

San Francisco
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
DJJ Realignment Subcommittee
January 23, 2024, 3:30-5:00pm
Hosted by the Juvenile Probation Department
375 Woodside Avenue, Main Conference Rm #247, San Francisco, CA 94127

MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT FOR APPROVAL 3-19-24

Item 1 – Introductions & Roll call

Meeting called to order 3:30pm.

Present:

Chief Katherine Miller, Juvenile Probation Department, CHAIR
Julie Traun, Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF)
Chaniel Williams, Community Member Appointee
Will Roy, Community Member Appointee
Liz Jackson-Simpson, Community Member Appointee * Joined after roll called.
Mona Tahsini, Department of Public Health * Joined after roll called.
Denise Coleman, Huckleberry Youth Services
Ron Stueckle, Juvenile Justice Providers' Association
Rachel Noto, San Francisco Unified School District and County Office of Education
Aimee Ubas, Juvenile Advisory Council (JAC)
Judge Monica Wiley, Superior Court

Katherine Miller, Chair – Welcomes all for coming.
Welcomes and introduces Aimee Ubas, JAC member.

Taken out of order:

Item 5 – Approval of 8-22-23 JJCC & DJJ Joint Meeting Minutes

Chief Miller calls for a show of hands for those who wish to abstain.

Chief Miller makes Motion that Aimee Ubas, Tiffany Sutton, Julie Traun, and Judge Monica Wiley may abstain from voting on both sets of minutes; second by Mona Tahsini.

Motion to approve by Will Roy; Second by Ron Stueckle.

Vote: AYES: Chief Miller, Will Roy, Mona Tahsini, Denise Coleman, Ron Stueckle, Rachel Noto.
Motion passed.

Item 6 – Approval of 4-14-23 JJCC & DJJ Joint Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Mona Tahsini, second by Rachel Noto. Second: Rachel

Vote: AYES: Chief Miller, Will Roy, Mona Tahsini, Denise Coleman, Ron Stueckle, Rachel Noto.
Motion passed.

Item 3 – DJJ Realignment Subcommittee Updates

See attached slides.

Emily Fox starts with *YOU ARE HERE* Slide, review of gap analysis given.

Slide Page 7 – Goes over Summer 2023 to Winter 2024

Talked about Continuing Facility improvements.

NOTE: 3:50pm Liz Jackson Simpson joins at 3:50pm

Slide Page 8 – SF DJJ Realignment population details. One person returned in adult arrest.
Patti Lee asks about the two youth who graduated. How many years had they served?

Slide Page 9 - Facility Update:

- States that new Assistant Director of Facilities has been hired, Dale Tafoya.
- They have worked with DPW to have units painted (brighter)
- Have updated hygiene products which youth may chose.
- Got them sleep eye masks at their request so they could sleep better.
- Upgraded sheets and towels, new blankets – all at colors style of their choosing.

- Purchased rugs.
- Will be replacing the flooring. Example of new vinyl sheet flooring to replace current linoleum or concrete – so replacing half of flooring in the living space.
- New clothes ordered at their choosing for different activities, working out, meetings, family visits.

Page 10 shows photos of repainted unit walls and shelves of new hygiene products.

Page 11 “Before photo” of rooms with some samples of new rooms.

Chief Miller also mentions youth were asked if they wanted different colored walls, one youth stated they wanted all same color.

Emily Fox states that they had spoken to the youth and realized JPD could fill many of their requests now.

Question: What happens when a youth leaves? Chief Miller states they all agreed to a color pallet, and they chose within that grouping. Because there is a combination of rooms, we can make it work.

Director of Facilities, Shane Thomas, states they were very thoughtful – i.e. colors were common colors.

Slide Page 12 - JJC Replacement Concept Design. Chief Miller lists a summary of the process to present. States JPD working with DPW, Chinn Planning and KMD Architects. This is not to create new detailed plans but rather a concept of the replacement on this campus including both new construction and re-thinking existing building.

Page 13 – Continues; mentions that youth in Units 7 and 8 created a PowerPoint for the architects offering their thoughts and ideas. Process will probably take longer than original 6-month time line and will offer an estimate of costs. They are planning on presenting at the March 2024 Juvenile Probation Commission Meeting.

- Youth stated desires for light, open space, ability to be outside and windows that open for air circulation.
- Desire for a building where families could spend the weekends with them.
- Wanted school space and vocational space.
- Both units researched and found presentations on Halden Prison in Norway as a place they thought had a better experience.
- Shane Thomas mentions cafeteria area. Chief Miller states that so much of what they listed had to do with being stuck in the same place.

Liz Jackson-Simpson – Asks about youth getting outside. Mentions security issues being discussed.

Chief Miller said that one youth just wanted to be outside, see the moon. She also mentions this part has been considered within the clothing project (adding coats, etc.)

Chief Miller mentions having this be more of a campus space and building in the open space in the back yard.

Youth want to be outside not just as an activity but throughout the day.

Julie Traun – Asks about transitioning out. Would we do field trips? Ex: What if they wanted to continue at City College as part of their release plan. Chief Miller mentions they have talked about this but for now, they are having an outside contact visit here to start a relationship.

Ron Stueckle – Has respect for these moves without waiting. Is it possible to keep in the concept of the design, that part of the goal is to have youth incarcerated?

Chief Miller states that there will always be a conversation about the number of beds needed and they might not agree on that number.

They need not only the right number of beds but to keep in mind that some youth will be here long term.

- How do we distinguish between those here for a few nights v. long term?
- When we see these concepts, how do we prioritize?

Will Roy – Has same concerns as Ron Stueckle. In this political climate, if public opinion shifts to be “tough on crime” “if there are beds available, they are going to want to fill them.”

Chief Miller reminds all that the current design has 150 beds and we have never come close to that since this building opened.

Ron Stueckle – This is intense and decisional. Clearly people make choices, if we are building this in coordination with those entities that might change, can we keep the commitments as we build it.

Chief Miller states that we are in a quite different situation than when the CJHWG started in 2019, and states that the pandemic was clearly not normal.

Patti Lee states that we need to discuss numbers – is it pre-disposition youth or secure track? Also looking at other step-down options and wants to hear more.

Chief Miller reminds all this is the group charged by state law to come up with options.

- Mentions they visited other local county facilities and stated some just didn't work for SF youth.
- States we have not yet seen what statewide response will be yet.
- No county wants to be the county that will create programs for other counties; we just do not know what this is going to look like.

Patti Lee – Mentions this is a process and we know that. Asks what is our “NorthStar now?” It is important to be guided by our mission and values.

Chief Miller states this group did a lot of outreach too – our day-to-day is to do the absolute best we can do for the youth who are here now.

Liz Jackson-Simpson states that it is our responsibility to make sure that if they have beds they are not just filled.

Emily Fox – Talks about ROCA Trip to Baltimore. They got to see their model, but REWIRE Program was impressive. They have 2 REWIRE Cohorts completed as well as having the Success Center Credible Messengers take the training. 3rd Cohort has started already, and 4th Cohort will start in March 2024.

See Slide Page 15

Mentions that some of our staff will go through coaching training to teach others too, including everyone who works with a young person will have the ROCA Rewire training.

Tiffany Sutton asks if they can do the training. Chief Miller states that ROCA is under contract with DCYF, and the Court is training in Young Adult Court, so there will be multiple arenas offered in San Francisco.

Maria McKee explains there will also be some shorter overview trainings offered which they are working on now. *Train the Trainers* type program is 12-months long.

Slide 16 – Programmatic Updates

DCYF Funding Cycle key awards will be announced in March 2024. This includes an expansive budget and opportunities; will update this Subcommittee.

OYCR released a Letter of Interest in new funding to support transitions from SYTF. JPD will submit a budget to OYCR and will release a transitional housing RFQ in late winter/early spring. Emily Fox states OYCR mentioned \$100,000 per kid. She states they will submit for what they want and see where that goes; may be more than \$100,000/youth.

Explains there will be an RFQ not an RFP.

Maria McKee states they need a qualified list for “in” and “out” of county options.

Slide Page 17 (unmarked) regarding Reentry Planning Workgroup – this less restrictive work group has developed a list of recommendations.

Slide Page 18 – Talks about this workgroup and the high-level needs of what a young person must have in place when they leave, and what do they need before they leave – mentions what does continuity of care look like?

How do we do this so the youth feel comfortable when they leave?

Julie Traun says that we want the kids to advocate for themselves, but they need to know how to do that.

- Next Mtg of work group: Thursday, 1-25-24 at JPD.

Slide Page 19 – Legal Updates – Chief Miller continues.

Youth Bill of Rights AB505 makes some requirements to these groups, one thing it does is that the CPO will be the Chair or co-chair of the **DJJ Realignment Subcommittee** and can appoint a co-chair and specifies that the group will meet at least twice annually (we already do this!). Must submit the new Annual Plan by May 1, 2024.

Slide Page 20 – re OYCR Ombudsperson who can now access records at any time no longer need 48-hrs notice. They can meet with anyone and need to conduct an annual site visit. Chief Miller states that we already have an annual BSCC inspection and now this is a 2nd state inspection.

AB134 Sight and Sound restrictions – this redefines what “juvenile” means. Talks about what this means and how these youth and up to 25-year-olds cannot intermingle.

Slide Page 21 – Calculation of Terms

Judge Roger Chan states that when the realignment first happened, the state told counties to use what the state was using to determine terms. Then, the state ordered a committee to come up with a new/better way. The Judicial Council came up with new calculations for term lengths – now each offense has a range based on specific youth. More flexibility is being given to the judges; less rigid.

Slide 22 – Funding updates

JJRBG is the main funding for the SYTF. Mentions that this funding has also been used to fund CBOs programming in the community. Will also be used for step-down transitional housing.

This is a big pool of money to implement the DJJ realignment improvements.

Other funding:

AB178 Facilities improvements funding is directed to secure youth but not exclusive.

Youth Program and Facilities Grant – states we must use these funds 6-1-24.

- Chief Miller states that we do not need to request these funds, we are just told what the State will give San Francisco.

Ron Stueckle asks about Credible Messengers – Will that funding come from JJRBG? He mentions San Francisco will receive more this year, asks about where any excess will go? Maria McKee mentions some programs like domestic violence training, and some goes back to DCYF and staffing. Ron Stueckle talks about salary levels in San Francisco; wants to make sure that people who are doing the work are being paid a living wage.

Chief Miller also mentions having extra facility Units open for youth safety and this requires more staff.

Public Comment? No public comment.

Item 4 – Future agenda

Emily Fox states they will be convening in March 2024 to review a progress report to be added to the last plan.

Will also meet in April to go over any edits – Plan must be submitted to OYCR by May 2024.

REENTRY Work group will meet to develop the progress report.

Other topics?

- Patti Lee wants to learn more about step-down planning/process. Chief Miller thinks that after the DCYF RFP is awarded would be best time to discuss so we know the groups working for that next 5-years.
- Liz Jackson-Simpson – As they talk about facilities, wants to make sure any plans align with what we’ve talked about.
- Judge Roger Chan – Suggests that they might call this “step up” not “step down” planning – Reiterates that there is a huge gap in our system of care from secure track to group home.
- Chief Miller mentions a refresher on the recommendations of the CJHWG.

Item 7 – Adjournment – 4:59pm

Will Roy motion to adjourn; Judge Monica Wiley seconds.

Others in attendance: Honorable Judge Roger Chan and JPD Staff: Shane Thomas, Maria McKee, Emily Fox, Adrian Garcia, Sheryl Cowan (note-taker)