



THE HARBOR – EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Juvenile Assessment Center Minutes

September 26, 2018 – 1:00 PM

The Harbor

861 N. Pecos Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89101

Minutes taken by Vikki Andrews

Present in Person

City of Las Vegas

Lee Quick, Management Analyst

Clark County Department of Family Services

Jill Marano, Assistant Director – **Board Member**

Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John M. Martin, Director – **Board Member**

Cheryl Wright, Clinical Services Manager

Brett Allen, Manager

Vikki Andrews, Administrative Secretary

Clark County District Attorney's Office

Brigid Duffy, Chief Deputy District Attorney – Juvenile Division and Co-Chair – **Board Member**

Jason Patchett, Deputy Civil District Attorney

Clark County Family Court

Judge William Voy – **Board Member**

Clark County Law Enforcement

Sean Toman, Captain, *on behalf of Kevin McMahill, Undersheriff Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department* – **Board Member**

Clark County School District

Dr. Tammy Malich, Assistant Superintendent – **Board Member and Chair**

Department of Health and Human Services

Ellen Richardson-Adams, Outpatient Administrator, Department of Public and Behavioral Health Services – **Board Member**

The Harbor

Cesar Lemos, Executive Director

Workforce Connections

Jim Kostecki, CFO – *Board Member*

Community Guests

Joe Roberts, Clark County School District

Kelly Demos, Clark County School District

Darlene Terrill, WestCare

Present by Phone

Clark County School District

James Ketsaa, School Police Chief – Board Member

Dr. Tara Raines, Researcher, University of Denver

I. Call to Order

Dr. Tammy Malich, Clark County School District (CCSD) and Chair called the meeting to order, there was a quorum.

II. Public Comments

None at this time.

III. Approval of June 27, 2018 Minutes

The June 27, 2018 minutes were approved.

IV. Approval of September 26, 2018 Agenda

The September 26, 2018 agenda was approved.

V. Election of Co-Chair

Before opening the item to the committee, Dr. Malich informed that committee that she and Cesar Lemos, The Harbor, reviewed the inter-local agreement, and there is no mention of a co-chair, it does not prohibit or include. Jason Patchett, District Attorney's Office, Clarified that there is a provision that allows the committee to appoint other officers.

Ellen Richardson-Adams, Department of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBHS) was nominated for the co-chair position. Brigid Duffy, District Attorney's Office, mentioned that at the last meeting, Deputy Chief Chris Darcy said he may be coming forth with a nomination from Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD). Captain Sean Toman, LVMPD, has no information regarding a nomination. The committee motioned and approved for Ms. Richardson-Adams to co-chair. Ms. Richardson-Adams accepted the co-chair position.

VI. Report from Civil District Attorney on Amended Inter-local

Mr. Patchett informed the committee that the draft has been circulated through all parties and he has heard back from most legal departments of the respective parties. He is currently waiting for LVMPD to send back their comments.

VII. WestCare

The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) is at the point where they must accept the resignation of the WestCare representative from the committee, as the agreement between WestCare and The Harbor has

been terminated. Darlene Terrill, WestCare, has agreed to stay involved and assist in any way she can. At this point WestCare is not providing and is unable to provide services at The Harbor, and have closed their adolescent units. The committee motioned and approved the termination and resignation of WestCare as a part of The Harbor's executive board.

VIII. Discuss Possible Additional Members

- a. Progressus – At the last ESC meeting there was a discussion around looking at Progressus as a partner to The Harbor who could provide Tier III mental health services, and if that was the case, considering adding them to the ESC. Progressus is in the process of receiving their Medicaid number and authorization. This item will be put on hold for the next agenda.
- b. Steve Augspurger of the Clark County Administrators Association – Mr. Augspurger is the Executive Director of the Clark County Administrators Association. The addition would be for the Executive Director rather than Mr. Augspurger specifically. John M. Martin, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJS), believes it's a good idea to have more school district representation on the board. Mr. Augspurger has leverage with school administrators. The ESC ultimately needs more school administrators and their staff to be on board with The Harbor. This item will be put on hold for the next agenda.
- c. Eagle Quest – Ms. Duffy believes that as a provider to The Harbor youth, Eagle Quest should be a part of the ESC. Ms. Richardson-Adams asks if there is any conflict with Eagle Quest being a paid provider and also part of the board. It was clarified that they are receiving payment through legislature, so it is not a conflict of interest. The committee motioned and approved to add the Executive Director of Eagle Quest to the ESC board.
- d. Open discussion on additional memberships – Mr. Martin suggested that someone on the mental health side of CCSD become a board member. There were several suggestions of possible additions. Dr. Malich informed the committee that Bob Wiers of CCSD is currently responsible for two staff stationed at The Harbor and has decision making authority, he was also present in Denver with the ESC when they were invited to their Juvenile Assessment Center, and has an investment in The Harbor. Dr. Malich would like to discuss his position as an additional board member to the next agenda.

Other first responder agencies were suggested for the board, or at minimum for marketing to be done with their agencies, such as the fire department, paramedics, and Department of Public Safety. Ms. Richardson-Adams suggests Community Health Intervention Program (CHIPS) and Nevada Child Seekers. Ms. Richardson-Adams also suggested the possibility of a therapy dog organization.

Another possible addition would be the Executive Director over Corrections and Adult Education, Bob Tartar.

- e. It was asked if titles of board members change, will the inter-local need to be amended to reflect the change if they serve in the same capacity. Mr. Patchet stated that yes, the inter-local would need to be amended. Jill Marano, Department of Family Services (DFS), brought up to the committee that recently DFS has changed the title of Director to Human Services administrator (HSA). Because the HSA still functions as the department Director, the inter-local would not need to be amended.

IX. Discuss Marketing of The Harbor

The Harbor is coming up on its two year anniversary on October 17, 2018. It is suggested that the anniversary be celebrated on another date for higher attendance. The ESC decided on October 23, 2018 at noon. To celebrate, the media outlets, guests and guest speakers would be invited to the event. ESC members will create a list of strong supporters who should be invited, and submit the list to Dr. Malich by end of September. Mr. Lemos and Brett Allen, DJJS, will finalize food.

Bob Tartar, CCSD, has a meeting with Vegas PBS this week to begin a marketing PSA for The Harbor. This will be moved forward between Dr. Malich and Mr. Tartar.

X. Data Reports

- a. Dr. Tara Raines presented the results of a study of 220 participants; only 147 of those participants were useable. The participants are youth who came into The Harbor through law enforcement referral and volunteered to participate in the study. There was an attempt to reach the youth at three and six months after they came to The Harbor, but only one youth in six months completed the follow up. Dr. Raines believes tracking youth who have been to The Harbor is something that needs to be revisited to see if there is a better way to do that.

The study focused on youth who are not already displaying behavioral and emotional disorders, but those who are at risk of developing behavioral and emotional disorders in the future, and who are currently displaying warning signs. The majority of the youth were demonstrating expected levels of risk. Out of the sampling, 23 youth demonstrated elevated risk, which means they are likely to develop some type of behavioral, emotional or mental health disorder. Ten youth from the sampling were found to be extremely elevated. In many cases, youth who are considered extremely elevated are already exhibiting symptoms of mental health disorder. Some other categories that the study captured were communication skills and empathy.

After receiving the results, Dr. Raines ran another analysis to see how these youth can be best grouped in order to serve them better; how The Harbor intervenes with youth, follows up with youth, and how The Harbor refers youth to diversion programming. What was found was that there are four groups of kids 42% of youth looked like healthy normal teens; 28% of youth are receiving school discipline, showing below average GPA, but exhibiting average behavior and emotional risk, and average social skills; 14% have increased school discipline, are presenting behavior and emotional risk, below average social skills, but are academically doing okay; and finally 15% have an average of 45 discipline referrals, low GPA, average to below average social skills, and above average risk.

- b. Kelly Demos, school psychologist for CCSD, was tasked to look at the first 352 youth who came into The Harbor from opening through the end of the first calendar year, and completed an in-depth study on them; 25% of the youth were not enrolled in CCSD schools for the entire length of the study for various reasons. There were 264 students that she was able to pull data on. Kelly compiled data such as their IEP status, level of education, grade level, and special education eligibility.

The data shows that 49% of youth who completed The Harbor assessment had a decrease in behavioral referrals, while 45% had an increase in behavioral referrals. The data was broken into 18 sub categories of infractions, and there was a decrease in 13 of 18 sub categories. Instances of bullying, weapons on campus, substance abuse, theft and inappropriate language each decreased by over 25% over the course of the study. Behaviors were further grouped into substance abuse, conduct behaviors, aggressive behaviors and non-aggressive behaviors categories. There was a decrease between 50-87% for each of those categories. The study also collected data on trancies, grade point averages, grade level promotion, graduation rates. Moving forward, Dr. Malich will have her data person work with Ms. Demos to get this information more easily.

The youth that are not going to school are the most difficult population to work with. There are limited resources available in the community to be able to enforce attendance. Many times, it's a family systemic issue, which is difficult to address in the short assessment time. Truancy, by statute, is not a behavior incident, and youth cannot be disciplined for truancy. Mr. Martin believes that the "one-and-done" policy regarding truancy at The Harbor needs to be reviewed, and continue to send these youth to The Harbor for services. Ms. Duffy and Ms. Malich have been heavily involved in a truancy diversion program and the thing that everyone agrees that makes that program successful is the officers involved. Ms. Malich did reach out to the office of attendance enforcement and to request that they dedicate a truancy officer to The Harbor, and they will be moving forward with that. Mr. Martin asked how The Harbor could help with alternative education and credit retrieval. Joe Roberts believes that it would be beneficial to have a teacher at The Harbor who can facilitate an online credit retrieval process. The program and training is roughly \$5000.00, but the per-person cost is very inexpensive. Ms. Malich stated that she will reach out to Bob Tarter regarding this, and how the ESC can get creative and set up a youth and adult education program. They will have something to report to the ESC at the next meeting. Mr. Lemos adds that there UNR Cooperative extension is beginning a parenting class for Hispanic families on Saturdays, and is hopeful that this will help in this area.

Dr. Malich reminds the committee that both Dr. Raines and Ms. Demos reports are only on the first 100 youth and/or first three months of The Harbor opening. There will now be the ability to pull the full 4000 for a comparative study. The first 100 and 300 youth were largely law enforcement referrals, which don't include the walk-ins, community referrals, and district referrals who haven't escalated to law enforcement contact yet. Ms. Duffy asks if the data will be able to be pulled by the legislative session. There was an ask date of November 1, 2018 by Judge Voy, so the hope is by November 1.

- c. Mr. Lemos presented The Harbor executive report. To date 4596 youth have been served at The Harbor. In July and August the number of referrals decreased, almost exclusively because school was not in session. The Harbor has already seen an increase since school started. The escalation rate remains at 4%. The race breakdown shows that there has been an increase in the Hispanic population, which is currently at 43%, Black is at 31%, White 19%, Asian/Pacific Islander 4% and mixed 3%. The top five offenses and top five zip codes remain the same. Law enforcement wait times have slightly increased.

Ms. Duffy states that she met with North Las Vegas Police Department on this date regarding their utilization of The Harbor. She is hopeful that there will be an increase and the Chief will be holding officers accountable.

XI. Informational Items

Next meeting December 19, 2018 at 1:00 pm, The Harbor, 861 N. Mojave Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89101.

XII. Public Comments

None at this time.

XIII. Adjournment