

**Stanislaus County
Juvenile Justice Commission
February 8, 2024 – Probation Department**

Members Present: Marian Martino, Chair; Stephen Ashman; Wanda Bonnell; Sharma Uma; Chief Fidel Landeros; Dawn Cullum

Members Excused: Sandra Ainslie; Michael Baldwin Sr., Vice Chair; Captain Scott Houston

Probation Department Present: Mark Ferriera, Chief Probation Officer; Leticia Ruano, ACPO; Tracie Martin, Facility Superintendent; David Costa, Juvenile Division Director; Deputy Probation Officer Rosio Garcia

Superior Court: The Honorable Annette Rees

Guest: Renee Flora; Gina Machado; Cecilia Simmons

Call to Order: Chairperson Marian Martino called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Public Comment: No public comment

Approval of Minutes: **MOTION:** Presiding Judge Annette Rees **SECOND:** Wanda Bonnell. The meeting minutes from October 5, 2023, were approved.

The Juvenile Justice Commission briefly discussed preparing a letter with suggestions on how the Alternate Defenders Office can better service youth. The membership agreed to discuss this matter further at the following JJC meeting in June.

Everyone present at today's meeting introduced themselves.

Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD) Presentation

Deputy Probation Officer Rosio Garcia and the Center for Human Services (CHS) Case Manager Renee Flora presented on the Gender Responsive Alternatives to Detention (GRAD), a collaborative program between Stanislaus County Probation and CHS (the presentation is attached to the minutes). The presentation includes the following:

- The mission, vision, and ultimate goals of the program.
- The collaborative duties and responsibilities of the Probation Officer and Case Manager assigned to GRAD.
- Participation in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) meetings to discuss any concerns and successes with other agencies that are involved with serving youth.
- Girls Advisory Council (GAC), a collaborative made up of various service providers, community members, and families of female youth whose goal is to address the needs of Stanislaus County female youth and provide guidance and support to provide prevention services and resources to empower the female youth.
- #Shetoo Conference this year is on February 23, 2024; the conference is at capacity with 80 females registered to attend. This year, a guest speaker will share her story with the female youth; she also participated in the GRAD program.
- A video of Mikayla's Story was viewed; she will be the guest speaker at the #Shetoo Conference.

Following the presentation, the following questions were asked by the membership and guests present:

- Does Cyber Awareness include human trafficking? Rosio confirmed that it did.
- What is MJC's role in the program? DPO Garcia advised that youth who qualify for MJC are aided with

the initial enrollment process and providing financial and fee waiver information.

- What does PHAST stand for? Protecting Health And Slamming Tobacco is a youth club that speaks and acts against tobacco use through the school system. They also talk about other controlled substances.
- What are the guidelines for females to qualify for GRAD? DPO Garcia advised that females on supervised caseloads are automatically assigned to GRAD.

Probation Department Report:

Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera reported that the current population was 64 youth, of which 50 are in Juvenile Hall, and 14 are housed at the Juvenile Commitment Facility. Additionally, he reported the following:

- 1 youth is pending placement and is serving a commitment time.
- He provided an overview of the youth's age currently in custody.
- 19 youth are over the age of 18, of which 3 are over the age of 20.
- 11 youths are committed to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF).
- Length of stay: 13 youths have been in custody for over 365 days; the longest stay is 1115 days.
- 6 individuals are pending a transfer hearing.
- 1 youth who is 20 is being tried as an adult.
- 2 high school graduations occurred on January 19; one of the youths is a SYTF youth.

Mark shared that 2 court-committed youths were taken to see the Orchestra at the Gallo Center of Arts on December 2nd; the tickets were received as a donation. He noted that everything went well, and the youth were excited to have gone.

Chief Ferriera also reported a spike in theft bookings, noting that it could be associated with a grant MPD received to combat retail theft. Dawn Cullum asked if there has been a rise in bookings for homicide-related offenses. Mark stated that there has not been any significant rise in homicides.

Mark discussed the recent Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Juvenile Facilities Inspections. He informed the group that the BSCC sets the standards for the institutions and is obligated to do annual inspections to ensure Title 15 compliance. He discussed everything the BSCC touched on during the inspection and noted that there were two areas they were asked to fix. The case planning for the institutions was cited as needing improvement, and the second thing they asked was for the do process form to be updated to be more precise for the youth. He reported that the case planning and the do process form had been fixed and are now fully compliant. Dawn Cullum asked if there have been any releases from the SYTF. Chief Ferriera responded that two youths from SYTF have been released.

Juvenile Facilities Superintendent Tracie Martin announced that there will be added programming in custody this year. She also provided the following information:

- SYTF youth are now participating in Culinary through SCOE. Culinary is rotating between units. The last session involved Unit 3.
- Mobile Culinary is now being provided to Unit 5 (Conducted in the dayroom of Unit 8).
- Coding continues to be offered to all Unit 5 youth.
- Paxton Patterson Labs have started, and all the units are participating.
- The Digital Arts Program is available for all the units.
- The Truck Driving Course is expected to begin in March 2024, and the simulator will arrive sometime in March or April.
- The Volt Institute program is scheduled to start in July 2024
- 2 youths graduated the Anger Replacement Therapy (ART) Graduations for the JCF and Unit 5.
- 9 youth are currently enrolled in MJC.
- The Prison Education project is due to start on February 20th.

Ms. Cullum asked if the SYTF youth could choose if they wanted to attend programming. Tracie answered that youth are given a choice to attend the programs offered. Judge Rees and other JJC members asked to be advised before future graduations.

Division Director David Costa provided the following update:

- Another group of Deputy Probation Officers from the Juvenile Division will attend a training hosted by Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA) but taught by the University of Cincinnati, certifying them as instructors for the Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI)-Core Youth curriculum. Cognitive Behavioral Interventions is an evidence-based course with a broader approach to targeting youth's criminogenic needs. The training will take place in the upcoming weeks.
- Barrier removal in helping the youth get identification documents is moving in the right direction. LCA works with our youth in and out of custody in barrier removal. One of the things they work on is helping youth get their birth certificates, social security cards, or California IDs to assist them with attaining employment. LCA encountered a hurdle, needing documents notarized for youth in the facilities. Confidential Assistants working for the Probation Department are certified as Notaries for HR-related matters; they have also been used as a resource to help the youth with notary services.
- Workforce Development teaches the Let's Work course, which is held at the Juvenile Programming Center. With the recent class referral numbers exceeding what they can comfortably teach in their current space. They proposed teaching the course in their Downtown location on 12th Street in Modesto; the space can accommodate larger class sizes, is set up with computer access workshops, and is centrally located for accessible public transportation options. The logistics have been worked out, and they are piloting the first class at their Downtown location. Division Director David Costa noted that the move will benefit the youth and the program.

Fidel Landeros asked if the Probation Department assists undocumented youth with immigration resources. Assistant Chief Probation Officer Leticia Ruano noted never running into such a situation. Dawn Cullum pointed out that attorneys are responsible for providing their clients with immigration resources. The group discussed different resources out in the community that could be of some assistance to those youth needing guidance in resolving their immigration status. Wanda Bonnell advised knowing attorneys that specialize in immigration and would be forwarding the information to the JJC Chair.

Review/Approval of the JJC Annual Activities Report:

The Juvenile Justice Commission Chair submitted the 2024 JJC Annual Activities Report for review and approval. Presiding Judge Annette Rees pointed out that the full-time Substance Abuse Facilitator is not a Substance Abuse Counselor, as is reflected in the report. Chair Martino asked the Chief Probation Officer's Executive Assistant to amend the report. The report was amended to reflect the following:

- Remove:
 - A full-time Substance Abuse Counselor is now also available in the facility.
- Amendment:
 - Substance Abuse Counseling services are now available in the facility; the facilitator is awaiting his certification while providing the services.

MOTION: Steve Ashman SECOND: Sharma Uma to approve the 2024 JJC Annual Activities Report with the following amendments: A full-time Substance Abuse Counselor is now also available in the facility has been amended to reflect the following: Substance Abuse Counseling services are now available in the facility; the facilitator is awaiting his certification while providing the services. The 2024 JJC Annual Activities Report with the amendment was approved unanimously.

Judge Underwood Scholarship Update:

Chair Marian Martino announced that the Judge Underwood Scholarship recipient, Humberto, graduated from

California State University Sacramento. Marian advised that Humberto has been having difficulties obtaining employment in Law Enforcement. She asked Chief Probation Officer Ferriera if he would contact Humberto to discuss his situation and offer guidance. Chief Ferriera agreed to contact Humberto.

Announcements:

Steve Ashman announced that CASA has moved to a building they purchased at 915 17th Street in Modesto. He invited the membership to stop by their new location for a tour and noted that an open house date would be forthcoming.

Cecilia Simmons from OYCR offered her assistance with providing immigration resources if needed, advising that the Coalition for Human Immigration Rights is a good resource. Additionally, she provided the following information:

- OYCR has monthly webinars open to the public; the upcoming webinar is scheduled for March 4, 2024. Chair Marian Martino noted attending the webinars.
- The submission deadline for the SB823 Plan is May 1, 2024; she noted being available for any questions on finalizing the plan.

Chief Ferriera noted that the SB823 Plan was already being worked on utilizing the template provided by the OYCR, which will be submitted by the deadline.

The next Juvenile Justice Commission meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2024, at Noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

GRAD



Center for
Human Services

changing lives building futures helping families

STANISLAUS COUNTY
PROBATION

GENDER RESPONSIVE ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

- THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE STANISLAUS COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES
- CASE MANAGER/GIRLS ADVOCATE- RENEE FLORA AND TAYLOR BECKHAM
- PROBATION OFFICER- ROSIO GARCIA

MISSION
TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY BY CREATING A GENDER-RESPONSIVE, CULTURALLY COMPETENT CONTINUUM OF SERVICES THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN TO LEAD SAFE, HEALTHY, AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES.

VISION

COMMUNITY PROVIDERS, EDUCATORS, STATE AGENCIES, LEGAL PROFESSIONALS, THE COURT SYSTEM, CONCERNED CITIZENS, PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS & GIRLS WILL COLLABORATE, UTILIZING TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND MAXIMIZE RESOURCES TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR THE GIRLS IN OR AT RISK OF ENTERING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN STANISLAUS COUNTY

ULTIMATE GOALS

TO DIVERT GIRLS WHO DO NOT POSE A PUBLIC SAFETY RISK FROM THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND REFER THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

TO ALIGN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT DECISIONS WITH THE ASSESSED NEEDS OF JUSTICE INVOLVED GIRLS

TO IDENTIFY OR DEVELOP GENDER-RESPONSIVE AND CULTURALLY COMPETENT TREATMENT OPTIONS ALIGNED WITH THE ASSESSED NEEDS OF JUSTICE INVOLVED GIRLS AND INCLUDE THESE SERVICES IN THEIR PROBATION PLANS

TO DOCUMENT THE PROCESS AND OUTCOMES OF THE INITIATIVE TO ASSIST OTHER COUNTIES TO IDENTIFY THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THEIR YOUNG WOMEN AT-RISK OF BEING INVOLVED, CURRENTLY INVOLVED, AND PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM



PROBATION OFFICER

- THE PROBATION OFFICER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PROBATION AND REFERRING PARTICIPANTS TO ENHANCED SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE PROGRAM
- SUPERVISION DUTIES INCLUDE:
 - CONDUCTING HOME, OFFICE, AND SCHOOL VISITS
 - RANDOM DRUG TESTS
 - SEARCHES
 - PREPARING COURT REPORTS
 - ATTENDING COURT PROCEEDINGS
- ASSISTS AND FACILITATES GROUPS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS IN CUSTODY AS NEEDED IN AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING (ART), CHOICES, AND COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS (CBI).
- PARTICIPATES IN CASE CONFERENCING WITH THE CASE MANAGER
- PARTICIPATES IN SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS WITH THE CASE MANAGER

CASE MANAGER

- THE CASE MANAGER REGULARLY FACILITATES GENDER RESPONSIVE GROUPS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS, CYBER AWARENESS, SUICIDE PREVENTION, FINANCIAL LITERACY, HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, GANGS, AND AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING
 - ASSISTS AND FACILITATES GROUPS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS IN CUSTODY AS NEEDED IN AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING (ART), CHOICES, COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS (CBI), AND SEEKING SAFETY.
- THE CASE MANAGER KEEPS THE PROBATION OFFICER INFORMED OF SERVICES AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPANTS THROUGH THE CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES AND ENSURES PARTICIPANTS ARE ABLE TO ACCESS APPROPRIATE SERVICES. THE CASE MANAGER AND PROBATION OFFICER COLLABORATE ON A REGULAR BASIS REGARDING THE CASE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTICIPANTS



Center
for Human
Services
changing

COLLABORATIVE DUTIES ALSO INCLUDE:

- PARTICIPATION IN COMMERCIALY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN (CSEC) MEETINGS ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. IN THIS MEETING YOUTH FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY ARE DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO AT-RISK FOR, OR HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS COMMERCIALY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN (CSEC). THIS IS TO HAVE COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY (CSA), PROBATION, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND YOUTH SERVING COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS COME TOGETHER AND BRING FORWARD ANY CONCERNS OF PARTICULAR YOUTH, OR EVEN SUCCESSES, SO THE YOUTH MAY BE TAKEN OFF THE LIST
- PROVIDING STRENGTH BASED SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS
 - THESE ASSESSMENTS HELP IDENTIFY SPECIFIC NEEDS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL
- WORKING WITH YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES TO IDENTIFY NEEDS AND CONNECT THEM WITH THE APPROPRIATE RESOURCES, EDUCATIONAL AND/OR LIFE SKILLS GROUPS, AND COUNSELING SERVICES WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS:
 - WITHOUT PERMISSION, SIERRA VISTA, HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENT ENVIRONMENTS (HAVEN), ASPIRANET, CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES, PROJECT YES, AND MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE
- PREPARE REPORTS AND COLLECT DATA AS REQUIRED

GIRLS ADVISORY COUNCIL

- THE PURPOSE OF THE GIRLS ADVISORY COUNCIL IS TO COLLABORATE WITH VARIOUS SERVICE PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, FEMALE YOUTH, SUPPORTING MALES, AND THEIR FAMILIES TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE FEMALE YOUTH IN STANISLAUS COUNTY.
- THE COUNCIL GUIDES AND SUPPORTS YOUTH WITH TOOLS AND SKILLS TO PREVAIL THROUGH ADVERSITY WHILE DEVELOPING THEIR LIMITLESS POTENTIAL. THE GOAL IS TO PROVIDE PREVENTION SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO EMPOWER FEMALES.





#Shetoo CONFERENCE

Join us for a youth empowerment conference filled with educational sessions, resources, raffles and more! Food is provided.

The Girls Advisory Council is an organization providing female youth and their allies, community resources within Stanislaus County. "Girls" refers to gender expansive youth and is all inclusive. Includes ages 12 & above in junior high and high school.

The council guides and supports youth with tools and skills to prevail through adversity while developing their limitless potential.

RSVP NOW!

23 FEBRUARY
2024

LOCATION & TIME

Ceres Project YES
4295 Central Avenue, Ceres
9 AM - 1 PM
Registration is limited
Contact to RSVP

CONTACT

Renee Flora
(209) 585-5375
rflora@centerforhumanservices.org

Rosio Garcia
(209) 525-4519
garciarosio@stanpro.org

COLLABORATORS INCLUDE:

- ASPIRANET
- CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES
- DIGITAL NEST
- EDD
- EL CONCILIO
- GOLDEN VALLEY HEALTH CENTERS
- HAVEN/HAART
- INSIGHT TREATMENT PROGRAMS
- INVEST IN ME
- LGBTQ+ COLLABORATIVE
- NAMI
- PHAST
- PROJECT YES
- SHE BECAME
- STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY
- STANISLAUS COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
- WITHOUT PERMISSION
- YOUTH FOR CHRIST

PRESENTED BY





MIKAYLA'S Story



2023 Juvenile Justice Commission Year End Report

We welcomed back returning Hon. Judge Ruben Villalobos, reassigned to the Juvenile Justice Court Department 17. He is replacing departing Hon. Judge Jeff Mangar. Hon. Judge Annette Rees remains as the Presiding Juvenile Judge in Department 18. Additionally we welcomed Sandra Ainslie as a new, sworn member of the Commission.

Throughout the year Chief Ferriera and his staff kept the Commission informed with detailed reports at each meeting regarding the current population of youth in custody, with specific information for each Unit. In addition we are provided updates about existing and new programs and services available for the youth.

Programming available to the youth includes:

- Aggression Replacement Training (ART)
- Financial Literacy Courses
- Computer Coding and Website Design
- Love Notes Program
- Culinary Program
- Soft Skills/Life Skills
- Victimization Courses
- Online MJC Courses
- Agricultural Program

Substance Abuse Counseling services are now available in the facility; the facilitator is awaiting his certification while providing the services.

Second Chance Podcast, an innovative program under the direction of a Performance-based Standards (PbS) employee, developed a Podcast Library on achieving success within institutional barriers. Youth from the Maximum-Security Unit were mentored and two of the youth from Max participated in the April production.

Construction and preparation for housing Secure Track youth was completed and is in full operation, including an expanded recreation area. Secure Track youth housed within the institution are receiving the required programming in accordance with the SB823 plan.

DD Dave Costa provided ongoing updates related to youth on probation and the additional trainings staff is receiving including:

- 8-hour Verbal De-escalation training, addressing how to defuse situations verbally.
- 4-hour biannual training update on De-escalation
- Annual certified Use of Force Continuum Course within the range program that builds officers' ability to transition to different force options, including de-escalation

The training program is geared to improve officers' ability to continuously evaluate the appropriate response in ever changing situations and make safe and legal choices.

DD Costa also reported that officers receive the following training:

- Special Needs Populations in Probation/Corrections
- Emotional Intelligence
- Mentally Disordered Probationers: Probation Officer Skills for Optimal Outcomes
- Ethics for Law Enforcement, which is required every two years.
- Cultural Competency for Today's Law Enforcement Professional

The facility passed the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Biennial Inspection of over 108 Title 15 regulations and were found in compliance with all except two. The two

items were case plan updates and processes related to due process when discipline is imposed. Both issues have since been corrected.

In June our Commission voted to modify our Bylaws to reflect our decision to modify our meeting schedule. It was agreed that meetings be held quarterly in February, June, August, and October. The proposed months align with the Juvenile Justice Coordination Council and will allow for more efficient reporting. The Juvenile Justice Commission Bylaws were amended to reflect the new meeting schedule under Article 5 of the JJC Bylaws. This modification resulted in also amending the Bylaws to confirm that a report of the Commission's activities is now due annually in February. Amendment to Section 8 of Article 5 of the Bylaws was approved.

In October our Commission conducted our annual tour and inspection of both facilities with positive reports. Commissioners again were pleased to see attention given to educational options and job skill training in the Max Units, JCF Camp and Secure Track. We marveled at the new mural in the hallway and remain impressed with the on-site County Library and activity room available for the youth as well as the Culinary Program. Unit 3, a co-ed unit housing general population youth, while fully safe and secure, could benefit from some cosmetic updating and modernization.

Additionally, our Commission has informally adopted the practice of receiving a report from a service provider or program at our regularly scheduled meetings to become better acquainted with offerings and services available to the youth. We received a presentation from Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA) at our August meeting and intend to continue this practice at future meetings.

Commissioners visited and inspected the Oakdale and Modesto Police Department holding areas for youth and reviewed related record keeping. All requirements were met and reports were submitted.

Humberto Nunez continues to meet the requirements each semester and receive the Judge Underwood Scholarship to assist with his college education.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marian Martino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Marian Martino
Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice Commission, Chair