



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Child and Family Strengthening
Advisory Board
Minutes of March 10, 2023

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- NORA VARGAS
First District
- JOEL ANDERSON
Second District
- TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District
- NATHAN FLETCHER
Fourth District
- JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

Members Present:

- Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, County Board of Supervisors
- Aimee Zeitz, District 2 Appointee
- Joy Singleton, District 3 Appointee
- Judge Ana España, Juvenile Court
- Nick Macchione, County Health and Human Service Agency
- Kimberly Giardina, Child Welfare Services
- Alethea Arguilez, First 5 San Diego
- Patty Boles, Straight from the Heart, Inc.
- Jeff Wiemann, Foster Family Agency
- Cheryl Rode, San Diego Center for Children
- Stephen Moore, Voices for Children, Inc
- Carolyn Griesemer, Children’s Legal Services of San Diego
- Melissa Villagomez, Former Foster Youth
- Jessica Heldman, Polinsky Children’s Center

Members Not Present:

- Maddy Kilkenny, District 5 Appointee
- Chief Tamika Nelson, San Diego County Probation
- Khylan Bolden, Former Foster Youth
- Adam Reed, Dependency Legal Services
- Mara Madrigal-Weiss, San Diego County Office of Education
- Sandy Mueller, Children’s Health Care Professional
- Sade Burrell, Former Foster Youth
- Simone Hidds-Monroe, San Pasqual Academy

Staff Present:

- Sandra McBrayer, The Children’s Initiative
- Brook Smith, The Children’s Initiative
- Emily Lay, The Children’s Initiative

1. Welcome and Introduction

- Supervisor Fletcher brought the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
- A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

- Supervisor Fletcher asked if any members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.
 - Sarah Pauter shared that she is a former foster youth who was a part of the original workgroup that developed the 77 recommendations presented to the Board of Supervisors to improve the Child Welfare System (CWS). She stated she was working with a former foster youth who, upon emancipating from foster care, has been homeless and unable to find assistance to get her help. The youth is a college student who has reached out to multiple providers for assistance, without any success. She asked that the Board work with the youth to analyze her case and to find out why she was unable to get assistance from any of the providers.
 - Katrina White shared that she has been homeless since August 2022 and has struggled to gain access to assistance for basic needs like housing and hygiene. She shared that she has experienced personal struggles that make it difficult for her to stay in one location, which has made it more difficult to sustain her schooling and workloads. She stated there need to be changes within the system that help youth and former foster youth avoid homelessness.

3. Approval for the Statement of Proceeding/Minutes for the meeting of January 30, 2023

- Nick Macchione made a motion to approve the recommendations. Seconded by Supervisor Fletcher.
- The motion passed with all present members voting aye.

4. County of San Diego Child Welfare Services Update

- Supervisor Fletcher introduced the agenda item and turned it over to Kim Giardina. Kim gave a brief introduction of the Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) department and explained that the County of San Diego is transforming from “mandated reporting” to “mandated supporting,” by supporting and strengthening families within the community with a focus on prevention services. She then gave an overview of the organizational structure of CFWB.
 - Supervisor Fletcher requested any comments from members of the Advisory Board.
 - Melissa Villagomez asked if items such as mental health and therapy could be added as items that should be focused on within CFWB.
 - Judge Ana Espana commented that she is excited for the new CFWB department and shared that she believes the department will do well with all the support and federal funding that has been received.
 - Jessica Heldman asked how the Office of Child Safety will be able to meet its obligations and goals given the shift in resources from safety to prevention services. Kim clarified that staff will be able to link to the Office of Child Safety and directly access services families may need. She shared there has been significant improvement regarding relative placement and support has been provided to improve kin-first practices. Nick Macchione clarified that funds and services are not being taken from the Office of Child Safety, but services are being centralized to make a greater impact on the community.
 - Cheryl Rode commented that mental health needs are a major issue amongst youth, adolescents, and families within the community. She shared suicide rates and school absenteeism are increasing, and youth are thinking about suicide at younger ages. She stated partnering with as many mental health services providers and community organizations as possible will be crucial to the success of CFWB. Supervisor Fletcher agreed that mental and behavioral health are important aspects of CFWB, but shared there are barriers that need to be addressed, such as MediCal reimbursement rates and workforce.
 - Nick Macchione shared that HHS is using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies to

develop the Screening to Care program, a middle school program that will screen all middle school students for mental illness and will connect them to care if needed. The program will start this calendar year. He suggested having a presentation on Screening to Care at an upcoming Advisory Board meeting.

- Judge Ana Espana commented that many youths who go through the court system have experienced trauma, and many have mental and behavioral health needs. She shared that the mental and behavioral health intervention, supports, and services need to be integrated into CFWB and the court system to ensure youth and families are being taken care of.
 - Aimee Zeitz commented there are many mental and behavioral services that can be useful to youth and families within the community, but access to these services is limited.
 - Carolyn Griesemer agreed that many youths who come through the court system and Child Welfare Services (CWS) have mental health needs. She shared that prevention services have kept many youths out of the foster care system, which leaves more intense cases for social workers who are already experiencing burnout and decreased workforce retention rates. She asked how youth and families in the community will be given information on CFWB and access points for them to get support and services. She asked how those in the community who are not considered foster youth gain access to this new department and the services it will provide. Nick Macchione clarified that CFWB is for all children and youth served by the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), not just current or former foster youth. He agreed that an important part of getting the information disseminated will be partnering with organizations and community members to develop an ecosystem that communicates and shares together.
 - Sandra McBrayer shared that many years ago a case review/forensic audit was previously conducted in relation to increases in youth suicide and homicide in San Diego County. She explained that the case review/audit, (under the protection of a court order), brought together multiple agencies to better understand what could have prevented the increase and recommendations for corrections. She noted that one of the findings demonstrated that approximately 80% of the youth suicides and homicides occurred between 2pm-5pm; this information highlighted a lack of after-school programs within the county, which resulted in an increase of after-school programs. She stated the case review/audit provided an opportunity to figure out what “door” wasn’t opened and why (i.e., funding, hours of operation, etc.), could have been done to intervene.
 - Melissa Villagomez stated that the public speaker, Katrina, is part of former foster youth who have tried multiple doors without success. She explained that many former foster youths will knock on one door and give up if they are not successful. She encouraged everyone to look at the cases through the lens of the youth; many former foster youth have experienced trauma and do not trust CWS and the system.
 - Joy Singleton asked for more information about the case review/f audit and requested that follow-up information be presented at a future Advisory Board meeting. She asked if the case review/audit can be applied to other trends to highlight systemic issues.
 - Stephen Moore asked if it is possible to gain additional funding to focus on making changes to fentanyl/methamphetamine use in detentions. Supervisor Fletcher shared the need for substance abuse workers is exponentially worse than the need for mental health workers, which are also drastically needed. He stated that the best opportunity for additional funding is the Opioid Settlement Funds. He explained the County proactively appropriated funds that will be coming in the next few years and essentially is borrowing from itself to repay when the settlement funds come in.
- Supervisor Fletcher opened the item to public comment.
 - No members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.

5. Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE) Presentation – YMCA

- Supervisor Fletcher introduced the agenda item and turned it over to Brandi Paniagua. Brandi gave a brief overview of HOPE and its focus on positive experiences in childhood. She then provided a synopsis of the Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) study and noted that PCEs often mitigate adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and negative mental health outcomes in adults and promote resilience and healing. She explained the building blocks of HOPE and shared that the HOPE framework is strength-based and child-centered, which helps create engagement with families and a healthy community.
 - Supervisor Fletcher requested any comments from members of the Advisory Board.
 - Aimee Zeitz shared that the YMCA has approximately seven certified HOPE trainers and a HOPE training program is currently being rolled out. She explained that the training has been an opportunity for multiple organizations to develop some shared language around supporting child and family well-being.
 - Alethea Arguilez shared her excitement for the HOPE program and the possibilities that HOPE could provide policies, practices, and real-time services surrounding childhood experiences.
 - Supervisor Fletcher opened the item to public comment.
 - No members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.

6. Subcommittee/Ad-hoc Updates

- Supervisor Fletcher introduced the agenda item and turned it over to Sandra McBrayer, who shared updates from the FAYCES Subcommittee that took place on February 16, 2023, and shared the minutes from the meetings (included in the meeting materials). The agenda item was then turned over to Carolyn Griesemer, who shared the updates from the Child and Family Services Subcommittee that took place on February 23, 2023.
 - Supervisor Fletcher requested any comments from members of the Advisory Board.
 - No members of the Advisory Board wished to address the Advisory Board.
 - Supervisor Fletcher opened the item to public comment.
 - No members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.

7. Changes to CFSAB Structure

- Supervisor Fletcher introduced the agenda item and shared that there will be some modifications to the structure of the Advisory Board and redesigning of the subcommittees. He then turned it over to Sandra McBrayer, who shared that there would need to be changes to the Advisory Board By-Laws and then explained the process to make those changes. She shared that changes to the subcommittees will ensure that each subcommittee will have a two-year action plan with goals and outcomes that are measurable. She reminded the Advisory Board members that some of their terms are expiring in April 2023, and those interested will need to reapply before the end of their term.
 - Supervisor Fletcher requested any comments from members of the Advisory Board.
 - No members of the Advisory Board wished to address the Advisory Board.
 - Supervisor Fletcher opened the item to public comment.
 - No members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.

8. Director's Report

- Supervisor Fletcher introduced the agenda item and turned it over to Kim Giardina. Kim gave a brief update on San Pasqual Academy (SPA) and shared that Rite of Passage (ROP) has taken over operations as of March 4th. She shared that the staff and youth on campus are adjusting well, but it is a process that will take time; ROP has requested one month of adjustment time before any new youth are brought on campus. She noted the SPA Youth Advisory Board will be up and running on campus in the next few weeks. Kim then gave a brief overview of the 5 letters going to the Board of Supervisors meetings in March and April.
 - Prevention Hub Procurement Approval

- The item will aim to approve the procurement of the Prevention Hubs.
- PCC and CWS Donations Acceptance
 - This item will provide updates regarding donations received for PCC or CWS for last fiscal year. PCC and CWS received approximately \$63,000 in donations for children and youth in 2022.
- System Improvement Plan Approval
 - This item will aim to approve the approval of the System Improvement Plan. This item is pending final approval from the California Department of Social Services and may be moved to the May Board of Supervisors meeting.
- Kim shared that CWS has received a Crisis Continuum Pilot Grant. The grant amount is \$8.5 million and aims to improve the continuum of care for placements for youth.
- Supervisor Fletcher requested any comments from members of the Advisory Board.
 - Sandra McBrayer shared the SPA Youth Advisory Board had their first meeting on March 9th.
 - Cheryl Rode shared that San Diego Center for Children received the Notice of Intent to award as the new mental health provider for SPA. She explained they are already beginning to meet with New Alternatives staff and ROP staff to start a transition plan.
 - Sandra McBrayer commented that there was a question at the January Advisory Board meeting about how many New Alternatives staff were staying on at SPA. She explained approximately 40 staff members have stayed on and have helped to minimize any disruption the transition may have caused the youth on campus.
- Supervisor Fletcher opened the item to public comment.
 - No members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.

9. Advisory Board Member Updates

- Supervisor Fletcher opened the floor to Advisory Board members to share any updates.
 - Judge Ana Espana shared that California Judge's Association sponsored bill SB 9, which provides for extended foster youth benefits up to age 26. The language suggests that a former foster youth at the age of 21 who may be at risk for homelessness or who is homeless could have benefits extended up to the age of 22.
 - Cheryl Rode shared that the San Diego Center for Children will no longer be a Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) due to the changes in congregate care. Due to this change, she will not be reapplying to the Advisory Board as a Congregate Care Provider.
 - Carolyn Griesemer shared that Children's Legal Services will be co-supporting assembly bill AB 20, which focuses on strengthening family connections and would allow children who are adopted to maintain sibling ties or reinstate parental rights. The bill is being sponsored by Mike Gibson, District 64. She also shared that assembly bill AB 448, sponsored by Juan Carillo, which seeks to build on the work being done with documentation of family finding.
 - Alethea Arguilez shared that Representative Jacobs and Senator Warren will be co-authoring the Child Care Forever Community Act at the Federal level, and this legislation could aid in the County's shift to a more positive and prevention-based system.
 - Stephen Moore shared that Voices for Children has a new CEO, Jessica Munoz, who has practiced dependency in San Diego and Riverside as both dependent and parent counsel.
 - Judge Ana Espana shared that the Juvenile Court will be sponsoring a town hall in April to highlight for community members how the dependency court works and give information to inform and engage the community.

10. Adjournment

- Supervisor Fletcher closed the meeting.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2023

Sandra concluded the meeting by reviewing agenda items for future meetings.

- Screening to Care for Middle School Youth
- Case Audit- Federal and Interagency
- Trust Fund
- Crisis Grant Pilot Presentation
- Development Screening and Enhancement Program (DSEP) update

Meeting minutes were submitted by Emily Lay. Please call Emily Lay at (858) 581-5892 if you have corrections or suggested revisions. She may also be contacted for agenda items or general information.

Meeting Date: 06/13/2023 (4)

ORDINANCE NO. 10851 (N.S.)

APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REPEALING PROVISIONS IN THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RELATED TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY, THE POLINSKY CHILDREN'S CENTER ADVISORY BOARD, AND THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FOSTER CARE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego ordains as follows:

Section 1. Section 84.701 of the San Diego County Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 84.701. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

The Advisory Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) To serve as an informational resource to the Board of Supervisors on issues related to the prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect and in conformance with this Article and applicable County policies advise the Board of Supervisors, Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency Director, and Child and Family Well-Being Department Director.
- (b) Review and evaluate the County's child well-being related services, programs, facilities, and new issues as they arise and review and comment on such evaluations of the County conducted by other entities or bodies as needed.
- (c) Collaborate and communicate with other advisory boards on issues of mutual concern and serve as the successor advisory board to the Polinsky Children's Center Advisory Board and the San Diego County Foster Care Services Committee.
- (d) Submit an annual report and dashboard to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the County child well-being system.
- (e) Review and comment on items related to child well-being before consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
- (f) Review and comment on the County's performance outcome data, as it relates to child welfare matters, and communicate its findings to the Board of Supervisors.
- (g) Review and comment on the outreach efforts used to engage citizen involvement on this Advisory Board.
- (h) Provide a forum for interagency cooperation and coordination in the prevention, detection, treatment and legal processing of child abuse cases.

- (i) Promote public awareness of the abuse and neglect of children and the resources available for prevention, intervention and treatment.
- (j) Encourage and facilitate training of professionals in the detection, treatment, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- (k) Recommend improvements in services to families and victims who are in the public charge, as well as children, youth, and families whose safety and welfare may be at risk.
- (l) Encourage and facilitate community support for child abuse and neglect, and family support programs.
- (m) To carry out the purposes of Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 18965 et seq. regarding proposals to be funded by the children's trust fund:
 - (1) Establish criteria for determining those programs which may receive funding,
 - (2) Accept all program proposals that meet criteria set by the Advisory Board,
 - (3) Prioritize the proposals in compliance with County procurement policies where applicable, and
 - (4) Recommend to the Board of Supervisors those proposals that the Advisory Board agrees merit funding.
- (n) Collect and publish data relevant to the state and local children's trust funds as required by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18970.
- (o) Develop a protocol for interagency coordination and provide a yearly report to the Board of Supervisors as required by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18983.6.
- (p) For the A.B. & Jessie Polinsky Children's Center:
 - (1) Inform the advisory board regarding the operation, maintenance, and material alteration or removal of any part of the PCC facility.
 - (2) Inform the Board of Supervisors, or designee, regarding the expenditure of funds donated by Promises2Kids or other donors/sources for maintenance and operation items not funded by the County.
- (q) For placement and resource family supports issues:
 - (1) Serve as a forum to review issues concerning foster care and placement.
 - (2) Review and make recommendations on policies and programs affecting resource families and placement.

- (3) Improve communication and teamwork among the resource family community, the Health and Human Services Agency, other private placement agencies, educational systems and health care agencies.

Section 2. Section 84.702 of the San Diego County Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 84.702. MEMBERSHIP AND SELECTION.

The Advisory Board shall consist of twenty-five (25) voting members appointed consistent with Board Policy A-74 and as follows:

- (a) Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall nominate one (1) constituent as a Supervisorial District representative to be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors
- (b) Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court or designee
- (c) Health and Human Services Agency Director or designee
- (d) Child Welfare Director or designee
- (e) Chief Probation Officer or designee
- (f) First 5 San Diego Executive Director or designee
- (g) Persons nominated by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors who represent each of the following categories:
 - (1) Former foster youth
 - (2) Foster parent association
 - (3) Foster family agency
 - (4) Congregate care provider
 - (5) Court Appointed Special Advocate
 - (6) Legal counsel for minors in juvenile court
 - (7) Legal counsel for parents in juvenile court
 - (8) San Diego County Office of Education
 - (9) Child abuse and juvenile justice prevention

- (10) Children's health care professional
- (11) Social worker
- (12) A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Children's Center with a preference for a representative from Promises2Kids
- (13) San Pasqual Academy
- (14) Two (2) individuals with lived experience who reflect over-represented populations in the system with a preference for former foster youth and/or parents who have experienced the child welfare system.

Section 3. Section 84.705 of the San Diego County Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC 84.705. ORGANIZATION.

- (a) **Officers.** The Advisory Board may elect from its membership a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and any other officers as may be deemed necessary for the conduct of its business who shall serve for one (1) calendar year.
- (b) **Rules.** The Advisory Board shall prepare and adopt the necessary rules and policies for the conduct of its business.
- (c) **Quorum.** A majority of members currently appointed to the Advisory Board shall constitute a quorum. A majority of members in attendance shall be required to carry any motion or approval.
- (d) **Meetings.** The Advisory Board shall establish a regular meeting schedule and shall give public notice of the time and place of public forums and meetings in compliance with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Section 4. Section 84.709 of the San Diego County Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 5. Article XVII (San Diego County Foster Care Services Committee) of the San Diego County Administrative Code is repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. Article IIIIt (Polinsky Children's Center Advisory Board) of the San Diego County Administrative Code is repealed in its entirety.

Section 7. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption. Within fifteen (15) days after the date of adoption of this ordinance, a summary shall be published once with the name of those members voting for and against the same in the newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Claudia G. Silva, County Counsel
BY: Kyle Sand, Senior Deputy

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego this 13th day of June 2023.



NORA VARGAS
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego, State of California

The above Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Desmond

ABSENT: (District 4 Seat Vacant)

ATTEST my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors this 13th day of June 2023.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By 
Nancy Vizcarra, Deputy



Ordinance No.: 10851 (N.S.)
Meeting Date: 06/13/2023 (4)



SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES MEMBER ROSTER REPORT

CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO

Contact Person: Chyann Cox

The Children's Initiative: 3625 Ruffin Rd, Ste 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: (858) 581-5892

<p>Member Name: VACANT Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: District 1 Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Requirement: Supervisorial District Representative Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 1</p>	<p>Expiration: Appointed: MO:</p>
<p>Member Name: Zeitz, Aimee Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: District 2 Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Requirement: Supervisorial District Representative Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 2</p>	<p>Expiration: 1/6/2025 Appointed: 8/31/2021 MO: 17</p>
<p>Member Name: Singleton, Joy Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: District 3 Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Requirement: Supervisorial District Representative Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 3</p>	<p>Expiration: 1/6/2025 Appointed: 3/2/2021 MO: 25</p>
<p>Member Name: VACANT Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: District 4 Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Requirement: Supervisorial District Representative Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 4</p>	<p>Expiration: Appointed: MO:</p>
<p>Member Name: VACANT Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: District 5 Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Requirement: Supervisorial District Representative Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 5</p>	<p>Expiration: Appointed: MO:</p>
<p>Member Name: Espana, Ana Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE JUVENILE COURT Appointed By: PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE JUVENILE COURT Requirement: Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court or designee Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 6</p>	<p>Expiration: INDEFINITE Appointed: 2/10/2020 MO:</p>
<p>Member Name: McDonald, Eric Term: CONCURRENT Nominated By: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR Appointed By: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR Requirement: Health and Human Services Agency Director or designee Comments:</p>	<p>BCC Position: Seat: Seat 7</p>	<p>Expiration: INDEFINITE Appointed: 6/28/2023 MO:</p>



SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES MEMBER ROSTER REPORT

Member Name: Giardina, Kimberly
Term: CONCURRENT
Nominated By: CHILD & FAMILY WELL-BEING DIRECTOR
Appointed By: CHILD & FAMILY WELL-BEING DIRECTOR
Requirement: Child & Family Well-Being Director or designee
Comments:

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 8

Expiration: INDEFINITE
Appointed: 5/29/2019
MO:

Member Name: Nelson, Tamika
Term: CONCURRENT
Nominated By: CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
Appointed By: CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
Requirement: Chief Probation Officer or designee
Comments:

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 9

Expiration: INDEFINITE
Appointed: 9/09/2022
MO:

Member Name: Arguilez, Alethea
Term: CONCURRENT
Nominated By: FIRST 5 SAN DIEGO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Appointed By: FIRST 5 SAN DIEGO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Requirement: First 5 San Diego Executive Director or designee
Comments:

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 10

Expiration: INDEFINITE
Appointed: 5/23/2019
MO:

Member Name: VACANT
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By:
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Former Foster Youth Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 11

Expiration:
Appointed:
MO:

Member Name: Boles, Patricia
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By: District 1,4
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Foster Parent Association Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 12

Expiration: 4/30/2023
Appointed: 4/30/2019
MO: 26

Member Name: Wiemann, Jeff
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By: District 1, 4
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Foster Family Agency Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 13

Expiration: 4/30/2023
Appointed: 4/30/2019
MO: 26

Member Name: VACANT
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By:
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Congregate Care Provider Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 14

Expiration:
Appointed:
MO:

Member Name: Moore, Stephen
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By: District 1, 4
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Court Appointed Special Advocate Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 15

Expiration: 4/30/2023
Appointed: 4/30/2019
MO: 26



SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES MEMBER ROSTER REPORT

Member Name: Griesemer, Carolyn **BCC Position:** **Expiration:** 4/30/2023
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 16 **Appointed:** 4/30/2023
Nominated By: District 1, 4 **MO:** 26
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Legal Counsel for Minors in Juvenile Court Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: Reed, Adam **BCC Position:** **Expiration:** 4/30/2023
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 17 **Appointed:** 4/30/2019
Nominated By: District 1, 4 **MO:** 26
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Legal Counsel for Parents in Juvenile Court Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: Madrigal-Weiss, Mara **BCC Position:** **Expiration:** 4/30/2025
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 18 **Appointed:** 4/6/2021
Nominated By: District 1, 4 **MO:** 31
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: San Diego County Office of Education Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: VACANT **BCC Position:** **Expiration:**
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 19 **Appointed:**
Nominated By: **MO:**
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Child Abuse and Juvenile Justice Prevention Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: Gioa-Beckman, Stephanie **BCC Position:** **Expiration:** 5/1/2027
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 20 **Appointed:** 5/1/2023
Nominated By: District 1, 4 **MO:**
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Children's Health Care Professional Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: VACANT **BCC Position:** **Expiration:**
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 21 **Appointed:**
Nominated By: **MO:**
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Social Worker Representative
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: VACANT **BCC Position:** **Expiration:**
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 22 **Appointed:**
Nominated By: **MO:**
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Individual with lived experience who reflect over-represented populations in the system with a preference for former foster youth and/or parents who have experienced the child welfare system
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

Member Name: Villagomez, Melissa **BCC Position:** **Expiration:** 11/19/2023
Term: 4-YEARS **Seat:** Seat 23 **Appointed:** 11/19/2019
Nominated By: District 1, 4 **MO:** 25
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: Individual with lived experience who reflect over-represented populations in the system with a preference for former foster youth and/or parents who have experienced the child welfare system
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors



SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES MEMBER ROSTER REPORT

Member Name: Hidds-Monroe, Simone
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By: District 1, 4
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: San Pasqual Academy
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 24

Expiration: 11/19/2023
Appointed: 11/19/2019
MO: 25

Member Name: Heldman, Jessica
Term: 4-YEARS
Nominated By: District 1, 4
Appointed By: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Requirement: AB & Jessie Polinsky Children's Center Preference for a representative from Promises2Kids
Comments: Nominated by the Chair and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors

BCC Position:
Seat: Seat 25

Expiration: 11/19/2023
Appointed: 11/19/2019
MO: 25



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting

Subcommittee:

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee (FAYCES)	6:00 -7:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, April 20, 2023

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Stephanie Heying

Meeting Staff: Emily Lay

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee Summary:

46 attendees took part in the Subcommittee.

Advisory Members Participating: Simone Hidds-Monroe, Carolyn Griesemer, Stephen Moore, Melissa Villagomez

Stephanie Heying opened the meeting and recapped that the meeting is a subcommittee of the larger Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board. Stephanie encouraged participation via the chat and raise your hand feature for those participating via Zoom. She also reminded current foster youth to turn off their camera for confidentiality purposes. Stephanie then turned it over to Simone Hidds-Monroe, who reviewed the goals of FAYCES.

Summary of FAYCES Influence

Simone gave a brief overview of FAYCES and shared the vision and mission of FAYCES is to improve the experiences of those impacted by the system through lived experience and expertise. Simone shared that FAYCES has provided influence for many San Diego youth, including those at San Pasqual Academy (SPA), Career Pathways for Foster Youth, and the System Improvement Plan (SIP).

Update on Child and Family Well-Being – ICF

Elliott Hinkle of ICF gave a brief update on the status of the Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) department and shared that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the new CFWB department in February 2023. Elliott explained the intended outcomes for the new CFWB department include increasing support for families, reducing the impact of trauma, and moving toward an equitable, prevention-focused operating model centered on early intervention. They explained the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) has shifted toward prevention for child welfare, and funding is available to agencies providing evidence-based programs (EBP) for eligible candidates. Elliott shared approximately 66 presentations/opportunities to collect feedback at community information gathering sessions that have occurred since October 2022. They shared there have been several themes that have come out of the information gathering sessions: better access to resources and services, communications and updates, collaboration between the community and the County, excitement surrounding CFWB, and

giving families a voice. Elliott then posed several questions to the group: If a Prevention Hub was available to community members,

- What would the Hub look like?
- What services and resources need to be prioritized?
- What would make it accessible?
- What would the space look like?
- Questions and comments on the presentation:
 - A participant suggested childcare would be a beneficial service in a Prevention Hub.
 - A participant suggested changing the name of the Hub to something that sounds more empowering might encourage community members to look into services and resources being offered at the Hub.
 - A participant suggested a food pantry or hygiene area at the Hub would be helpful for those who are unable to purchase food or hygiene products. She also suggested a study area in the Hub would benefit parents and students who need a place to study.
 - A participant suggested therapists, counselors, and peer advisors would be great resources to have at the Hub to help guide those who simply do not know where to start.
 - A participant suggested a mobile Hub would be beneficial for community members who are unable to leave their communities for assistance.
 - Simone Hidds-Monroe reiterated the importance of changing the name of the Hub to reflect the community it is supporting.

Update on SPA

Valesha Bullock from Child Welfare Services (CWS) shared that in March 2023, Rite of Passage (ROP) transitioned into their role as providers of SPA. She then introduced Lawrence Howell of ROP.

Rite of Passage

Lawrence Howell gave a brief update on ROP and their transition to providers at SPA. He shared activities that have been successful under ROP at other sites, such as welding and gardening, and then highlighted the many activities that are available to SPA youth, such as various sporting activities, outdoor activities, cycling trips, local outings, recreational activities, etc. Lawrence then gave a brief summary of frequently asked questions (FAQs) from SPA youth and social workers:

- What does movement/supervision around the campus look like?
 - ROP does not want to make any drastic changes in the first few months until staff and SPA youth have been able to get to know one another and develop a community of trust.
- Will there be any housing changes?
 - There will not be any housing changes until after graduation in June.
- Will furniture/rooms be changed?
 - There will not be any changes to furniture or rooms.
- What will happen to personal belongings?
 - There will be no changes to what youth do with their personal belongings.
- Will youth be able to use Alumni housing when returning from college breaks?
 - Yes, alumni will be able to use Alumni housing when returning from college breaks.
- Will the students still have their jobs on campus (provider is paying)?
 - Yes, students will still have their jobs on campus.
- Will students have to wear uniforms?
 - There will be no changes to the dress code.
- Will allowance totals (weekly) be the same?
 - ROP was not aware of a weekly allowance when transitioning to SPA and quickly developed an allowance procedure with the youth on campus.

- Self-passes/visits-personal items checked upon return?
 - ROP will have someone posted at the entrance of SPA to ensure the safety of everyone on campus.
- Will ROP organize all transportation?
 - Yes, ROP will organize all transportation.
- Will ROP provide special accommodations for students that have diet restrictions/allergies?
 - Yes, ROP will provide accommodations for students that have dietary restrictions/allergies.
- Will graduation still be held on June 16, 2023?
 - Yes, there are no changes to the graduation date.
- Will there be college trips?
 - Yes, college trips have taken place as recently as last week.
- Are some of the staff from New Alternatives, Inc. staying/going? How will students be notified?
 - ROP hired many New Alternatives staff to stay at SPA. ROP had suggested to the students to ask the staff whether or not they are staying, as the decision was left to the staff members themselves.
- What is March 4th going to look like when students wake up in the morning?
 - ROP provided a breakfast for all students and SPA Grandparents to get to know ROP staff.
- Will the Friends of San Pasqual remain involved?
 - Yes, the Friends of San Pasqual will still be involved with SPA students.
- Will our sports teams remain intact with our coaches?
 - The school district primarily handles sports teams and coaches, but ROP will work to collaborate with the districts to navigate the transition.
- Will the campus vehicles that take and pick up students be marked so people know they are in foster care?
 - No, vehicles will not be marked to show people that students are in foster care.

San Diego Center for Children

Aisha Pope of San Diego Center for Children (SDCC) gave a brief update on SDCC and their transition to providers at SPA. SDCC has been on campus since the beginning of April 2023 and has been contracted to provide a structured outpatient program that offers therapy (individual, group, and family), skills training with youth partners, psychiatry, substance use disorder (SUD) counseling, and aftercare services.

- Questions and comments on the presentations:
 - A participant asked how FAYCES can be a part of ROP's first 90 days and support ROP in building trust with the current youth on campus. Lawrence shared ROP is currently developing an Advisory Board that consists of community members, lived experts, and experts within the foster care system to bounce ideas off of. FAYCES would be a great asset to the Advisory Board.
 - Simone Hidds-Monroe asked for more clarity on who is leading the connection between SPA campus partners and stakeholders. Valesha clarified that CWS is the point of contact between campus partners and stakeholders.
 - Stephen Moore reiterated the importance of CWS holding New Alternatives accountable for the poor, not child-centered transition of SPA.
 - Aisha Pope commented that SDCC would love to have FAYCES involved in their transition as providers at SPA.
 - A participant asked for clarification on ROP's goal to reunite students with their families. Lawrence clarified that many SPA youth do not have family to reunite with, and this goal is specific to youth who have family and who want to be reunited. He also clarified that ROP would like to further family engagement by having "family weekends" at SPA,

where families can come visit youth on campus to learn more about what they are going through and for families to have an opportunity to communicate with ROP about possibly next steps or ways to promote healthy communication and relationships with the youth and their families.

- A participant asked how ROP manages youth who attend school on and off campus. Lawrence clarified that most youth attend school on campus, however there are several youths who attend middle or high school off campus. He shared that education is important for all youth, and ROP is dedicated to working with each youth individually to find out which type of education is best for them. He shared that not all youth decide to go to college after graduating, and ROP works with the youth to prepare them for their future, whether that is continuing education or getting a job.
- A participant shared that Just in Time for Foster Youth (JIT) has been a beneficial resource for many foster youths who are turning 18-years-old. He suggested JIT and ROP connect to help the SPA youth who are coming of age transition out of SPA.
- A participant asked who alumni would contact if they wanted to use Alumni Housing at SPA. Lawrence clarified that ROP is currently developing a process for alumni to request use of the Alumni Housing. In the meantime, alumni should continue to request use of Alumni Housing from CWS (i.e., Valesha Bullock or Jay Sakamoto).
- A participant asked if FAYCES could get a formal invitation to the SPA graduation ceremony in June 2023. Lawrence stated they would love to have FAYCES involved.
- A participant suggested there are many opportunities for FAYCES to become more involved with the youth at SPA. He suggested informal events (such as sporting events, potlucks, social events, etc.) should be attended by FAYCES, as informal events are more comfortable for the youth. As FAYCES becomes more familiar with the youth on campus, it will be easier for FAYCES to be more involved in the day-to-day activities at SPA.

Children, Youth, and Families Health and Well-Being Data Tool

Sarah Mostofi of the Children’s Initiative shared that the Live Well San Diego Report Card on Children, Youth and Families, which measures various indicators ranging from prenatal care to childhood and infant mortality, is transitioning to an online platform. This transition provides an opportunity to gather feedback from community members and advocates on what should be included in the web-based data tool. Sarah then posed the following question:

- As FAYCES members and lived experts, what information would you like to know about the San Diego community to help guide your advocacy?

Date of Next Meeting – June 15, 2023, at 6:00pm

Stephanie concluded the meeting by reviewing agenda items for the June meeting.

- Rite of Passage Update
- Update on Child and Family Well-Being



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting

Subcommittee:

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Services (FAYCES)	6:00 -7:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Sandra McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Chyann Cox

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee Summary:

38 attendees took part in the Subcommittee.

Advisory Members Participating: Simone Hidds-Monroe

Simone Hidds-Monroe opened the meeting and invited participants to introduce themselves via chat.

Welcome and Summary of FAYCES

Simone gave a brief overview of FAYCES and shared the vision and mission of FAYCES is to improve the experiences of those impacted by the foster care and juvenile justice systems in San Diego County through lived experience and expertise. Simone welcomed the community partners and system partners.

Update on Ordinance Changes to Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Sandra McBrayer gave an informational overview of the recent changes to the Ordinance of the full Advisory Board. When the Board was created, the Ordinance mandated that one of the Supervisors who served as co-Chair needed to be present to hold a meeting. This hindered the ability to hold meetings when the District 4 Supervisorial seat was vacated. The newly restructured bylaws were submitted to the Board of Supervisors and heard in at their public meeting on May 23rd and June 13th. The ordinance passed and are now set to take effect on July 14th. With the changes, initially the presiding judge of the Juvenile Court will serve as Chair and Eric McDonald the Health and Human Services Director will serve as Vice Chair. Sandra also mentioned that November is when some of the Alumni seats on the Advisory Board expire and to expect applications to be sent around August to ensure those seats remain filled. The meeting date of the full Advisory Board is being moved from the 3rd Friday of every other month to the 4th Friday of every other month (excluding November due to the Thanksgiving holiday). There are 3 planned work groups: FAYCES (no change), Placement and Resource Family Support and Child and Wellbeing.

- Simone Hidds-Monroe asked if FAYCES can expect to continue to have the same level of access to and influence with the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board and Board of Supervisors. Sandra answered yes, as a work group committee to the Advisory Board they will remain part of the report to the Board of Supervisors. Simone and Sandra both provided examples of the level of influence and impact the work FAYCES does. Simone gave the example of their recommendations changing a rule that allowed siblings to stay together in foster care and Sandra gave the example

of the recommendations that FAYCES provided for the workforce Request for Proposal to the County.

- Jay Sakamoto of the County Child and Family Well-Being Department added that it's important to also focus on the things that are going well and the positive impacts that have been made. Jay requested that this be added to the Subcommittee's discussions. Jay informed the Subcommittee that San Pasqual Academy (SPA) is working to incorporate FAYCES into their provider meetings to allow for more fluid conversations and collaboration.

FAYCES Circle of Influence

Simone Hidds-Monroe provided an overview of the circle of influence has within San Diego County and elaborated on some of the work that they've been doing in the last two years. She stated that they are open to feedback and suggestions.

- The process begins with a formal Stakeholder meetings where different ideas and topics are discussed
- Those conversations are then brought to movement meetings or Community Conversations to reflect and create recommendations. The top recommendations are voted on and a proposal is written. These proposals are then submitted to Child and Family Well-Being or the Board of Supervisors for implementation.
- FAYCES then asks to be partners in the implementation of these proposals. This includes the design, development, etc.
- FAYCES conducts evaluations on the implementation of these recommendations, which includes surveying current foster youth as well as alumni.
 - James Hidds-Monroe added that the intention of the evaluations is to assess what is working and should continue, and what changes still need to be implemented. They are also a way to gauge how partnerships are working out.
- Rajean Sanders added that former foster children with children of their own need more avenues to be reunited with their children and asked FAYCES to begin evaluating ways to improve visitations and reunification.
- Caitlin Radigan is a mother who is trying to ensure that her children don't go through the juvenile justice system. She added that there are not many resources for young parents who are in the juvenile justice system to learn parenting skills to implement upon their release. She also expressed concern that there is a disconnect in the implementation of certain programs and services.

Simone then opened the discussion up to suggestions and recommendations as to what FAYCES should prioritize in their work for the coming year.

- Irene Ekdahl shared her experience of how journaling helped her through her time in foster care and asked about the possibility of the County offering faith-based partnerships to assist in healing work for youth. Simone-Hidds Monroe deferred to the faith-based partners present on the call.
- Rajean Sanders spoke in support of faith-based services being available at detention centers and added that they should be available in foster homes as well.
- Tasha Matthews shared their experience in a foster home and echoed support for youth having a choice in their religious practices.
- Nikki Kelsay, Policy Manager for the County Child and Family Well-Being Department, shared about Faith In Motion, which is the department's initiative to partner with churches and become more involved in the faith community so that they can broaden the scope of their resources.
- Simone Hidds-Monroe reflected that the conversation had begun to focus on whether the youth in the systems know their rights to religious practices and services, whether they feel empowered to request what they're entitled to, and that access looks like in practice
- Nathaniel Martinez shared that some things he feels are worth exploring are lived experience

influence in social worker training at the County level, providing opportunities for lived experts to come speak to social workers in training, and additional opportunities to continue to connect to that input while working in the field. He also mentioned that families of foster youth should have the opportunity to speak with lived experts to have support..

- Sandy McBrayer informed FACYES that she received confirmation from the Polinsky Center that the youth are transported to any religious service of their choice on the date of service. They also invite representatives from the youth's religious center to visit them at the facility. They will also purchase any religious material that is requested, which the child is able to take with them upon leaving. She also mentioned that County social workers are put in touch with foster youth during their training, as well as parents who experienced their children entering the foster care system.\
- Simone Hidds-Monroe asked how foster youth, alumni, and parents can get involved in these trainings. Sandy then mentioned that there is a Bill of Rights for both youth and parents at the Youth Transitional Campus, which The Children's Initiative will distribute to the listserv.
- James Hidds-Monroe thanked Sandy McBrayer for the additional information and spoke in support of having these practices replicated in other places, specifically resource families.
- Sal Terrones, lived expert and Foster Youth Liaison at the San Diego Workforce Partnership, shared his experience not receiving information that could have allowed his grandmother to become his legal guardian and mentioned that he would like to see there be more information given to youth about transitioning to guardianship.
- Simone Hidds-Monroe asked anyone else with recommendations to put them in the chat box.

Opportunities for Influence

Simone Hidds-Monroe provided upcoming opportunities for FACYES to provide influence.

- Mandated Reporter vs. Supporter; shifting the language and intention behind them. Rather than a teacher simply reporting abuse, the goal would be for them to provide resources as well. The overarching goal would be to provide a level of empowerment rather than punishment for youth encountering the Child and Family Well-Being Department.
- San Pasqual Academy (Wellness Center); offer input on what should be offered
- Identity Theft & Fraud Survey; upcoming surveys and focus groups to help empower youth against identity theft and fraud
- Career Pathways for Foster Youth (Career & Education Resources)
- Youth-Centered Language for Child & Family Well-Being

Career Pathways for Foster Youth

Simone Hidds-Monroe introduced the San Diego Workforce Partnership team and gave a brief overview of some of the things that they've been able to do with Career Pathways for Foster Youth, which includes supporting with the hiring process and crafting interview questions, serving on the interview panel, and supporting with the implementation of this program. She then invited the team to give their presentation.

- Sal Terrones, Nick DeVico, and Gaby Ledezma are the Career Pathways for Foster Youth (CPFY) team and they each introduced themselves to FACYES
- The mission of the program is to empower current and former foster youth to define and achieve what they want to. They encourage youth to pursue their ambitions by providing guidance and support to help them determine their own goals and path forward
- The program partners with current and former foster youth ages 16-24 to connect them to paid work experiences, trainings, and educational opportunities while providing them with the resources needed to thrive in the workplace
- The intention of the presentation is to educate FACYES on the program and ask for feedback, find out how and where they can share these opportunities with eligible young people, and ask for feedback on what the funds from the County can and should be used for

- Some of the work and educational programs available include tech, cyber security, language programs for translators, human resource and project management certification, as well as a variety of other fields
- Eligibility for the program is as follows:
 - All current and former foster youth between the ages of 16-24
 - The youth must be enrolled before their 25th birthday to begin the program, and can continue receiving services after their 25th birthday
 - Youth must reside in San Diego County
- Program goals:
 - Identify opportunities to improve career outcomes for foster youth transitioning out of the foster care system
 - Provide hands on individual employment services by connecting youth to paid employment opportunities
 - Explore interest, education, skills, and talents to support pursuit of helping youth on their path towards self-sufficiency
- Avenues to success for youth:
 - Direct employment
 - Workforce readiness programs are also available prior to employment
 - Paid internships
 - Occupational training programs
 - Educational planning and support
- All youth will be provided with:
 - Mentorship opportunities
 - Counseling and guidance
 - Career development resources
 - Educational support
 - Incentives and supportive services including:
 - Housing
 - Mental health assistance
 - Childcare
 - Transportation
 - Sal Terrones informed FAYCES that this is not an exhaustive list of services or incentives that will be provided and asked for suggestions for incentives that they think will help encourage youth
- The program will begin on July 10th and youth can be referred through a QR code that takes you to the Program Match Finder, where Sal Terrones will be conducting the intake process to match youth the programs that fit their goals and interests
- Direct partners of the program are:
 - Promises2Kids
 - Joint case management
 - County of San Diego Black Chamber of Commerce
 - Mentorship
 - Entrepreneurial program
- Sal Terrones emphasized that this is a well-funded grant that is available to youth in San Diego for the next several years and that it's important for the Workforce Partnership to stay in touch with FAYCES as the program evolves and develops
 - There is about \$4,000 per participant available
 - There is a separate fund for childcare for youth with children of their own
- The presenters encouraged FAYCES members to reach out with any questions or suggestions and provided their contact information:

- Gaby Ledezma, Program Specialist III
 - (619) 489-5296
 - GabyLedezma@workforce.org
- Sal Terrones, Foster Youth Liaison III
 - (858) 267-1432
 - SalTerrones@workforce.org
- Nick DeVico, Director of Youth Programming
 - (619) 228-2929
 - NickDeVico@workforce.org
- Simone Hids-Monroe opened the discussion up to questions and feedback
 - Rajean Sanders suggested assisting youth with purchasing a vehicle as part of the incentive program
 - Sandy McBrayer mentioned that she was formerly the Chair of the Youth Council at the Workforce Partnership and that there was a time when many youth felt that some providers on the training list were not adequately training in working with the youth population. She suggested that FACYES partner with the Workforce Partnership to educate the training providers.
 - Simone Hids-Monroe asked Nick DeVico if the Workforce Partnership program will be the new landing page for internship opportunities. Nick answered that there is a lot of that information can be found on the website and will be a way to connect them to the internship opportunities directly. Simone offered FACYES's support in developing language with them
 - Rajean Sanders asked in the chat if youth who already have a record will be able to get a County job. Sal Terrones answered that there is a program under the funding that is focused on youth who are juvenile justice impacted and there are already potential employment opportunities available for them
 - James Hids-Monroe asked if there is anything that would make a youth ineligible to enter this program. Sal Terrones answered that the only the only limitations are the age and location requirements. He clarified that a youth only need be in the foster care system or reside in San Diego for one day to be eligible for the program. He also mentioned that they have taken proactive steps to remove as many barriers to the program as possible
 - Patty Boles asked if youth who were formerly in foster care and were adopted are eligible for the program. Sal Terrones answered yes, a youth only needs to be involved in the foster care system for one day to be eligible for the program as long as they still meet the age requirements
- Simone Hids-Monroe thanked the San Diego Workforce Partnership for their time and collaboration with lived experts. She asked them to utilize FAYCES as a partner in the implementation of their program and encouraged FAYCES members to keep in contact with the presenters to continue collaboration

Child and Family Well-Being Department Update & Opportunity for Influence

Valesha Bullock of the newly renamed County Child and Family Well-Being Department (formerly Child Welfare Services) gave a brief presentation on the Department's change in language and focused goals.

- Family Strengthening Focus is the overarching goal: shift from foster care > voluntary services > prevention to prevention > voluntary services > foster care
 - Prevention
 - Will be partnering with First 5 and their contractors for preventative work
 - Child Safety (formerly Child Welfare)
 - The goal is to refocus social workers to be working more directly with families
 - Voluntary Services

- Foster Care
- Valesha asked FAYCES for feedback on these goals to be discussed at a future movement meeting so that they can take the input of lived experts into the implementation of these goals
 - Laura Krzywicki added that they specifically want to know what language is causing harm and what language would heal that harm
 - Simone Hidds-Monroe echoed the importance of the language used and how FAYCES is committed to being involved with this culture shift

Date of Next Meeting – August 17th at 6 PM



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting

Subcommittee Committee:

Child and Family Services	11:00 - 12:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Sarah Mostofi

Meeting Staff: Emily Lay

Child and Family Services Subcommittee Summary: 35 attendees took part in the Subcommittee.

Advisory Members Participating: Alethea Arguilez, Patricia Boles, Judge Ana Espana, Carolyn Griesemer, Jessica Heldman, Stephen Moore, Jeff Wiemann

Sarah Mostofi opened the meeting and provided a brief overview of the agenda. She explained how the meeting was being conducted via the Zoom platform and encouraged participation.

Workgroup Recommendations – Workforce Recruitment and Retention Update

Valesha Bullock from Child Welfare Services (CWS) gave a brief overview on workforce recruitment and retention efforts within CWS. She then gave the following update:

- Five Broad Areas of New Initiatives:
 - Quality Supervision: includes coaching and training for staff and management.
 - Workload: aims to equalize workloads for staff and management.
 - Training/Hiring: promotes continuous knowledge and provides promotion opportunities for staff.
 - Remote Work: aims to provide flexibility for staff to work off-site.
 - Mental Health/Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS): promotes mental well-being and opportunities for staff to discuss issues they have encountered.
- Fiscal Year 21-22 Efforts:
 - Exit Interviews
 - 360° Evaluations
 - CWS Mentorship Program
 - Clinical Supervision
- Fiscal Year 22-23 Additional Efforts:
 - Stay Interviews
 - Hiring Website
 - Same Day Hiring
- Hiring and Turnover:
 - In fiscal year 21-22, there were 160 new staff hired and 152 staff who left.
 - In fiscal year 22-23, there were 184 new staff hired and 113 staff who left.

- Questions and comments on the presentation:
 - Carolyn Griesemer asked if the new staff will be entering the “child safety” side of the new Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) department. Valesha explained the staff who are currently in the queue will most likely be assigned to the child safety side of CFWB, however, as the “prevention” side of CFWB continues to develop, staff with prevention experience and expertise will have an opportunity to switch from safety to prevention. Alethea Arguilez clarified that as CFWB becomes more established and there is less need for child safety workers, there will be a greater need for prevention workers.
 - A participant asked for more clarification on the stay interviews and the intent behind them. Valesha clarified that the intent of the stay interviews was to meet with new staff (who have worked with CWS six months or less) to learn about what their needs were for the first six months and what could have been done to better prepare them. Stay interviews were also intended for staff who had worked with CWS for two years to determine what gaps were present in the staff’s onboarding and training. This information is then used to close gaps for newer staff through additional training, workshops, etc. Laura Krzywicki explained the exit interviews showed that staff were sharing information about what they needed to succeed in their position, but CWS was getting the information too late. The stay interviews allow CWS to gather information on what staff need as they go through the onboarding and training process.

Follow-Up from Last Meeting
STRTP Landscape Update

Alex Kahn from CWS gave a brief overview of Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Placements (STRTPs). He shared that STRTPs have become more common as we move from the Group Home model to the STRTP model. Alex then gave the following update:

- There are currently 20 licensed facilities through 12 STRTP licensed organizations, with nine contractors.
- The STRTP contracts are set to expire in the next few weeks, and a new procurement will be sent out to STRTP organizations in San Diego.
- Each STRTP varies based on space and number of beds they are contracted for, with bed numbers ranging from one to 16.
- Questions and comments on the presentation:
 - Stephen Moore asked for a breakdown of the 20 licensed facilities and nine contractors. Alex explained that some of the nine contractors have multiple facilities, which is why there is a higher number of facilities and a smaller number of contractors.
 - Jessica Heldman asked at what capacity the STRTPs are currently and how the current capacity compares to the number of youth in need of placement. She asked if youth who have been difficult to place are primarily youth with complex behavioral health needs or if there are other special or specific needs that are preventing placement. Alex clarified there have been no issues with bed capacity, however, some youth require additional resources that make placement difficult. He explained that youth with difficult placements have a variety of needs, some of them behavioral, developmental, etc.

Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE) Presentation

Brandi Paniagua gave a brief overview of HOPE and its focus on positive experiences in childhood. She then provided a synopsis of the Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) study and noted that PCEs often mitigate adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and negative mental health outcomes in adults and promote resilience and healing. She explained the building blocks of HOPE and shared that the HOPE framework is strength-based and child-centered, which helps create engagement with families and a healthy community.

- Questions and comments on the presentation:

- Alethea Arguilez shared her excitement for HOPE and stated HOPE can help children and youth in the community and those in the system to change their mindset to focus on positive experiences.

Children, Youth and Families Health and Well-Being Data Tool

Sarah Mostofi of the Children’s Initiative shared that the *Live Well* San Diego Report Card on Children, Youth and Families is transitioning to an online platform. This transition provides an opportunity to gather feedback from community members and advocates on what should be included in the web-based data tool. Sarah then posed the following question:

- As community advocates, what information would you like to know about San Diego County to aid your advocacy work and what would you like the information to look like?
- Questions and comments on the presentation:
 - Alethea Arguilez shared that the Childcare Blueprint is anticipated to go to the Board of Supervisors by the end of April and planning for a launch in July of 2023. She stated the Blueprint is a 2-year plan designed to support/address the childcare industry. She also mentioned that it is possible to have a press release and press conference later this Summer 2023. Alethea suggested having a presentation on the Blueprint at the next Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board meeting.

Date of Next Meeting – June 22, 2023, at 11:00am

Sarah concluded the meeting by reviewing agenda items for the June meeting.

- STRTP Landscape Update
- Childcare Blueprint Presentation



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting

Subcommittee Committee:

Child and Family Services	11:00 - 12:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Sandra McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Chyann Cox

Child and Family Services Subcommittee Summary: 38 attendees took part in the Subcommittee.

Advisory Members Participating: Adam Reed, Patricia Boles, Carolyn Griesemer, Jessica Heldman, Stephen Moore, Jeff Wiemann

Sandra McBrayer from The Children's Initiative opened the meeting and invited participants to introduce themselves in the chat.

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board Updates

Sandra McBrayer gave an overview of the changes that have been made to the full Advisory Board.

- The first reading of the new ordinance changes was read on May 23rd by the Board of Supervisors and had a final reading on June 13th for an effective date of July 14th
- There have been changes made to the Chairship of the Board:
 - Due to changes to the vacancy in District 4, initially the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court will serve as Chair.
 - The full Advisory Board will create an appointed Vice-Chair position.
 - Several full Advisory Board meetings have been cancelled due to a Supervisor not being able to attend, which was mandated by the ordinance. The new ordinance will remedy this issue.
- The ordinance eliminates the Polinsky Children's Center Advisory Board and the San Diego County Foster Care Services Committee and incorporates that work into the CFSAB.
 - It will create a Polinsky Center seat on the full Advisory Board and make other changes to the titles designated to Advisory Board members.
 - Melissa Villagomez asked about the process of reapplying for membership when one's term expires. Sandra answered that members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors after submitting an application. Current members are sent an invitation to reapply ahead of their term expiring.
- Due to the change in Chairship, each member of the Board of Supervisors will now have an appointee to the Advisory Board. This has created several vacancies that we are working with the Supervisors to fill.
- Jessica Heldman asked what the ad hoc subcommittees created under the Advisory Board will be

called moving forward due to the changes. Sandra answered that this is currently being worked on; FAYCES (Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee) will still exist, and two new ad-hoc subcommittees will be formed – Child and Family Well-Being and Placement and Resource Family Support.

- The meeting schedule of the full Advisory Board will be changing, with meetings being moved from the 3rd Friday of every other month to the 4th Friday (excluding November due to the Thanksgiving holiday). The meeting schedule for this Subcommittee will remain the same.
- Rashida Elimu from Promises To Kids asked what actions this Subcommittee is expected to take on the new ordinance. Sandra answered that the Board already voted on the ordinance, and it will be distributed later today for informational purposes.

Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Placements (STRTPs) Landscape Update

Eileen Marshall gave a presentation and update on the current STRTP landscape in San Diego:

- STRTPs are licensed residential facilities that provide short-term, specialized, therapeutic 24-hour care and supervision to children.
- There are 12 licensed STRTP organizations, 20 licensed STRTP facilities, and 9 STRTP contractors, and 245 beds in San Diego.
 - The target age group is 12-17 and non-minor dependents (2 STRTPs accept youth 11-17)
 - The main facility for children younger than 11, San Diego Center For Children, will no longer be a placement resource at the end of the month.
 - A new prospective STRTP provider is in the licensing process and plans to serve youth ages 10-17.
 - Carolyn Griesemer asked what plans are in place for the youth currently at San Diego Center For Children. Eileen answered that there is only one child left in placement there and that the rest have already transitioned to their new placement.
- Fiscal year 2021-2022 STRTP placement entries: 248 total placements for an average length of 139 days, with 153 placements being outside of San Diego for an average length of 159 days.
- First 6 months of fiscal year 2022-2023 (7/1/22-12/31/22) STRTP placement entries: 229 total youth in San Diego STRTPs. Of that, 160 were San Diego youth and 69 were out of County youth.
- First 6 months of fiscal year 2022-2023 (7/1/22-12/31/22) STRTP placement entries: 54 total youth in out of County STRTPs. 40 were from Child Welfare Services and 14 were from Probation.
 - Rashida Elimu asked if there is data on why the youth who are being sent out of County must leave San Diego County. Eileen answered that there is no data on that, but it is usually because San Diego is not being able to meet the specialized behavioral or mental health needs of some youth is a factor, as well as San Diego Center for Children no longer being a resource placement. It was discussed that many of the youth leaving San Diego have multiple diagnoses: mental health, behavioral, and disability.
 - Jessica Heldman asked if information can be collected on what Counties are taking in San Diego youth and how far away they are going. Tandy Perry of SBCS added that she would like to know what services can be provided to families whose children have to leave San Diego so that they can remain in contact.
 - Sandra McBrayer clarified that there are some youths who are being sent to San Diego because their needs are not met in their home counties. Laura Neal from Casey Family Programs asked if there is data on the total number of youths in CWS custody over the years to determine whether those numbers are decreasing. Sandra answered that the numbers are decreasing and informed the Subcommittee of the data dashboard available on the Child Welfare Services website. Jessica Heldman requested information on why some youths are being sent to San Diego when some of our youths are being sent out and what services San Diego is able to provide that the other counties can't. Carolyn Griesemer asked for information on how kids are being accepted to these facilities and if San Diego

youth are missing out on available spaces to out of County youth. Jessica Heldman requested if there is a way to track children who are placed in San Diego STRTPs and require an alternative placement versus how many are directly sent to out of County placements.

- The committee discussed the goals for this Subcommittee in gathering this information:
 - Jessica Heldman stated that her goals are to understand the gaps in treatment and services here in San Diego and the effectiveness of placements in STRTPs.
 - Tandy Perry stated that her goals are to bring more services to families in San Diego.
 - Rashida Elimu stated that she shared the same goals as Jessica.
 - Jessica Heldman asked about staffing issues in the STRTPs. Lillian Asoera answered that this specific information is not available through Child Welfare Services.
- Carolyn Griesemer asked about the timeline for a new provider for younger children as an alternative to San Diego Center For Children. Eileen Marshall answered that the timeline depends on the process of California Community Care Licensing, and this process can take up to 6 months to a year. They are currently at the beginning of this process. Carolyn asked what the interim placement plan is in the meantime. Eileen answered that some of the children have been placed in Orange County for the time being.

Date of Next Meeting – August 24, 2023, at 11:00 am

Sandra concluded the meeting by discussing the next meeting's topics:

- STRTP Presentation
- Developing work groups in each subcommittee to create work plans with actionable goals