

**Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
Program Review and Development Subcommittee
MINUTES**

July 14, 2025

NEXT MEETING:

August 11, 2025

3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

JJCC Subcommittee Members Present: Chris Modica, Michael Rodriguez, Veronica Martinez, Noe Villa, Maureen Byrne, Dr. Kristen Roye

Other meeting attendees: Shawna Hunt, Sylvia Rodriguez, Curtis Heath, Kate English, Linda McKenzie, Veronica Escobedo, Layne Casillas

Discussion/Conclusions	Recommendations/ Actions	Responsible
<p>1. Call to Order Chris Modica called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.</p>		
<p>2. Announcements None.</p>		
<p>3. Public Comments for Items not on the agenda None heard. None received telephonically or via email.</p>		
<p>4. Approval of the March 10, 2025, meeting minutes Noe moved to approve the March 10, 2025, meeting minutes; Michael seconded the motion. 5 in favor, 1 abstention; minutes approved.</p>		
<p>5. Discuss and vote to recommend to the JJCC, increased funding for the Public Health THRIVE Program MOU, which would include two (2) additional staff and negotiated increases in salary and benefits, not to exceed \$1.3 million annually (Increase from \$690,503.81).</p> <p>Veronica Martinez, VCPH Community Health Nursing Program Manager, presented an overview of the Truancy Habits Reduced Increases Vital Education (THRIVE) program since its start in 2001, its history, growth, and evolution. Ventura is the only county in the state to have Public Health Nurses (PHNs) collaborate with Probation and other agencies to support Student Attendance Review Boards (SARBs), Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) youth, and probation youth.</p> <p>Public Health is proposing the addition of 1 PHN and 1 Community Health Worker (CHW) to current staff of 4 PHNs, to meet the increase in caseloads, parenting classes, and requests from the community and schools for outreach. The 5th PHN will be able to focus on prevention work, including increasing school referrals for lower acuity clients, teaching health education classes at probation, and connecting/supporting with the wellness centers. Also asking for salary and benefits to match the negotiated Nursing contract, including two 5% annual raises.</p> <p>Request for expansion is to cover operational gaps for PHNs, who are overextended, but must cover all SARBs to maintain best practices, including extra meetings added during the year. Parenting Class attendance has increased due to court requests.</p> <p>A CHW will assist with non-nursing tasks such as admin support, interpretation services, and Parenting Class registration and logistics.</p> <p>The expansion proposal will also cover the <i>Growing Together</i> Workshop for parents and their students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. Caseload capacity will be increased from 132 in FY25 with 4 PHNs to 170. Enhanced clinical and program support will be added to include “Nurse of the Day” on-site for probation youth, an immunization liaison, and increased availability for continuity of care. If approved, MOU needs to be revised to cover the next 3 years.</p> <p>Questions and Comments: PHNs have been providing education for families regarding school attendance, having medical needs met, etc., if they don’t leave the home due to the current political climate. Can expect the number of</p>		

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<p>youth missing school to increase. Conejo was awarded the Model SARB of the Year in California. Other districts would need to have more SARBs and fewer attendees, giving more time to each student. To increase SARBs to every day, not just 3-4 days/week, there would need to be that conversation to set the standard for more time per student starting next year or the year after. Increase the time from 15-20 minutes to at least 30 minutes/student. Before truancy gets to the SARB level, get PHNs involved earlier, but need the extra PHN. The PHN connection is unlike any other. They're not there to sanction, they're there to support and are trusted. Fiscal concerns were raised about the number of JJCPA funded programs and how this is affecting the trust. If programs are funded moving forward, funding would need to be shifted from other programs. Alternately, JJCPA could offer to fund a percentage, and the provider find another funding stream to cover the balance. Chris suggested the committee evaluate JJCPA funded programs that have been running for a few years to make sure they're doing what is outlined in their contract and get a better understanding of the individual program impacts. This could help guide funding decisions. Chris will be requesting two presentations per month on the efficacy of their program/service and any data points that would suggest meaningful and impactful work with youth and families. Discussion ensued about different ways to work through funding issues moving forward.</p> <p>Motion to recommend to the JJCC, increased funding for the Public Health THRIVE Program MOU, which would include one (1) Community Health Worker and negotiated increases in salaries and benefits (adding an additional \$183,000), not to exceed \$875,000 annually (Increase from \$690,503.81); 5 votes to approve; motion approved. (Veronica Martinez, who presented on the request, was not included in the vote)</p>		
<p>6. Roundtable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
<p>7. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.</p>		