

San Bernardino County
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)
Executive Subcommittee on DJJ

Minutes for Thursday, April 17, 2025

Executive Committee Members Tracy Reece, Chairperson, CPO Richard Sterling, Chief Deputy Public Defender Timothy Hougen, Deputy Director, Department of Behavioral Health Tony Collins CiFuentes, Highlanders Boxing Club Owen Duckworth, Inland Empire Rebound Reentry Services Donald English, Director, Superintendent of Schools Robert Brown, Assistant District Attorney Morgan Baxter, Chief Court Executive Officer Terrance Stone, Young Visionaries Jeany Zepeda, Director, Department of Social Services	Committee Members Kimberlee Drury, DCPO Khara Garnett-Todd, Division Director II Hon. Jessica Morgan, Juvenile Judge, VV Hon. Geraldine Williams, Assistant Presiding Juvenile Judge, SB Hon. Candice Garcia-Rodrigo, Juvenile Judge, SB Lynn Poncin, Juvenile Presiding Judge Eden Berrospe, Court Operations Manager, Juvenile Court Sandy Bonilla, Founder, Urban Conservation Corps Minutes by: Shannon Veckey, Executive Administrative Assistant I
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Opening of the Meeting

DDII Khara Garnett Todd called the JJCC Executive Subcommittee meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
The meeting opened with introductions.
The motion to approve the January 16, 2025, meeting minutes, as written, all in favor.
Motion by Owen Duckworth and seconded by Robert Brown

Roll Call - Attendance Roster on File

Probation Update

Khara Garnett-Todd, Division Director II for ARISE:

- Current population is 69, 2 females and 67 males
- 1 re-commitment
- 7 new commitments
- Released for Re-entry; 1 female and 2 males
- Pine Grove (fire camp); 2 (March 21st)

Aliena Darling, DDI for ARISE:

High School: Coming June 2025, we will have 16 graduates.

Additional School Events:

- Freedom Writers Program: Sessions began on January 27, 2025. Classes are one day a month and will take place until June.
- Video Game Truck – March 3rd
- Sky Dome Planetarium – March 24th
- The Magic of Science – April 7th

Career and Technical Education (CTE)/S.T.E.A.M: Youth will create a garden area on the grounds of ARISE. The vision is an “Outdoor S.T.E.A.M Lab,” which will create a safe environment to foster support for core curriculum classes, teamwork, and a sense of community.

College Enrollments:

Albert Duarte, Executive Director of the Building & Construction Trades Council of San Bernardino & Riverside Counties, to visit ARISE. Mr. Duarte presented (7) youths with their MC3 (Multi-Craft Core Curriculum) certificates on February 10, 2025.

- Spring courses began on February 28, 2025 with VVC and LAMC.
- VVC CT 90/91 & Electrical Booths: This is a 13-week course. The youth have been working on 10 booths and have added their own electrical wiring, plugs, and switches.

CSUSB Update: As of the end of February, the Business Agreement has been created and is being reviewed by CSUSB entities; we are in the final stages of signing and confirming the contract with CSUSB for the bachelor’s degree cohort. A meeting is being scheduled to begin planning the next steps – enrolling students, tracking student progress, approving zoom class security protocols, meeting about curricular materials access

The Fall 2025 semester begins in late August. The first day of classes will be August 25th, making our first session August 29th

- Writing in the Public Sphere: Fridays, 12:30-14:30 (3A Classroom 3rd Session (Group A). This class will run for a full session.
- Business and Professional Writing: Friday, 9:40-11:30 am (3A Classroom 2nd Session (Group B). This class will run for a full session once a week.

Extended Education:

Study and Savor Program: Motivate and reward our youth for maintaining strong academic performance, positive behavior, and active participation in educational programs through an incentivized meal program. This initiative aims to promote consistent academic engagement, encourage positive conduct, and support rehabilitation by offering youth a meaningful reward for their efforts with a BBQ.

Friday Fuel: This is a bi-weekly group that meets for coffee and donuts. During this time, the youth can discuss their strengths, weaknesses, and achievements in their college courses.

CBO:

Driver Simulator: The youth participated in a presentation of the simulation program for our External Affairs unit. The presentation reflected on the program and the benefits of the program being provided to the youth.

CHORDS: On January 29, 2025, (2) youth completed a drumline performance. The performance took place in front of their peers. Facilitators discussed their performance and reviewed all they learned throughout the course. Youth successfully completed Chords Drumline Class and received certificate of completion.

Life Skills Activity/ROP:

Chinese New Year: Poster Board Activity for all units to create a fun fact poster that showcases information about Chinese New Year traditions and celebrations. Opportunity for the youth to learn more about the significance of the Year of the Snake and to explore the rich customs associated with the holiday. In addition to the presentation all youth received a Chinese New Year envelope with candy to celebrate the season of renewal, good fortune, and embrace the positive energy that the holiday symbolizes.

Black History Month: Youth participated in completing banners for their units in honor of Black History Month.

Social Events:

Easter Social: Took place on April 12 with our religious volunteers. Youth and volunteers engaged in activities, music and a meal together.

Enrichment Programs Youth Design/Development:

- Self-Reverence through Music Enrichment: The youth requested this program, and it has been developed to honor themselves, admire someone or something with deep respect, glorify someone, or sing their praises.
- Youth to Youth “Get it off your Chest” Mentoring Program: Classes occur every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Two mentors from our high-ranking unit are providing the program.
- Running Club: The goal is achieving S.M.A.R. T’s (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound running goals) such as losing or maintaining weight, building muscle, working core abdominal and achieving a “runners high” euphoric sensation when your body produces endorphins. During the run, it will give youth time to reflect and allow them to clear their thoughts, be outside, and have a positive outlook for the rest of their day. Currently have 3 youth involved 2x’s a week.
- FOCUS Program: Finding Opportunities to Communicate, Understand and Succeed. Currently, we have two youths involved. The program assists identified youth with the need to be productive in the facility. The program is geared toward youth who are unable to function on a unit without continuous disruption to the regular unit programming.

Shanda Jones-Burel, DDI for SOAR:

- Finalizing construction, the anticipated opening date is July 1st
 - The facility will house 10 youth
- The re-entry probation officers are assisting with life skills training and clothing resources
- Probation Officers were able to obtain donated Easter baskets for the youth to give to their children for Easter

Shonna Rossler, Programming Manager:

- 35 programming sessions have been added and are offered Monday through Friday
- The CSUSB business agreement has been signed and starts in August
- The current scheduled vocational programs are forklift, woodworking, and construction
- DMV driver's permit, in support of the Driver’s Simulator, is in the works
 - This will also be available at SOAR
- The 360 Debrief with the CBOs has had a positive impact and has made a big difference
- Youth MAP at YJC

Roundtable

Khara Garnett-Todd, DDII:

- The 2025 Annual plan will be completed next week and sent to the group for review and a vote to approve

Terrance Stone, Young Visionaries:

- May 16th, Mayor's Ball at Cal State
 - Cory Jackson, Assembly Member, will be the keynote speaker

Owen Duckworth, IE Rebound:

- April 19th, I.E. Rebound will be giving away Easter Baskets, baskets are for all ages

Tony Collins SiFuentes, Highlanders Boxing Club:

- May 3rd, is the annual Kids in Badges ceremony honoring public safety officers
 - This year, they are honoring Program Specialist II, Mary Gonzalez, from Probation

Robert Brown, Assistant District Attorney:

- Two Juvenile Supervisor switches at the district attorney's office; Teresa Smith is now the supervisor at Central, and Chris Walton is the supervisor in Victorville

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Khara Garnett-Todd, at 2:24 p.m.

***The next JJCC Executive Subcommittee meeting will be held on
October 16, 2025
Probation Administration
175 W. 5th Street, 3rd Floor
San Bernardino, 92415***