

# COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE **March 9, 2022** MEETING  
Meeting Conducted Via Microsoft Teams

## **MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Chair Pro Tem: Chief Adolfo Gonzales, County Chief Probation Officer,  
Vice Chair of CCJCC

Erika Anzoategui, County Alternate Public Defender

Beatriz Dieringer, California League of Cities

\*Jose A. Egurbide for Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney

John Mathews for Holly J. Mitchell, Supervisor, Second District and Chair of the County  
Board of Supervisors, Chair of CCJCC

Edward McIntyre for Nichelle Henderson, Chair, County Quality & Productivity  
Commission

Emilio Mendoza for Ginger Pryor, Acting Director, County Department of Children and  
Family Services

Robert Philibosian, Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County

Kris Pitcher for Michel Moore, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

\*Erica Reynoso for Franky Carrillo, Chair, County Probation Oversight Commission

\*Jose J. Rios for Alex Villanueva, Sheriff

William Stone for Ricardo Garcia, County Public Defender

Susan Sullivan Pithey for Robert Bonta, California Attorney General

Akiko Tagawa for Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Commission on Human Relations

\*Anne Tremblay for Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

Sharon Woo for George Gascón, District Attorney

**\*Not a designated alternate**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Adolfo Gonzales, County Chief Probation Officer, Chair Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Chief Adolfo Gonzales, County Chief Probation Officer, Chair Pro Tem.

### **II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

### **III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Adolfo Gonzales, County Chief Probation Officer, Chair Pro Tem

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.**

**IV. COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (CSEC)**

Michelle Guymon, Director, Child Trafficking Unit, Probation Department

Michelle Guymon, Director of the Child Trafficking Unit of the Probation Department, provided an update on the efforts of the County's Integrated Leadership Team to combat human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

On November 16, 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a motion noting that a single countywide body is needed to manage, coordinate, and monitor the county's many CSEC initiatives. The result was the Los Angeles County CSEC Integrated Leadership Team (ILT). The Team is jointly led by the Probation Department, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

There is also a CSEC Steering Committee that is chaired by DCFS, in addition to a number of workgroups that address various CSEC-related initiatives and Board motions.

The strategic plan of ILT includes a focus on the following five areas:

1. State Mandates
2. County Protocols
3. Training and Resources
4. Prevention and Intervention
5. Holding Exploiters and Buyers Accountable

County Protocols and Initiatives

Ms. Guymon addressed some of the County Protocols and Initiatives.

The Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol (FRP) was established in August 2014 with selected law enforcement agencies.

The primary goal of this protocol is a commitment to treat commercially sexually exploited children as victims of child abuse and human trafficking rather than criminalizing them.

The protocol requires an immediate response from law enforcement upon identification of a CSEC victim, avoids arrest and detention, involves them in safety planning, and fosters collaboration among law enforcement, child-serving agencies, and community advocates.

Ms. Guymon reviewed a listing of FRP partners and provided an overview of the protocol beginning from the time that law enforcement interfaces with the minor. The following stages in the process were noted:

- Transport of the minor to a staging area (i.e., police/sheriff's station or hospital)
- Law enforcement contacts the Child Protection Hotline and makes a mandatory report
- DCFS hotline identifies the youth and initiates and expedited response
- DCFS and/or Probation Child Trafficking Unit is dispatched
- A specialized advocate responds
- Multi-Disciplinary Meeting (Safety, Housing, Engagement Plan)
- Medical Clearance at Department of Health Services (DHS) Medical Hub

With the third and fourth bullets above, DCFS will try to determine if the young person is already connected to the DCFS system or the Probation system, or if the individual is from out of the county or the state. Next, DCFS and/or the Probation Child Trafficking Unit will respond.

In addition to the response team, there is also a rapid response from a specialized community-based advocate. The advocate will remain assigned to the youth and assist with obtaining needed services. Community advocates provide ongoing case management for up to 90 days and then reassess for ongoing services.

Ms. Guymon reviewed data and what was learned in the first six years of the Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol.

In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, there were 979 referrals to the Child Protection Hotline, which is an increase from 930 in Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

The FRP website can be accessed at the following link:

<https://lacounty.gov/residents/public-safety/first-responder-protocol/>

Ms. Guymon reviewed the following other County Initiatives: Safe Youth Zone (video of the program was shown); Locate Teams; Victim Witness Testimony Protocol; community advocacy; training classes; intervention curriculums; and housing efforts.

Additional information can be found online at the following link:

<https://lacounty.gov/human-trafficking/>

**ACTION: For information only.**

## **V. MEDICATIONS FOR ADDICTION TREATMENT (MAT)**

David Panush, President, California Health Policy Strategies  
Donna Strugar-Fritsch, Consultant

David Panush, President of California Health Policy Strategies (CalHPS), and Donna Strugar-Fritsch, Consultant, presented on strategies to expand access to Medications for Addition Treatment (MAT) among the justice-involved population.

As background, CCJCC established an Ad Hoc Work Group on MAT at the CCJCC meeting on November 19, 2020. The group was tasked with supporting current efforts and developing strategies for expanding the availability of MAT within the criminal justice setting.

The MAT work group was the result of a previous CCJCC ad hoc work group addressing the opioid epidemic. One of the strategies identified in the initial report was the expanded access to MAT.

CalHPS was available to provide no-cost technical assistance to the County on this issue through funding from Health Management Associates (HMA), a nationwide organization with expertise in this area. HMA had in turn received funding from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) through the State Opioid Response Fund.

Mr. Panush and Ms. Strugar-Fritsch conducted information gathering with various justice and health partners and prepared a report for CCJCC consideration.

Ms. Strugar-Fritsch provided an overview of work previously done by CalHPS and HMA to expand MAT access to those in the justice system, including the training of justice partners.

Ms. Strugar-Fritsch reviewed overdose trends in both the state and in this county, which show notable increases beginning with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

She also stated that there is estimated to be a notable future increase in the number of individuals released from incarceration who will be in need of MAT, and she discussed challenges to addressing this anticipated growth.

Ms. Strugar-Fritsch discussed the following recommendations that are made in the report:

- Build on, accelerate, and enhance the numerous efforts of CCJCC's Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Work Group
- Collect and use real time data on the growth of persons reentering Los Angeles County on MAT
- Strengthen and coordinate all County reentry processes

- Increase capacity and coordination efforts
- Use California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal's (CalAIM's) justice-focused opportunities

Ronnie Thomas, Director of Addiction Medicine Services on the Department of Health Services – Integrated Correctional Health Services (DHS-ICHS), stated that additional funding is needed to support MAT expansion and addiction medicine services.

Robert Philibosian of the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County inquired if County health facilities can fill any gap resulting from low capacity of pharmacies to supply MAT medications.

Mr. Panush said that the goal is to have pharmacies with MAT medications that are easily accessible to residents throughout the County. While the County may provide MAT at its own clinics, it is still important to have broader access at pharmacies.

**ACTION: For information only.**

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.