MINUTES CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Clark County

Department of Juvenile Justice Services
Director's Conference Room, 601 N. Pecos Road, Las Vegas, NV 89101
March 1, 2017 at 9:00am

Advisory Members Present: Robert Henry, Tiffany Tyler, Dominika Washington, Josephine Bonomo, David Doyle, and Charla Vieira

Advisory Members Absent: Ricardo Villalobos (excused), Anthony York (excused), Lisa Morris-Hibbler (excused), Leisa Moseley (excused), and Kelli Kristo

Ex-officio Member: John M. Martin

Attendees: Patrick Schreiber and Dee Wirth

Minutes completed by: Melinda Oettinger

- I. Call to Order 9:03 AM
- II. Introductions
- **III.** Public Comments N/A
- IV. Approval of February 1, 2017 minutes Approved
- V. Approval of Agenda Approved
- VI. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS)
 - a. Budget/Personnel Update
 - **i.** We are in the third week of our P.O.S.T. Academy. We have 7 cadets. We will still have 6 or 7 vacancies after the completion of this academy.
 - **ii.** It is a sad day at the Department of Juvenile Justice. We are losing veteran officer, Supervisor JPO Troy Brown, to retirement. Mr. Brown has been dedicated to working with kids for the past 30 years.
 - **iii.** We received information in the last Department Head's meeting that there will be no supplemental budget requests this year. We will not be asking for any new positions.
 - **b.** Legislature We are currently tracking about 200 bills. Mr. Martin and Mr. Whelihan, the Manager at Spring Mountain Youth Camp, are reading every bill and there is about 1100 of them at this time. The assembly speaker, Mr. Jason Frierson, is supportive of youth and the Department and is supportive of legislation that would provide funding for The Harbor and \$400,000 dollars to fund gender responsive programing. We have had tremendous support for The Harbor and have had numerous tours of the facility. As of yesterday we have had 450 families served, fewer than 15 have escalated into the Juvenile Justice system.

- i. The Department of Juvenile Justice is tracking 2 bills very closely. One of them is AB180; this bill was introduced by Assembly Member Monroe from North Las Vegas. It is a Juvenile Justice bill of rights. The Department of Juvenile Justice fundamentally agrees in a bill of rights for youth, there are several items that need to be addressed. We are working to adjust language in the bill.
- ii. Another bill that the Department of Juvenile Justice is concerned about is AB185. This bill changes where youth are held once certified. There are currently about 78 youth that would be brought back and held in detention until they turned 18 under this bill. The Departments biggest concern is the cost that would result if this bill passed. The bill makes no provision to fund the resources needed to house and program for these youth. The Department has estimated that the cost of providing services for this number of youth is about 10 million dollars. We would have to open and update 3 housing units, provide sight and sound separation, and increase security. We would have to close down numerous community programs that have been proven successful keeping youth out of Detention such as the Evening Reporting Center, Intensive Supervision Program, and the Harbor in order to meet the cost of implementing this change. This would have an effect on the progress we have made in terms of keeping our detention population down. The bill is being sponsored by Assembly Member James Ohrenschall. There is a hearing regarding this bill on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 8:00am. Mr. Martin along with the District Attorney and the other Chiefs of Probation will be testifying at the Grant Sawyer building. Mr. Martin encourages the committee members to come and testify to their concerns about the bill.
- c. Juvenile Detention Reform Mr. Martin had the pleasure yesterday of sitting at the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) which is one of President Obama's social initiatives to address the needs of youth of color. The focus includes 5 or 6 target areas that MBK is working on. Juvenile Justice is involved with goal number 3, which is to reduce disproportionality in our system. Mr. Martin is proud to report that MBK had a meeting yesterday and information about The Harbor was shared. Additionally the Evening Reporting Center (ERC) as well as the YLS screening tool is additional efforts being made to address DMC within the justice system.

d. Juvenile Justice Programming

- i. Filling vacancies in our Clinical Services Division with qualified mental health staff has become a difficult challenge. We are looking for ways to address the issue and provide necessary services to families and youth.
- **ii.** We are looking at the benefits of changing the designation of Spring Mountain Youth Camp from a correctional placement to a therapeutic program. This is a recommendation from the Department of Health and Human Services, Richard Whitley. He believes that if SMYC was able to be classified differently than a correctional placement which by statute, we would be eligible for more funding resources such as Targeted Case Management (TCM) funding. This would allow us to bring more resources to the camp.
- **iii.** Mr. Martin had the opportunity to meet with Dan Musgrove and Kevin Morse about creating a girl's day treatment program.
- **e.** The Harbor Update Mr. Martin took Mr. Doyle on a tour of The Harbor yesterday. Committee members were invited to take a tour of The Harbor if they have not

already seen the program. We are averaging about 10 kids a day. Our next goal is to be open 7 days a week with longer hours.

- VII. CAC Strategic Goals for 2016-17 The divisions have been working on creating a Departmental strategic plan. Hopefully by the next meeting Mr. Martin will be able to provide the committee with more information.
 - a. The Harbor and Reducing disproportionality N/A
 - b. Mental Health and Crisis Intervention N/A
 - **c. Gender Specific Programming** One of Juvenile Justice's strategic goals is providing better services for girls. We would like to increase the level of programing out in the community. Ms. Wirth stated that she would love to be involved.
 - d. Training and Quality Assurance N/A
 - e. Post juvenile justice transitional service N/A

VIII. Informational Items

- a. Review of legislation (BDR/AB/SB) pending before the 2017 Nevada Legislature affecting DJJS and/or Clark County
 - i. In regards to committee members speaking to legislators per Clark County policy and CAC guidelines, members can speak as private citizens but not as representatives of the committee. If the committee chooses to submit a letter of support for a bill, the committee would have to have its statement reviewed first by the County.
 - 1. The committee would like to draft a letter against AB185. Mr. Martin will check with Catherine Jorgensen regarding how the committee should proceed with drafting a letter.
- **b.** Identify emerging issues to be addressed by the Committee at future meetings Mr. Martin has an emerging issue; encourage Juvenile Justice staff and CAC members to get involved with the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiatives.
- c. Other information that may be of interest to the Committee and the public The Policy and Fiscal Affairs meeting moved to March 9th at 12:30pm. Mr. Doyle and Dr. Tyler will be attending the meeting to give the CAC report to the commissioners. Juvenile Justice will be inviting some of our community partners to the Youth Level of Services (YLS) screening tool training.
- **d. Announcements** Next meeting is April 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., in the Director's Office Conference Room, 601 N. Pecos Road, Las Vegas, NV 89101
- **IX.** Public Comments N/A
- **X.** Adjournment -9:56 AM