



**JJDPC AGENDA
BUSINESS MEETING**

**December 14, 2023
1:30 PM**

Location:

Rustin Conference Center (Entrance 1)
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside CA 92507
Room # 1048

1. Call to Order Chair, Chris Collopy
2. Pledge of Allegiance Chair
3. Roll Call Executive Assistant
4. Public Comment
5. Motion to Approve Agenda Chair
6. Motion to Approve – November 09, 2023
monthly meeting minutes Chair
7. County Counsel Report County Counsel
8. Probation Report Chief Deputy Probation Officer
 - a. Institutional Services
 - b. Field Services
9. Behavioral Health Behavioral Health Administrator
10. DPSS Report Deputy Director, DPSS
11. New Business
 - a. JJC Youth Advocacy Letter
 - i. Information - California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC 225-230)
 - b. JJDPC Applicants - Daniel F. Marmolejo, and Michael Belknapp (Meet and Greet / Commission Interview)
 - c. Timely attendance at meetings or notification
 - d. Inspection Reports (Outstanding, Responsibility and Completion)
 - i. Reports to be completed within 30 days of inspections
 - ii. Outstanding reports must be accounted for and submitted by the end of 2023
12. Correspondence Discussion
 - a. Merced County JJDPC
 - i. Request/Inquiry (233 W&I Code)

13. Activities of the Commission

- a. School Violence:
- b. Anti-Trafficking:
- c. Ad-hoc Legislative Committee:
- d. JJCC Activity:

14. Old Business

- a. Inspection / Lock-Up Inspection Report (Moreno Valley Sheriff Station)
 - i. Update (Preliminary letter)

15. Commission Member Reports

16. Adjournment

Attachment(s):

- November 09, 2023 Monthly Minutes
- DPSS Data Report

NEXT MEETING: January 11, 2024

In Accordance with State Law (The Brown Act):

- *The meetings of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission are open to the public. The public may address the commission within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission.*
- *Disable persons may request disability related accommodations to address the JJDC. Reasonable accommodations can be made to assist disabled persons if requested 24-hours prior to the meeting by contacting Riverside County Probation Department at (951) 358-7022 or at cymaqaill@rivco.org.*
- *The public may review open session materials at: <https://rivcoprobation.org/jjdc>*
- *Items may be called out of order.*
- *Agenda will be posted 72-hours prior to meeting.*
- *Cancellations will be posted 72-hours prior to meeting.*



Riverside County
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook, Secretary

JJDCP Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 09, 2023

Location: Rustin Conference Center
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507

IN ATTENDANCE: Christopher Collopy, Paul Parker, Laurel Cook, Pam Torres, Cynthia Magill, Jennifer Kopfler, Emil Fischer, Rachel Ligtenberg, Shannon Crosby, Emily Headlee, Melissa Cushman, Michael Gunther, David Adlington

Unexcused / Excused Absence: Micheal Malsed (Excused), Charles Trembley (Unexcused)

Applicants: Amanda Wade

1. Call to Order

- a. With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Commissioner Parker led the pledge of allegiance

3. Roll Call, Welcome, Introductions and Special Recognition

- a. Roll call – JJDCP Executive Assistant
- b. Participants were welcomed by Chair Collopy and given the opportunity to introduce themselves (by name and title).

4. Public Comment

- a. No public comment

5. Motion to Approve Agenda:

- a. Motion was made by Laurel Cook, seconded by Paul Parker

6. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes: October 12, 2023, Monthly Business Meeting minutes.

- a. The motion to approve minutes as amended was made by Paul Parker, seconded by Pam Torres.

7. County Counsel Report: Melissa Cushman

- a. No report

8a. Probation Report (Institutional Services) Emil Fischer, Assistant Division Director (IJH)

a. Current Population:

- i. Indio Juvenile Hall is comprised of 48 males and a single female. The female is transient and had a court appearance earlier today. It is probable that she will either be relocated or set free.
- ii. Southwest Juvenile Hall currently has 46 male and 9 female youth, 10 pending placement and 45 pending court.
- iii. YTEC and PTS combined total of 36 males and 4 females. Specifically, PTS had 28 males and 1 female. Encouragingly, six youth have found employment outside of the facility. As furloughs are ending, things are moving towards a post-COVID phase where external services and activities are slowly starting up again.

b. Incidents: (October)

- i. IJH had no escapes or suicide attempts. But there were six fights, possibly due to new clients and facility rotation. However, the good news is that the number of fights seems to be decreasing. IJH had no assaults on staff.
- ii. SWJH there were five incidents of fights reported, and no instances of anyone escaping.
- iii. YTEC and PTS both encountered two fights each, with two incidents in October where staff members were attacked. One attack was unprovoked, while the other occurred during a disturbance with a client who failed to comply with directives. The individuals involved in these incidents have been removed from the program, and charges have been filed for the unprovoked attack.
- iv. SWJH experienced an incident where they had to utilize the Emergency Treatment Services (ETS). The situation was effectively managed, and the youth involved safely returned to the facility without any harm.
- v. The YTEC facility noticed that some of the youth who returned from jail had gained a higher level of criminal knowledge. Upon their return, they attempted to bring in prohibited items such as contraband and pruno into the facility, testing their chances of success. However, the facility's managers, line staff, and seniors were aware of this and took appropriate action. Regular meetings are now held among the staff to minimize and quickly address such activities among the youth in the facility.
- vi. The drug test incident during recent inspections, the review of facility videos to determine how contraband entered, the importance of short sleeve shirts during visits, the discovery of psychotropic medications affecting drug tests, and the implementation of the Tek84 body scanner for the PTS program were all discussed.
- vii. Additionally, the discussion covered handling facilities reaching operational capacity, the ratio of new and seasoned staff at Indio and YTEC, and the department's efforts to recruit and hire more staff. Training for new staff was also emphasized.



Riverside County
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook, Secretary

- viii. Chair Collopy asked Director Ligtenberg and Administrator Fischer to convey to the leadership that the commission desires a monthly report, either in advance or during the meeting, to monitor the information provided by Institutional Services such as population count, fights, incidents, and so on.
- c. Updates: (October)
 - i. IJH Pathways to Success (PTS) unit is integrating the DJJ returnee youth who were impacted by the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) shutdown. At present, only one of the three DJJ youth has been released, while the other two are still in custody. IJH is optimistic that they will be released before the year ends. It was observed that the two DJJ youth who are still in custody have not been involved in any altercations, and as a result, they are being given a 90-day "no fight" support incentive.
 - ii. IJH has three youth with Ricardo M. time, six youth are facing private placement, one is awaiting a referral to the Pathways to Success program, one is deemed unfit, and there are 36 youth with Youth Court status.
- d. Projects:
 - i. The Indio Juvenile Wi-Fi project is currently in progress. Conduits are being installed and various technological equipment is being relocated. The installation of the new fire alarm sprinklers is around 50% complete. Moreover, the Indio Juvenile Hall is currently replacing its security camera system. The new cameras will provide film footage and archival storage. This task is approximately 35% complete.
 - ii. The new Indio Juvenile and Family Courthouse is still in progress, and the construction is gradually advancing.

8b. Probation Report (Special Services Division) - Division Director, Shannon Crosby

- a. Youth Report: Overview and Updates
 - i. At present, 31 youth are under Special Services supervision. Among them, three are staying with relatives while awaiting resource family approval. Furthermore, one youth is residing in a foster family agency home, and the remaining 27 are placed in congregate care, and have dual status with DPSS as the lead agency, and there are 29 non minor dependents who are in extended foster care. It is important to mention that one youth is placed in county.
 - ii. Riverside County has 32 licensed facilities, but not all of them are suitable for probation youth or accept them. The conversation persisted about the reduced probability of probation youth being placed in foster homes and the suitability of such placements, for instance, in the case of teenage mothers.
 - iii. The topic of placing youth in foster homes on probation and the chances of them being accepted was further discussed. The suitability of the placement was also a point of discussion. For example, in the case of a juvenile sex offender, there are specific facilities available for them to receive the required treatment.
 - iv. A work group was created during the strategic planning session with DPSS to discuss placement options. Currently, the focus of this work group is to improve our support letter committee. This committee is responsible for issuing letters of support to individuals who are looking to open an STRTP or foster family agency. These letters are required by the host county or the county planning to place youth in the facility.
 - v. The STRTP process has been acknowledged as overwhelming, but it is a necessary step to obtain a license through community care licensing. There are ongoing efforts to simplify the process and make it more efficient, which will encourage more applicants to apply. Ultimately, this will lead to more homes being available in Riverside County.
 - vi. The discussion also covered foster parents who are willing to care for our 602 youth. It was mentioned that there are unmatched resource families; however, efforts in recruiting unmatched homes have not yielded significant results. It was also mentioned that an unmatched home refers to a situation where someone in the community contacts us to express their interest in becoming a foster parent specifically for Riverside County. Once they have completed the required procedures, it is up to them as foster parents to decide whether to accept or decline the opportunity to foster the child.
 - vii. Since May 2020, a total of 518 establishments throughout the state have made the decision to either close their doors or opt out of transitioning from group homes to STRTPs. As of October, the number of remaining facilities has dwindled down to just 349, affecting both Probation and child welfare.
 - viii. Furthermore, private group homes do not have to be STRTPs and are authorized to accept private insurance. As a result, there are currently 351 group homes that remain as group homes and exclusively accept private insurance. In some cases, school districts may also refer youth to these homes. However, probation and child welfare agencies are unable to place youth in these homes due to the lack of necessary licensing. If parents have insurance coverage, alternative options will be explored instead of placing the child in foster care. In these situations, a foster care placement order will not be issued. Instead, a more innovative approach will be taken by releasing the child into the custody of their parents. It is also important to note that these private group homes are not eligible for title 4E funding.



Riverside County
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook, Secretary

9. DPSS Report: Jennifer Kopfler, Deputy Director

- a. DPSS Overview: Highlights
 - i. DPSS celebrated their 100th anniversary in September and recently completed 100 adoptions last Saturday. The adoptions were divided between the Indio and Riverside courts, with about 70% taking place in Riverside and just over 30% in Indio. This resulted in approximately 68 adoptions in Riverside and slightly over 30 in Indio. Additionally, there were 16 adoptions in October.
 - ii. In the month of October, the hotline received 5800 calls. Of those, 3,515 calls were investigated. Hence, the number 3,515 is displayed for October, along with the detailed breakdown of response categories.
 - iii. Harmony Haven has seen a small decrease in numbers. In September, they had around 43 teenagers that they couldn't find a place for. By October, the number went down to 32, and at one point, it reached 29.
 - iv. The discussion briefly touched on nine or ten youth who are currently staying in hotels. These youth present a challenge in finding them a suitable placement due to their history of sexual or violent behavior, which could be a risk to others.
 - v. Although it's not ideal to have youth staying in hotels, it's a reality that's faced every day. Sometimes, they only stay for a night, while other times they may be moved to the Bolo Court house depending on the needs of other children. The Bolo Court location can house up to six youth.
 - vi. The discussion also highlighted the difficulty of managing three separate sites, which led to the addition of approximately 260 staff members to the team. It's worth noting that these staff members are not currently handling any case loads.
 - vii. DPSS is currently seeking an agency to take over staffing through an open RFP. While the search continues, DPSS is working alongside Seneca, who offers on-site services and supports with coaching, training, and administrative assistance to staff.
 - viii. Additionally, DPSS is establishing partnerships with other agencies to expand their services, including transportation to school.
 - ix. Furthermore, DPSS is in the final stages of finalizing a contract with Moving Mountains to involve them in their efforts. They have also hired a cook for daily cooking responsibilities. It's important to note that there are no schools, therapists, or medical facilities at Harmony Haven. Instead, transportation is arranged for the youth to attend school and medical appointments, and staff administers required medication. Substance abuse groups also visit the site to provide treatment.
 - x. Director Kopfler was asked by Chair Collopy, if the commission could plan a visit to Harmony Haven. Director Kopfler responded by expressing her warm welcome to the commission's visit and requested them to provide their availability. It was mutually agreed that the visit would take place after the first of the year.
 - xi. Visiting retired teacher David Adlington, hailing from California and now residing in North Carolina, shared his insights and experiences as a foster youth provider. With a background in working with young people, including those in the juvenile justice system, David graciously expressed his thoughts through multiple comments. Additionally, he discussed his ongoing adoption process for one of his former foster youth, highlighting his dedication to providing a loving home.
- b. DPSS Staffing Overview:
 - i. DPSS is always in the process of hiring new staff members. Upon being hired, they undergo a 13-week induction training before moving on to the training region where they handle various caseloads for three months.
 - ii. As part of their induction training, new staff members are exposed to different agency stations such as courts, forensics, and RUHS. They also have the option to volunteer at Harmony Haven after completing their induction training and while in the training region.
 - iii. Currently, DPSS has 405 staff members on board, with a goal of reaching 610 and approximately 150 in the pipeline. However, they do experience attrition with an annual rate of 23%. In September, they lost 7 staff members, and in October, they lost 13.
- c. DPSS Report Overview: (Report Provided in Packet).
 - i. The DPSS data report was examined to uncover any instances of abuse in different parts of the county. This analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the data specifically for the month of October. The subsequent section of the report focused on children who have left care, revealing 16 adoptions, 59 reunification's with parents, 14 cases of emancipation, and 7 instances of guardianship establishment.
 - ii. Currently, there are a total of 5,078 dependent children in open cases for placement. Out of this number, approximately 2,900 children are in out-of-home placement, which represents slightly over half of the total.



Riverside County
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook, Secretary

- iii. Additionally, the report included pie charts that showcased the distribution of facility types. The data for children in out-of-home care totals 2,900. Within Riverside County, 841 youth are placed with relatives, while 313 are placed with relatives outside of the county. In total, 11,154 youth are placed with relatives.
- iv. The number of youth in FFAs amounts to 1300, with a breakdown of slightly over 1000 FFA placements within Riverside County and 305 placements just outside of Riverside County. Additionally, there are currently 118 youth placed in STRTPs, with 32 located within the county and 86 placed outside of the county.

10. Behavioral Health Report: Michael Gunther, Administrator

- a. Behavioral Health Highlights:
 - i. Behavioral Health is working closely with the probation department to ensure that treatment services are tailored to meet their specific needs. These services are categorized into various tiers, including Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3, which align with the levels of care offered at juvenile hall, YTEC, and Pathways. As individuals advance through these programs, additional services are incorporated to support their progress.
 - ii. Behavioral health has been collaborating closely with probation and the Cal Aim initiative. They are working on determining the approach and establishing connections. Behavioral Health has already established a connection with Probation's Pathways to Success Program. Moreover, Behavioral health has linked probation youth to some of the behavioral health services as youth transition into Behavioral Health's New Life Clinic.
 - iii. Behavioral Health is now using the Change model for the Pathways to Success youth, which was adapted from the DJJ model.
 - iv. It was noted that youth who are leaving the facility are connected to services through Behavioral Health. YTEC also collaborates with children's facilities to ensure a smooth transition when they leave to make sure they are connected to services and to provide a warm handoff.
 - v. To wrap up, Mr. Gunter discussed the issue of hiring Substance Abuse counselors for YTEC. He mentioned the challenge of finding candidates who can successfully go through the background check. At the moment, there is a potential candidate being screened. However, Behavioral Health is tackling this issue by enlisting volunteers from the Adult side who are interested in volunteering on the Juvenile side. These volunteers are currently working at YTEC and SWJH. Furthermore, Behavioral Health is also providing training to their clinical therapists, who will be able to handle Substance Abuse cases effectively.

11. New Business:

- a. Inspections (Group Home / STRTPs / Lockups / Juvenile Institutions / BSCC)
 - i. Chair Collopy highlighted that inspections this year were ahead of schedule.
 - ii. Commissioners were provided the lockup inspections carried out by Commissioner Malsed to review and approve. The only anomaly was the report from Moreno Valley PD, where there were instances of youth being held for longer than the standard six hours. Specifically, there were incidents of 7 hours and 16 minutes, 8 hours, and even 7 hours and 30 minutes. Commissioner Malsed was not provided with any explanation for these incidents and there was no record of any reason.
 - iii. Commissioner Malsed has suggested in a letter to Moreno Valley PD that they should implement corrective measures to address this issue in the future and establish an internal monitoring process. A preliminary letter will be prepared and presented to you in December for your approval, ensuring that it encompasses all necessary aspects.
 - iv. Two matters were further discussed: the incorrect last inspection date for the Beaumont PD and the absence of Commissioner Malsed's signature on the Hemet PD report. Following that, the Chair proposed a motion to approve the inspection reports for Beaumont, Hemet, Moreno Valley, and Corona PD's with the required modifications. Commissioner Parker seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
 - v. The inspection dates for New Beginnings Residential Treatment Facility/Shalom House in Perris, Community Access Network in Riverside and Parris, and Blythe PD have been scheduled for November 14th, November 21st, and January 24th respectively. Additionally, inspections for YTEC, Pathways, SWJH, IGH, and Pathways at IGH have been completed, and we are now waiting for the reports from the inspectors.
 - vi. The commission continued their discussion on whether or not the Riverside PD was scheduled for inspection by the BSCC. However, the BSCC list did not show any indication of an inspection for the Riverside PD. Commissioner Collopy requested that the BSCC data be reviewed to confirm that there were no oversights and to report any findings to the commission.
 - vii. After it was discovered that there were no youth held at Riverside PD's, the conversation shifted to where they were being sent now that juvenile hall is no longer an option. The possibility of youth being sent to County instead of being processed for juvenile hall was brought up. It was suggested that this could be related to recent law.



**Riverside County
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission**

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook, Secretary

changes that prevent youth under 18 from waiving their Miranda rights and require advisement from The Public Defenders office within two hours.

- viii. Chair Collopy asked Director Ligtenberg to reach out to Director Castaneda for further clarification on the matter. The clarification will be discussed during the December meeting.

12. Correspondence Discussion:

- a. No new correspondences this month.

13. Activities of the Commission:

- a. School Violence
- i. Tabled
- b. Anti-Trafficking
- i. Tabled
- c. By-Laws/Policies/Procedures
- i. The commission has made a decision to remove By-Laws/Policies/Procedures from the agenda items and will only address them when necessary.
- d. Ad-Hoc Legislative Committee:
- i. AB505 passing has resulted in OYCR taking over the responsibility of governing and inspecting secure track facilities. The inspections will bring in new criteria, but the standards for these inspections are yet to be established. This may lead to changes in the objectives and goals of the entity in our correctional setting. OYCR has approached Riverside County, Chief Wright, to collaborate and work on the guiding documents and inspection points, and has also reached out to other entities to ensure diverse perspectives. However, this is still in the early stages.
- ii. Chair Collopy has made a request for the JJDCP to invite our OYCR representative, Ramon Leija, to our next meeting to provide the commission with more details regarding AB505 and the role of OYCR in inspections of Secure Track facilities.
- e. JJCC Activity:
- i. The JJDCP is a member of the JJCC and reports back to the Commission on its activities. The upcoming Monday meeting will address important matters, such as the future of Pathways To Success (PTS) and its governing community. Chair Collopy has recommended that the JJDCP be given a seat on the sub-committee which Laurel will fill. Although the JJDCP had previously missed out on the opportunity to join the subcommittee, they are now expressing interest in being represented and will provide more information after the meeting.
- ii. A subcommittee has reviewed the RFP responses for a county-wide review of CBO services and submitted their findings to purchasing. The progress and results of this review will be discussed at the upcoming JJCC Quarterly meeting on Monday.
- iii. The conversation continued regarding the identification of service areas and the necessary services. It was acknowledged that the desert region is in need of services. Additionally, it was mentioned that the RFP assessment on CBO coverage will include information on service areas and will be presented at the upcoming JJCC quarterly meeting on Monday.

14. Old Business:

- a. None

15. Commission Member Reports:

- a. No reports were provided.

16. Adjournment:

- a. There was no further comment from Commission members or attendees. The Chair thanked all for their participation and adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: December 14, 2023 @ 1:30 pm
Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507 (Room TBD)

12/12/23	IJH	SIJH	YTEC
Population	<p>Current Population: (11/30/2023) Total: 50 -Male: 50 -Female: 0</p> <p>RM: 1 Pending PLMT: 6 Pending PTS: 0 Court status: 40 Unfit: 1 Transfer: 0 PTS: 2</p>	<p>Current Population: (12/8/2023) Total: 49 -Male: 42 -Female: 7</p> <p>RM: 2 Pending PLMT: 7 Pending PTS: 1 Court status: 39 Unfit: 0 Transfer: 0 PTS: 0</p>	<p>Current Population: (12/11/23) YTEC Total: 38 -Male: 33 -Female: 5</p> <p>Detention Total: 1 -Female: 0 -Male: 1 (Pending Placement)</p> <p>PTS Total: 27 Male: 26 Female: 1</p>
Critical Incidents	<p>Youth Fights: November 2023 – 5</p> <p>Escapes/Escape Attempts: 0</p> <p>Suicide Attempts: 0</p>	<p>Youth Fights: November 2023 - 11</p> <p>Escapes/Escape Attempts: 0</p> <p>Suicide Attempts: 0</p>	<p>Youth Fights: November 2023 - 4 -YTEC: 2 -PTS: 2 -Detention: 0</p> <p>Escapes/Escape Attempts: 0 -YTEC: 0 -PTS: 0 -Detention: 0</p> <p>Suicide Attempts: 0 -YTEC: 0 -PTS: 0 -Detention: 0</p>
Covid Stats	<p>Current: Youth: 0 Staff: 0</p>	<p>Current: Youth: 0 Staff: 0</p>	<p>Current: Youth: 0 Staff: 0</p>

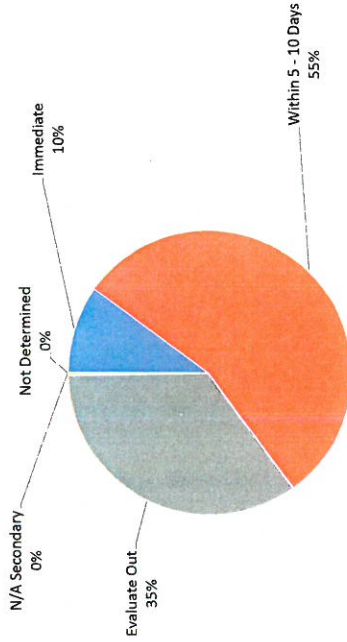
Reporting Month: Nov-23

3 months referrals trend

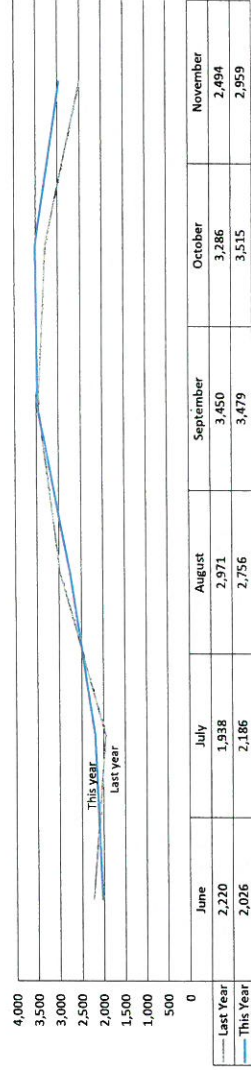
Response Priority Rates	September-23		October-23		November-23		Trends
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Immediate	333	9.6%	352	10.0%	295	10.0%	
Within 5 - 10 Days	1,885	54.2%	2,010	57.2%	1,627	55.0%	
Evaluate Out	1,246	35.8%	1,150	32.7%	1,027	34.7%	
N/A Secondary	15	0.4%	2	0.1%	10	0.3%	
Not Determined	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Total	3,479	100%	3,515	100%	2,959	100%	

<https://app.safemeasures.org/ca/referrals/>

Referrals by Response Type for November 23



Note: Due to rounding, total may not add up to 100%



Reporting Month	Nov-23
-----------------	--------

Allegation Type by Client and by Region

Region	Physical Abuse	Emotional Abuse	Neglect	Sexual Abuse	Other/At-risk	Clients in Month:
Central Intake Center	7	12	40	0	4	49
Centralized Placement Services	20	8	82	5	14	98
Command Post	155	94	322	40	116	508
Court Services & Specialized Investig	18	9	221	11	4	234
Desert	56	51	196	19	41	254
Diamond Valley	70	54	203	20	65	307
Metro	74	76	238	24	39	313
Mid County	78	74	229	17	54	333
Southwest	92	117	284	17	38	393
Training Region	7	39	141	0	4	165
Valley	97	119	328	29	42	431
West Corridor	101	111	335	29	71	459
Clients in Month:	775	764	2619	211	492	3544

Note: This display shows the number of allegation types for clients in referrals started during the selected month. Clients may have multiple allegation types on any given referral. Each allegation type is only counted once for any specific client.

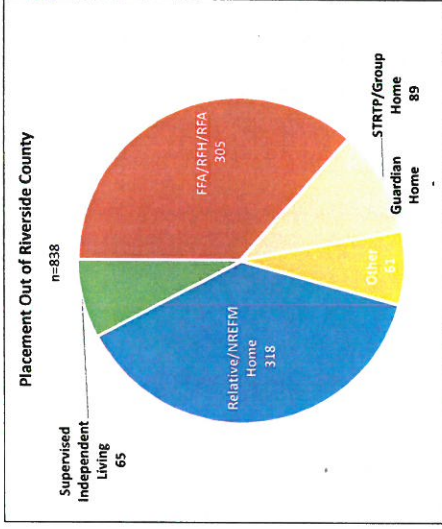
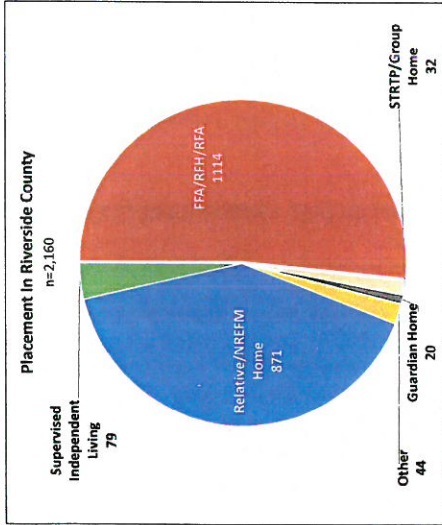
Reporting Month	Nov-23
------------------------	---------------

Reasons for Children Exiting Placement

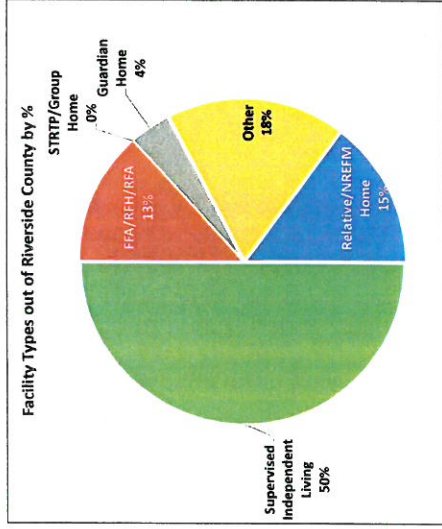
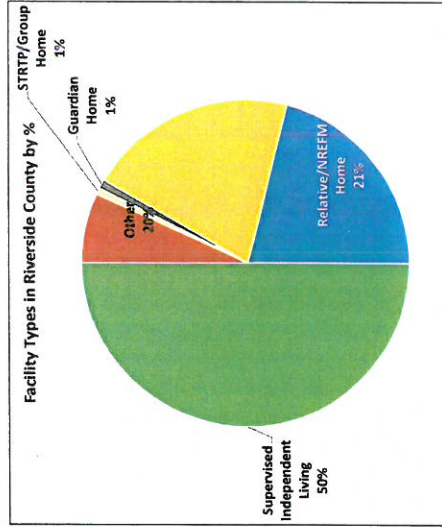
Exit Reason	Nov-23
Adoption	99
Reunification	50
Emancipation	10
Guardianship	12
Other	0
Not Recorded	0
Total	171

Reporting Month: Nov-23

Placements of Dependents Categorized by Facility Type :



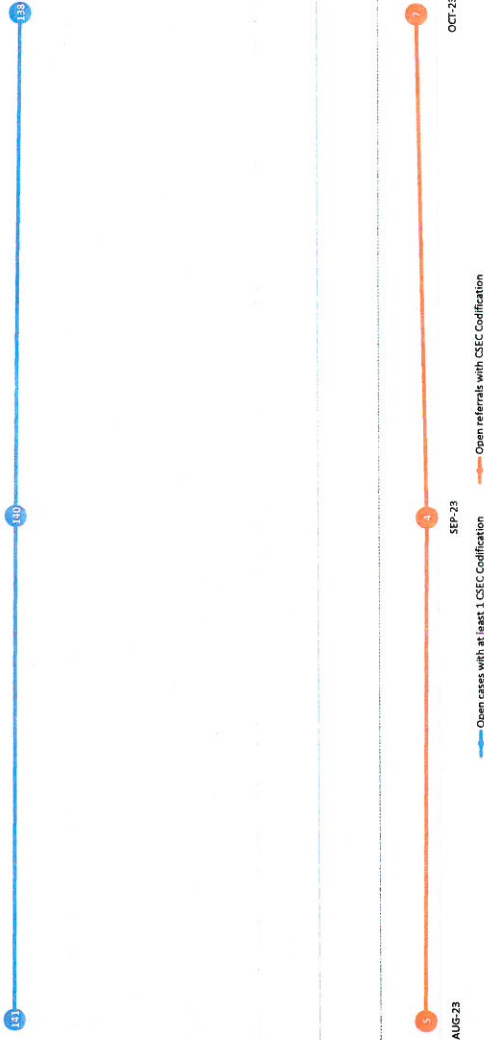
Facility Types by Percentage:



https://app.safemeasures.org/ca/placements_facility_type/crosstab/

Note: Children placed in "Guardian Home - Voluntary" facilities were excluded from the counts. Other include "Court-Specified Homes", "Small Family Homes", "Shelter/Receiving Homes", "Tribe-Specified Homes", "Tribe-Approved Homes", "Tribally Approved Homes", "Tribally Specified Homes" and "Medical Facilities".

CSEC Referrals and Cases



Note: CSEC Referrals also include Referrals with the Special Project Code "Human Trafficking-Labor"

Three Month Trend CSEC Codification

Month	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23
Open cases with at least 1 CSEC Codification	141	140	138
Open referrals with at least 1 CSEC Codification	5	4	7

Notes:

*This table reflects the same data on the graph above. It is included additionally to have the three month data trend on a table for viewing preference.

**CSEC Codifications include: Victims of CSEC During Foster Care, At-risk of CSEC, and CSEC Victims before Foster Care.

***Data for CSEC comes from DAT Unit's monthly OG-1718 CSEC Monthly report and not SafeMeasures. Additionally that data is extracted from CWS/CMS and is current as of 11/10/2023

****Data is produced on the first week where CWS/CMS data tables have been refreshed, which means that this report may not always reflect the most current month.



County of Riverside
JUVENILE JUSTICE and DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook Secretary

December 14, 2023

Senator Richard D. Roth
3737 Main Street, Suite 104
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Senator Roth,

We, as court appointed members of Juvenile Justice Commissions, are mandated by the California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC 225-230) to express our urgent concerns regarding the lack of safe placement and support for high acuity dependent youth.

The foster care system changes brought about by California's AB 403, also known as the "Continuum of Care Reform" Act (CCR), have resulted in serious gaps in addressing the severe mental health needs of dependent youth. This has led to unsafe conditions for youth, staff, and caregivers throughout California.

We are reaching out to you because of your advocacy for youth and social justice in our state. To address this critical issue, we have established a joint California-wide taskforce to amplify the voices of these vulnerable youth and ensure that our state legislative representatives understand the severity of this emerging crisis.

Legislation has been enacted by both California and the federal government to impose significant limitations and decrease the availability of congregate care. In California, the implementation of AB 403 necessitated the conversion of Group Homes into Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs). However, a considerable number of Group Home providers, totaling 486, with a combined capacity of 4,328 beds, did not make the transition to the STRTP model. Furthermore, the introduction of federal legislative requirements in response to the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) has led to the permanent closure of additional facilities.

The Short Term Residential Treatment Program is confronted with several challenges that demand prompt attention and effective solutions. These challenges encompass a variety of issues, including:

1. Addressing the mental health needs of young referrals poses a significant challenge that demands dedicated care and assistance from our staff due to the severity of these needs.
2. Staffing problems pose a significant hurdle for the program as they struggle to find qualified individuals with the right education and mental health experience. The job's inadequate compensation, high stress levels, and hazardous nature make it even more difficult to attract and retain qualified staff members. Moreover, the requirement for round-the-clock on-site shift work further compounds the staffing challenges.



3. The program also faces challenges related to youth rights protections. While it is important to ensure residents' rights, allowing them to leave at any time and limiting consequences for their behavior can make it challenging to maintain a structured and therapeutic environment.
4. The youth's stay is often limited by time constraints, which can pose a challenge as stabilization may require a longer duration. This limitation can potentially hinder the program's ability to provide comprehensive treatment and support effectively.
5. Due to the residents' high needs, the STRTP's capacity is limited. In a standard 6-bed facility, it is usually only safe to accommodate 2-4 residents, thereby reducing the number of individuals who can avail the program's benefits.
6. Lastly, insufficient financial reimbursement for STRTP youth hinders the ability to adequately address the staffing and resource demands, thereby posing a significant challenge in providing the necessary care and support for the residents.

The financial burden and staffing requirements necessary to support youth with high mental health needs in STRTPs have caused community-based organizations to struggle financially and fail across the state. This has resulted in out-of-state and locked mental health facilities no longer being viable placement options.

In Contra Costa County, there are approximately 10 youth who are consistently denied placement in STRTPs due to their behaviors and lack of adequate staffing. These youth are sometimes placed in Psychiatric Emergency Facilities for extended periods of time, as there are no available inpatient beds, and then returned to placements that cannot meet their needs.

In Sonoma County, only two STRTPs remain open, while two other facilities have converted to serve different types of youth that are more sustainable for them.

In Santa Clara County, there is currently only one STRTP with 4 beds, but there is a need for as many as 50 placements for youth with significant mental health and behavioral needs.

The youth with the most severe trauma effects are typically older and have complex mental health needs, including self-injury, suicidality, substance use, and violent and destructive tendencies, along with other challenging behaviors that require specialized training and management. Due to their intensive needs, these high-acuity youth are often unable to be safely placed in foster family homes.

The insufficiency of safe and effective county placements results in:

- County offices, receiving centers, shelters, or hotel rooms are used to detain young individuals.
- Foster home placements have been unsuccessful multiple times.
- Extended periods of being absent without leave (AWOL).
- Being placed in STRTPs in distant counties due to insufficient beds.
- Vulnerability to trafficking, homelessness, and other forms of victimization.
- Continuously entering and exiting hospitals in a repetitive cycle.



- Youth experiencing additional trauma, which complicates their placement.
- Placement in Juvenile Hall as a result of escalating behavior.

Case example: "James"

James, a child who entered foster care at the age of 2 due to allegations of abuse from his mother, was initially placed with a relative until the age of 8 when he re-entered foster care. Over the past 10 years, he has been in and out of various placements, including spending several years at a STRTP. James has been diagnosed with schizophrenia and experiences auditory hallucinations. He has been prescribed psychotropic medication, although his adherence to it has been inconsistent. Additionally, James has a history of substance abuse, AWOL, and verbally aggressive behavior. He is significantly behind in school credits and has an IEP for Emotional Disturbance and Specific Learning Disability.

Despite efforts by CFS, approximately 60 STRTPs have been unsuccessful in providing a suitable placement for James, leading to temporary stays at a Receiving Center with one-on-one supervision. However, even the Receiving Center eventually refused to accommodate him, resulting in the use of a hotel setting with one-on-one or two-to-one staffing ratios.

These youth with high-acuity needs require safe housing and intensive rehabilitative care to address their trauma-induced needs. They are among the most vulnerable individuals in our state, and it is crucial that we provide them with the necessary support. Despite the commendable efforts of social welfare agencies, STRTP administrators, and state representatives who have assisted on a case-by-case basis, the current system is failing these youth. This approach is neither effective nor sustainable, as it demands more resources and time while yielding inconsistent outcomes. Instead, we advocate for a proactive, system-wide response at the state-level that includes a broader range of options such as high intensity mental health treatment centers, increased funding and support for existing STRTPs, and specialized foster homes.

It is our goal as Joint Juvenile Justice Commissioners from across California to raise awareness about this crisis and to engage in discussions with you to share our knowledge, concerns, and proposed actions that can make a difference in the lives of these vulnerable youth in our counties.

Best Regards,

Amador County JJC
Contra Costa County JJC
Marin County JJC
Mendocino County JJC
Merced County JJC
Placer County JJC
Riverside County JJC
San Benito County JJC

San Diego County JJC
San Mateo County JJC
Santa Barbara County JJC
Santa Clara County JJC
Santa Cruz County JJC
Sonoma County JJC
Ventura County JJC



County of Riverside
JUVENILE JUSTICE and DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook Secretary

December 14, 2023

Senator Richard D. Roth
3737 Main Street, Suite 104
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: Youth Advocacy letter signed by 15 Juvenile Justice Commissions across California regarding our urgent concerns for our most vulnerable Dependent youth.

Dear Senator Roth,

On behalf of the Riverside County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC), we kindly request your attention to the pressing issue of the insufficient safe placement options for children and youth in Riverside County.

Many court appointed Juvenile Justice Commissions across the state of California are distributing the attached letter to their elected representatives bringing attention to the needs of high acuity California youth. Governor Newsom as well as Riverside County elected representatives will be receiving this as well.

We sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter and would be grateful for the opportunity to briefly discuss it with you. We are available for a Zoom meeting and can be reached at cymagill@rivco.org.

Furthermore, we would like to express our deep appreciation for your unwavering dedication to your Senate position and your representation of Riverside County.

Sincerely,

Christopher Collopy,
Chair

cc w/encl:

Enclosure: Youth Advocacy letter signed by 15 Juvenile Justice Commissions across California
cc: JJJPC Commission Central Files



November 20, 2023

Moreno Valley Sheriff's Station
22850 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
Attn: Deputy Matthew Allan

Re: 10/26/2023
JJJPC Inspection
Corrective Action Item(s)

Dear Deputy Matthew Allan:

Commissioner Michael Malsed conducted an inspection on October 26, 2023, on behalf of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC). The inspection report, enclosed herewith, highlights the areas examined during the inspection, which included selective examination of procedures and agency records, observation, and interviews with personnel within Moreno Valley Sheriff's Station.

The inspection revealed that three youth were held for longer than six hours, which is a violation of (W&I § 207.1 (d) (I) (B)). We advise that this issue needs to be corrected for the future to ensure that no youth is held for longer than six hours. However, it is important to note that this notification does not prohibit the Moreno Valley Sheriff's Station from detaining youth in the future.

The Comments section of the October 26, 2023, JJJPC report documents the violation of (W&I § 207.1 (d) (I) (B)), that was identified during the inspection.

Corrective Action Item(s):

Three cases of contravening (W&I § 207.1 (d) (I) (B)), confining minors for longer than six hours:

These incidents occurred on June 29, 2023, July 12, 2023, and September 04, 2023, involving Officer #6079, CSO Lopez, and Officer Langford, respectively.



County of Riverside
JUVENILE JUSTICE and DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
Christopher Collopy, Chair
Paul Parker, Vice-Chair
Laurel Cook Secretary

We would like to emphasize the importance of addressing this critical matter promptly. It is crucial to implement necessary measures to ensure that similar incidents do not happen again in the future. Thank you for your attention and cooperation in this regard.

Sincerely,

Christopher Collopy,
Chair

cc w/encl: Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court
Chief Probation Officer
Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)