

POLICY & FISCAL AFFAIRS BOARD MEETING
Department of Juvenile Justice Services
Director's Report
February 6, 2014

The Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) appreciates the significant support of the Board of County Commissioners and the Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board members.

Personnel/Budget

- The Fall Peace Officers Standards Training (POST) Academy was finalized December 19, 2013. Thirteen officers successfully completed the Academy and are now working in our Detention facility.
- Carolyn Banks has been promoted from Detention Supervisor to Detention Manager. Ms. Banks is a twenty (20) year veteran of DJJS and we look forward to her moving her vision forward in her new assignment.
- Juvenile Probation Supervisor Mark Marumoto has begun his new assignment as a quality assurance monitor.
- Grant dollars allocated from the State to keep youth from escalating within the system have been dramatically reduced in recent years from **\$617,560.00** for FY 2012/2013 to **\$293,000** for FY 2013/2014.
- The camera installation project at Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC) and Spring Mountain Residential Center (SMRC) was approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to ensure the Department is Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) compliant. Currently the Department is working with Real Property Management (RPM) to complete the camera installation.

Community Issues

- The Department recently met with the Department of Family Services (DFS) Director Ruiz-Lee and Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Timothy Burch about collaborating on an **Assessment Center** project that would serve our communities homeless, runaway, low level criminal behavior and sexually exploited youth. Further research on implementation feasibility is currently underway.
- **Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CAP) Fellowship Program**
CAP Fellowship Program through UNLV School of Medicine is being contracted to provide psychiatric services to DJJS and DFS youth. The Department's portion of the program will be funded by the Family Court Administrative Assessment Fees. This program will start in 2014, upon approval of all parties and the BCC.

Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC)

- **SMYC Wrestling** is going well thanks to coaches Al McDaniels and Marcus Wallace. Zone is scheduled for February 14 & 15th. Please come and support. This should be one of our best teams in many years and we should come home with many medals.
- **SMYC Basketball** is going well thanks to coaches Ed Cheltenham and Asad Ali. Zone is on February 18 & 19th. Please come and support. They should make a deep run in the playoffs and hopefully State.
- The SMRC has been doing a great deal of **community service** this past year and will continue to try to improve.
- SMYC has one more "**Thinking for a Change**" (T4C) training to schedule in order to get all the staff trained in this course. Our goal is to get all youth at camp involved in T4C.
- SMYC and **Hospitality International Training (HIT)** are collaborating on a program that would have 17 and 18-year-old youth in a culinary program at camp that should lead to future job placements as a line cook. Once the contract is approved we will start the training.
- The SMRC is now billing **Medicaid** for its services. The SMRC staff has done an excellent job on this new task.
- SMYC has six supervisors for the first time since 2008.

Juvenile Detention

- **Average Daily Population** for 2013 was 133 youth, decreased from 136.5 fiscal year 2012/2013, and reflecting positive outcomes from improved operations.
- **Average Length of Stay** for 2013 was 15.97 reduced from 16.3 reported in 2012.
- **Booking** releases actually decreased from 867 to 746 during this quarter, but that reflects the decreased number of youth being detained, which is down from 791 to 717. Return Agreements (RA) are slightly higher than last quarter at 619, which also reflects the lower number of youth arrested. The youth RA Log was updated and formalized to indicate not only the name of the officer, but also to include his agency and the interview start and end time. This provides us the ability to better track youth contact with outside and partnering agencies.
- Staff have been trained in "**Thinking for a Change**" to improve de-escalation tactics and communications with the youth, and the positive outcomes are directly reflected in the low incident rates on campus. Detention staff are conducting sessions with the youth on a weekly basis.
- The Detention Division continues to make strides in decreasing the total number of incidents. In addition, the Department has improved its reporting specifics in Family TRACS, our youth reporting program, to represent a more accurate **Incident Report** total. October was a Performance based Standards (PbS) reporting month.
- A Committee has been established to review the **occupational accident/ injury reports** submitted to Detention Administration as required by DJJS Administrative Directive A034, Written Workplace Safety Plan. The concept of the review is to look at what activity the employee was engaged in at time of injury, to determine the essentiality of the task at hand, and to examine what mitigations might be put in place to reduce the likelihood of injury to employees similarly engaged in that task in

the future. Additionally, we will verify that every employee involved in a workplace accident has completed the required drug screening.

- The Detention Division made required efforts to be in compliance with **Senate Bill 107, Corrective Room Restriction Reporting**- NRS Chapter 62 B and NRS Chapter 63, that took effect on 10/01/2013. Logbooks were placed in each Unit. These logbooks will be used to document all requirements of SB107, including the youth's specific behavior, the incident the youth was involved in, and the result. Supervisor approval is required in every instance to ensure improved discussion on a youth to youth basis. Once a month this spreadsheet will be collected and sent to the Juvenile Justice Programs Office.
- Youth are now utilizing the **Challenge Course**, which provides our youth the opportunity to participate in team building exercises with each other and staff.
- The Detention Division is creating an **Honors Room** for our Level Three youth, providing an opportunity for youth with consistent appropriate behavior to have a place to go that reinforces positive behavior and rewards appropriate interaction with their peers.

Probation Division

- **Medicaid Regulation Changes**
In January Nevada Medicaid changed regulations related to authorizing Basic Skills Training (BST) services to youth. The repercussions of the changes will have a significant impact to youth in out of home placements. Medicaid is not authorizing BST service at levels previously authorized. This reduces the daily rates paid to foster care providers by Medicaid. The Department is in dialogue with providers to determine the impact to youth served to minimize instability to their placement, ensure proper services are received by clientele and develop viable solutions. The Department will see a negative fiscal to budget. The Department is calculating the expected fiscal impact and the potential that the detention population and/or average length of stay in detention may increase.
- **Gold Post Technology/Tablets**
The Department, with the assistance of the Family Court Judges, continues to move forward with Gold Post Technology/Tablets to utilize ProbeSmart software to allow the Officer while in the field to enter and retrieve valuable information on the youth. Programming and writing of the software code has commenced. The timeline has been laborious, as the County and Gold Post have collaborated to expand the architecture, functionality and efficiency of the tablet software.
- **School Attendance Review Board (SARB)**
The School attendance Review Board is composed of Clark County School District, DFS and DJJS members who meet regularly to diagnose and resolve persistent student attendance problems. The SARB is authorized by NRS 392.126 with the purpose to enhance the enforcement of compulsory education laws and to divert students with school attendance or behavior problems from the juvenile justice system until all available resources have been exhausted. SARB does have the power and authority, when necessary, to refer students and their guardians to court. The SARB is designed to help truant students and their parents or guardians solve school attendance and behavior problems through the use of available school and community resources. The SARB began on October 9, 2013.

Probation Statistics:

- Intake Unit – twelve (12) Officers saw 6,866 families in 2013 (7,982 = -14%)
- 2013 Average Monthly Supervision Caseload – 2,377 (2,272 = -4.3%)
- 2013 Average Consent Decree (informal probation) Caseload – 128 (106 = +20%)
- 2013 Average Hold Open (diverted without Court action) – 225 (344 = -46%)
- 2013 Average Intensive Supervision Probation – 236 (251 = -6%)
- 2013 Average Intensive Supervision Pre-Adjudication Cases – 123 (2012 not calculated the same way)
- 2013 Average Caseload Field Probations Officer – 46 (45 = +1%)
- 2013 Average Caseload JSO Probation Officer – 32 (30 = +5%)
- 2013 Average Caseload Drug Court Officer – 50 (55 = -10%)

State Surplus Allocation

\$95,850 in surplus grant monies from the prior fiscal year will only be one-time monies for this fiscal year and are being utilized to deliver direct substance abuse services.

Our primary obstacle continues to be that, in the current financial climate of the state, as is the case nationwide, DJJS continues to struggle to secure adequate funding to support the development and implementation of alternatives to detention programming.

Clinical Services

- Clinical Services continues with **coverage 7 days per week** in all of the units.
- The Division continues to expand services to youth transitioning from SMYC back into the community. The goal is to better engage the parents through additional groups as well as family counseling sessions. The response has been great and they are in the process of putting together a **support group for parents**.
- The Division has been tasked with **vetting** all of the Basic Skills Training (BST) and Psycho-Social Rehabilitation (PSR) **providers** for the Department. They held two orientation workshops for existing providers in the month of January. They are also in the process of putting a quality assurance team together to review the applications and conduct the site visits.
- Clinical Services is represented on the Clark County **Mental Health Consortium** as a voting member. They are also represented on the Crisis Intervention and Infrastructure workgroups.
- Since the development of the **Residential Treatment Center (RTC) Screening Committee**, the Department has significantly reduced the number of youth sent out of state for treatment. In addition,

the committee is tasked with conducting site visits to ensure youth are receiving clinically appropriate services. During 2013, **seven (7) site visits were conducted**. During the first part of 2014, 3 additional facility audits are scheduled.

- Clinical Services is updating their **Suicide Prevention training**. Once the new curriculum is finalized, they will begin to provide this training to Probation Officers department-wide. They are also putting together an **Adolescent Development curriculum** that will become part of the mandatory block trainings for Probation Officers.
- We continue to develop and sustain relationships with a variety of **community partners** in order to expand services, ensure quality, and improve case management efforts.