Norma Biegel

- a. Overview/Updates:
 - i. Between the two programs with Riverside and the Desert over the last three months, they provided shelter for 76 clients. Those clients had 453.25 individual hours of counseling, 67.25 family and 872 bed nights provided for them.
 - ii. Safe House was using evidence based on the "Why Try" model, for some time, and they could not get results. It was definitely a good program. But the youth they were serving were in a crisis and so when they were coming in or exiting, the data itself was not showing that it was making a difference, and they changed the program. They are now using the Mind Matters curriculum. They have an evaluator from UC Riverside looking at the statistics, and Ms. Beigel can provide those numbers at the next meeting to see if t program is more effective.
 - iii. Operation Safe House, it's family reunification, and a youth is coming back is actually a positive because they're not going on to the streets. Their goal is to keep them off the streets and keep them out of harm's way.
 - v. Operation Safe House closed some programs down, the cost effectiveness was not there. They had the WhatsApp text app "great program", but at a cost of \$50,000 a year, the program did not show the numbers that it should have shown, and that money could go to other programs to be better used for a larger number.



- v. The Houston Family Foundation just gave Safe House a grant of \$115,000 to hire an anti-human trafficking director. They'll be based out of the desert facility. They currently have a case manager that goes between the two facilities and works with our minors, but we'll be able to expand and rebuild the program again.
- vi. Operation Safe House wants to focus on labor trafficking as well and then our hope is within a year to apply for an OBC grant. Ms. Biegel noted that Operation Safe House continues to be part of the Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force (RCAHT), they are excited to build their program back up to where they can go out and provide training and awareness.

9. Kids in Konflikt (KIK) – Executive Director, Lynette Jones

a. Overview/Updates

- i. Since January, the program has serviced 915 kiddos 6,017 hours, and has provided direct service to their families through a staff of five. KIK's orientation enrollment phase was 1,200 hours.
- ii. There are 17 components offered, and substance is the leading component. The substance component provided 487 kiddos with substance awareness, with 1,106 hour
- iii. The Victim Awareness Component served 204 kiddos, with 785 hours. The Mentoring Component served 545 hours. Currently, KIK has 20 kiddos that are being mentored on a monthly and sometimes a daily basis, including the weekends. Ms. Jones noted KIK's mentoring component addresses recidivism.
- iv. The Awareness Service Component served 204 kiddos, with 785 hours. The Anger Management Component provided 365 hours of service, the Community Service Component, 225 kiddos provided the community. The Parenting Component had 471 hours of services provided for parents.
 - v. Other numbers of note: 464 or 98.1 success with the classes, 473 or 97.5% completion success rate, and completion of homework assignments is 441 kiddos are 99.3%.
- vi. In reference to recidivism, in six months. Since January, five kiddos services to have repeated the class.
- vii. Focusing on working with the kiddos and their families and it's sustaining their village or their circle that is their support system and their network to help them in being successful.
- viii. KIK has been awarded a capacity building grant. As they needed additional funds just to help supplement the staff. Ms. Jones and Mr. G. paid four of the staff out of pocket. In addition, they have two people that graciously volunteer, and they have two Spanish Language translators and one person who helps with data tracking.
- ix. Capacity building Grant - KIK developed a program called the KIK Champ program and we partnered with a nonprofit, In San Bernardino, and teaching leadership skills through sports. The program is a 10 week program and at the end of the ten weeks youth receive a \$350 stipend for participating. Age group is 12 to 24 and so anyone in that age group is able to participate. There will be 4, 10 week series in the course of one year.
- x. In KIK's listening sessions, healing centers, the kiddos, are in charge of what would make their community better, what they can do to improve the community.
 - xi. Ms. Jones noted they were grateful to probation and to the JJDC for allowing them to fund KIK for the next fiscal year. They have received a small increase. However, it will not be enough to sustain the staff that we have. So they will probably downsize, from 17 components to possibly six.
- xii. KIK is still in YTEC. They have four kiddos that are considered parolees or former DJJ clients they are working with, and they have the young lady at Juvenile Hall. There is one young man from Pathways that's requested to speak with us. So they have the male and female that they are working with from Pathways or the secure track.
- xiii. KIK's Annual Summit was on June 28th. Ms. Jones thanked Commissioner Cook for attending and supporting their event. KIK could provide two scholarships in the amount of \$500 apiece for kiddos to help with their post-education endeavors, and gave out family awards, parent awards, sobriety awards for kiddos. It was a day to highlight our families in the program. KIK is updating their website and is hoping to launch it no later than August 1st and they continue to work with Dr. Larson from UCLA to provide ACEs programing.

9. Riverside County Counsel – Emily Headlee

a. Updates:

- i. No updates
- ii. Emily offered assistance from County Counsel's child welfare attorney, such as gathering data information etc., just to let her know and they would be happy to do so.

10. Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) – Director of Public Social Services, Jennifer Kopfler

a. Updates:

- i. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) celebrated their hundred year anniversary yesterday. Director Kopfler offered a few fun little tidbits of trivia.



- On 9/19/23, DPSS we were first called the Bureau of Welfare and Relief. And was changed to Riverside County Public Services in 1973. DPSS' budget, at the time in 1923, was \$4000 as a county, and now we're 1.5 billion. Department wide.
 - Minimum wage was \$0.28 in 1923. Now it's \$15.50.
 - The first child welfare worker was in 1945.
 - In 1992, Riverside County had 1.3 million residents and now, in 2023, 2.5 million, and DPSS serves over 1,000,000. DPSS has 4500 employees altogether, 5 divisions, 40 offices.
- ii. The number of The number of SRTTP placements is 33 SRTTPs within Riverside County and DPSS uses thirty of them currently, and only 1% of our DPSS youth are in STRTP placements. Most of the youth are with relatives in FFAs.
 - iii. Hotline calls. March Madness is always the highest month of calls. The hotline calls go above 6000 in March, and then again in September when school goes back in. A portion of those resulted in investigations. In June, there were about 5800 calls to the hotline in about 2400 of those resulted in investigations.
 - iv. Currently, there are approximately 5,200 dependent children with only 2,100 in out-of-home care, meaning some, were in family maintenance status and they are court supervised but remain at home with their parents, so about 2,144 actually are kids who are not in home care.
 - v. The breakdown in placements is 1% of the youth if we look at percentages of breakdown are in the STRTP's within Riverside County and 10% are placed outside of Riverside County Point in time, and 41% of kids with relatives and 50% in FHA.
 - vi. The average caseload right now for new investigations for Investigative Services practitioner is about 22 new referrals, so still pretty high.
 - vii. New removals of warrants in May were 88 and in June 87. To date, they've had almost 500 warrants, and more youth are coming into care, even though they've had fewer referrals because of summer.
 - viii. DPSS Welcome Center, previously shared. DPSS purchased the property, and it just went through escrow. This will help with moving more youth out of the hotels and the offices. Although the new property will reduce the number of youth in hotels, there will always be youth that will need to be isolated because of the danger they pose to other youth.
 - ix. Further discussed was budget impacts, hiring of qualified individuals, and retaining staff challenges.

21. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:40am

22. Next Meeting:

Date: October 12, 2023

Time: 9:30 am

Location: Rustin Conference Center (Entrance 1) Room # 1056
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507