

Meeting Minutes
Public Safety Coordinating Council – Juvenile Subcommittee
Go-To-Meeting
2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

September 8, 2020 3:00 pm

Present: Star Felty (Chair); Jason Jones; Lisa Roth; Ellen Thornton-Love; John Radich; David Saez

Absent: Matthew Sterner; Trevor Walraven; Tina Baker (Staff)

Guests: None

I. Welcome/Updates/Intra-System Communication

All members present introduced themselves, some provided updates:

- Star Felty introduced herself as the new Lane County Youth Services Manager.
- John Radich: He has officially retired and temporarily back at work, because DHS hasn't completed recruitment process.
- Ellen Thornton-Love: Although North Eugene and Churchill are not open for students, the school-based health centers are both open and taking referrals for kids of all ages. They have created a larger space for clinicians. Screening for the community as needed.

II. Public Comment

There were no comments.

III. Agency Reports on Addressing COVID – Discussion

John Radich: At DHS, Child Welfare is “business as usual” for the most part, with face-to-face assessments. Parents come to visit children now. They had stopped that practice for a couple months and have now resumed. Workers are taking precautions while providing in-home visits. Approximately 30% of staff are in the office. All staff have laptops / computers / iPhones and work from home for the most part. Productivity hasn't dropped, and remote work may continue after the pandemic has passed. Out of 500 staff, 5 people have tested positive for COVID-19 since March.

David Saez: Centro Latino is still working remotely, for the most part. They have additions Counselors seeing clients outside, one day a week. UAs are being conducted for those still in the program. Shifting a lot of work in terms of getting dollars for rent assistance and other specific financial assistance to people they don't normally assist, through the county. Working with a state-wide coalition to get funds out to people who are ineligible for unemployment benefits and are not part of the stimulus program. Last week, they helped approximately 40 people get funds through that program and about 80 the week prior. Funding is beginning to decrease. The mentoring program is challenged with helping people get connected with school. They are doing some work with Bethel School District and Downtown Languages to help students and families

connect with technology for school, mental health services, and other types of community resource navigation. They had a staff member who tested positive for COVID-19. She is doing well and not hospitalized. They are also helping with case management and contact tracing for the Spanish-speaking community, in partnership with OHA and Lane County Public Health.

Ellen Thornton-Love: LCBH has continued to operate in-house, online, and via telephone. Working with community partners to address housing and food shortage issues. They also have been working closely with pediatric team to address family crises. Referring out when necessary, and working with CCOs. She is concerned about the impact of quarantine on child welfare referrals.

John Radich reply to Ellen: DHS child welfare referrals were being received at approximately 40% - 50% percent of what they normally receive in March and April. They are now close to about 80% - 85%.

Lisa Roth: Almost all LaneCare staff are working from home. Both CCOs have all staff working from home. Case management for both CCOs have increased by 3 – 5 fold, even though the distribution of the population is more from PacificSource, Trillium folks are very busy too. The CCOs are able to provide flex funding, such as help with technology and food clothing shelter.

Jason Jones: OYA was already set up for mobile work, so it wasn't a huge transition for the Juvenile POs. They are now seeing kids in correctional facilities face-to-face. Some people pop into the office now and then. The facilities are doing well and following COVID-19 protocol.

Star Felty: **MLK** has been using distance learning, per DOE and JDEP. There has been crew work for Phoenix youth, working at Serbu and out in the field in horticulture. Youth and staff use PPE and social distancing. We have not resumed having a youth crew in the kitchen yet.

Nutrition Services was providing 300 meals per day for emergency shelters, while they were active and have opened up limited catering.

Phoenix has been operating under OHA and DHS guidelines. We were doing visitation through glass for a while and are now doing in-person visiting with limited contact. There is a hug at the beginning of the visit – then six feet distance for visit – and another hug at the end of the visit. We have increased capacity to 8, due to need.

Program Services has not processing expunctions, due to court system issues and our own administrative issues and is working on getting that back.

Restorative Services has been very creative with nearly all programs having been able to be adapted for online access. A lot of positive growth.

Detention is only taking detainable intakes and have expanded our technological resources within the detention center, using video for court appointments. Assessments can be done via virtual platforms (as well as visitation with family and POs), which limits how many people are entering the area. We are working on video access for volunteer groups, such as AA.

Medical and dental services for Phoenix and Detention are active. Dental was suspended initially. We have nurses on staff and access to COVID-19 testing for youth and have been fortunate to not have had an outbreak.

Supervision has been a little more complex. Some Juvenile Counselors have needed to do some in-person home visits.

Administration has seen some staff changes.

Youth Services, as a whole, is working on creating a more collaborative culture workplace through the help of a consultant. We will work with partners and collect feedback in how to create that collaborative culture.

IV. Lane County Juvenile Justice Racial & Ethnic Disparities Report – Star Felty

Kevin Alltucker completed the RED Report on disproportionate minority contact or racial and ethnic disparities in the Juvenile Justice System in Lane County, which was sent out to this committee along with the agenda. It is also available on the main Youth Services [webpage](#). The report contains both quantitative and qualitative data. Kevin found that disparities exist and that we do a decent job of getting youth out of the system once they have come to us, but the disparities generally occur prior their arrival here. There are a number of factors which result in disproportionate referrals. There are higher levels of RED in Lane County specifically for African American and Native American youth, as compared to Hispanic and Asian youth. The report uses a Critical Race Theory (CRT) lens, which he had decided on prior to the recent events and Lane County's adoption of CRT. The report also contains recommendations for the future. In addition, Lane County is having two equity listening / discussion sessions. One with a Juvenile Justice lens, and the other with a general Public Safety lens. We will be reaching out to partners, youth, and families to have discussions around reducing RED in Lane County.

Question: Should we have Kevin present at our next meeting?

Feedback: It is great that youth are involved as part of the feedback loop. Committee members would like to have Kevin present at the next meeting. It was suggested that we could also do some sub-committee work in this area. David Saez mentioned that it would be helpful to create a space for employees of color, where they can be together through the process and figure out what each of the may be willing to contribute in order to help inform the work of allies.

V. Future PSCC Juvenile Meeting Topics – Star Felty

Have a standing agenda item for Prevention – as a category under that standing topic, form a RED work group by asking community partners to form sub-groups around this and report back between the quarterly meetings. This committee does not currently have any active sub committees. There is a group in Springfield and one in 4-J School District who are looking at high-risk youth as well as signs of danger, working with FBI as part of the Kaiser Threat Assessment. We will discuss sub committees at next meeting.

VI. Adjourned at 3:50pm