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COUNTY OF NAPA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

NAPA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION 2021 ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT OF THE NAPA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER.

December 30, 2021

Introduction

The Juvenile Justice Commission (the “JJC”) of Napa County is a state mandated county commission. The Napa County Superior Court Judges appoint the Commissioners. Pursuant to California Welfare & Institutions Code section 229, the JJC is charged with the annual inspection of Napa County Juvenile Hall facilities. This inspection is performed to determine whether the Juvenile Hall Facilities are compliant with California Code of Regulations Title 15, Division 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter 5 - Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities and Title 24, Part 2, Section 1230 – Minimum Standards for Juvenile Hall Facilities.

On October 29, 2021, Chair Amanda Bevins, and Juvenile Justice Commissioners Michael Coughlin and Alonso Medrano accompanied by the incoming presiding juvenile judge, the Honorable Victoria Wood, and incoming Juvenile Court Commissioner Robert Stamps, conducted the annual inspection of the Napa County Juvenile Hall Detention Center (“Juvenile Hall”), located at 212 Walnut Street, Napa CA 94559. We inspected Juvenile Hall including the school, kitchen, toilet facilities, examining room, Youths’ rooms and the interior and exterior of the facility.

In early November 2021, Commissioner Medrano interviewed a selection of the Youths and Commissioner Coughlin interviewed a selection of the Staff at Juvenile Hall. On the date of the inspection there were 2 boys and 2 girls housed in the facility.

During 2021, Napa County was subject to Federal, State and County COVID 19 restrictions and mandates. Juvenile Hall, under the guidance new Superintendent Kent Boltz, continued to be a model for COVID safety. There were no COVID outbreaks. All the Staff and Youths interviewed felt COVID safe.

Juvenile Hall Staff have instituted strict COVID protocols for all Youths coming into the facility. Youths are tested within 72 business hours of booking. If they test positive, they are quarantined. Once in the units, the Youths are required to wear masks while not eating or in their rooms. 94% of the Staff are vaccinated and those not vaccinated must be tested weekly. Juvenile Hall offers the Youths vaccination. Parental permission must be obtained for Youths under eighteen. Most Youths and parents chose to be vaccinated.

Within Juvenile Hall the Staff followed all COVID protocols for disinfecting, social distancing and using protective masks and gloves. Every person who enters the facility is asked the COVID exposure questions and their temperature is taken.

Superintendent Boltz and Juvenile Hall Staff should be commended on their conscientious and humane handling of the COVID pandemic within Juvenile Hall.

As a result of our inspection, we found that Juvenile Hall was in compliance with California Code of Regulations Title 15, Division 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter 5 - Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities and Title 24 Part 2, Section 1230 – Minimum Standards for Juvenile Hall Facilities. Please also see attached Juvenile Justice Commission Annual Inspection Form.

Juvenile Hall was well maintained, clean and organized. The Staff and supervisors were well-trained, committed and energized and are implementing innovative programming. Juvenile Hall maintains mandated staffing awake ratios of 1:10 and mandated sleeping ratios of 1:30. The Staff perform room checks randomly and staggered but at least every 15 minutes.

The Youths felt safe, were aware of the rules and procedures of Juvenile Hall and how their behavior affected the benefits they received. The food continues to be a high point for the Youths. There was more than adequate access to medical and mental health services. All COVID protocols were in place and complied with.

Copies of the 2021 Annual Inspection Report will go to the Napa County Superior Court Presiding Juvenile Division Judge, Chief Probation Officer of Napa County, Deputy Director of the Board of Corrections for the State of California, the Juvenile Hall Superintendent.

Inspection of the School Curriculum:

The Juvenile Hall School is under the purview of the Napa County Office of Education and is called Crossroads. A classroom is connected to each unit. There is one full time teacher and one part-time teaching assistant. For most of the year, the students have been back in the classroom. The only time Youths do not go to school is if they have not gone to their detention hearing if they have been suspended or have already graduated from High School. The atmosphere in the classroom is very quiet with computers and books and other ample school supplies. They have new swivel chairs in the classroom acknowledging the Youths difficulty in sitting still. The students also can decorate the walls of the classroom with their work. The school Staff have regular meetings with the Juvenile Hall Staff to assure open communication.

All Youths are taught at their grade level. A Youth can be excused from attending class(s) due to illness, doctor, or attorney appointments, nurse visits, lockdown, probation issues, court appearances, and court ordered activities. The Juvenile Hall curriculum follows the Napa County Office of Education guidelines. There are no recommendations for improvement.

Inspection of Programs:

Juvenile Hall has many valuable programs available for the Youths. These programs are led by outside providers or Staff. The programs include Aldea Substance Abuse Services/Wolfe Center (“Aldea”), Victim Awareness, Anger Replacement Therapy (ART), Gang Awareness, Youth at Risk, Thinking for Change (an evidence-based cognitive behavioral curriculum from the National Institute for Corrections), the Peer Mentor Program, the Garden Program, the ServSafe Food Handling Certificate Program, and the newly added New Horizons Academy. Most of the programming has reverted to in person.

The Peer Mentor Program provides an opportunity for Youths to help their peers with program rules and problem solving, to help the Staff with chores and to help their own personal growth. This is a very successful program.

The ServSafe Food Handling Certificate Program teaches the Youths about food handling, preparation, and service. The Youths are required to take and pass a written test at the end of the program and are awarded a ServSafe Certificate. This Certificate is very valuable for employment in the food service industry.

In 2020, Juvenile Hall in conjunction with Probation established the New Horizons Academy. The New Horizons Academy is a disposition alternative that provides participants with treatment services in a safe, secure environment, while also preparing them for family reunification and re-entry into the community. Each Youth has a team comprised of Staff, Probation and whomever else is necessary based on their needs. A treatment plan is developed in collaboration with the Youths. The program is multi-phase with graduated steps. The Youths are screened by Juvenile Hall and Probation based on needs, risks, confinement time, history, prior interventions and other criteria and recommendations are provided to the court prior to disposition.

DUE to COVID the New Horizons Program has been significantly limited due to its focus on “re-entry” to the community and the difficulty of sending the Youth into the community during COVID. Superintendent Boltz is looking to revamp and reenergize the New Horizon’s Program in the coming year.

There are no recommendations for improvement to the programs.

Mental Health Services

The JJC, over the last few years has gleaned from the Incident Reports and updates from the Superintendent and the Chief Probation officer, that mental health remains one of the crucial issues at Juvenile Hall and among the Youths. Most Incident Reports involve suicidal ideation or attempts, psychiatric episodes and aggressive behavior related to diagnosed and undiagnosed mental health issues. An alarming number of Youths upon intake reveal past physical or sexual abuse, trauma, suicidal ideation, and other psychological issues.

Adrianna Navarro Napa County Mental Health Supervisor, in charge of mental health services for Juvenile Hall spoke to the Commission on October 29, 2021, before our inspection. Juvenile Hall recently lost their longtime Mental Health Counselor La Shawn Miggins to Solano County. Ms. Navarro explained that there is a profound mental health workforce shortage in Napa County. There is currently a 30% vacancy in mental health staff and Napa County has been losing staff to other higher paying counties. Mental Health had significant difficulty in replacing Ms. Miggins. Ms. Navarro, herself, has been working in Juvenile Hall due to staff shortages. Ms. Navarro recruited therapist Kevin Godwin, at first temporarily and now potentially permanently, to fill the full time forensic mental health therapist’s position. Superintendent Boltz reports they are hoping to get a permanent half time forensic mental health therapist soon.

Ms. Navarro reports that all Youths at Juvenile Hall are offered weekly therapy. More acute Youths are offered therapy more frequently. One of the key components to providing therapy to the Youth is to try to distinguish between behavioral and mental health concerns and to make the mental health therapy voluntary. All Juvenile Hall Staff are also given extensive mental health training and suicide prevention training. For the Youths with more acute issues, a Multi-Disciplinary Team (“MDT”) including the Superintendent, Probation, a nurse, educational provider, mental health, and the parents, meet regularly to collaborate treatment. There are also group counseling sessions offered every Wednesday to the Youths.

Napa County and Juvenile Hall have a new crisis provider, Crestwood Napa County Crisis Stabilization Services (“Crestwood Crisis”). Crestwood Crisis is contacted whenever a Youth is a danger to himself or others. Superintendent Boltz reports that his Staff are very adept at deescalating

crisis situations and Youths are placed in the observation room under constant supervision after Crestwood Crisis is contacted. The Staff are often able to calm the Youth down and eliminate the need for crisis intervention. Currently Crestwood Crisis meets Title 15 guidelines in responding within three hours. In extreme situations when the Youths meets the criteria of Welfare & Institutions Code section 5585, they are taken to a locked facility. However due to staffing and funding shortages, according to Superintendent Boltz and Ms. Navarro, hospital bed space in these facilities are severely limited.

Ms. Navarro and Superintendent Bolts have seen an increase of psychiatric and psychological issues particularly in the last eight months. Both recognize that due to the dearth of community mental health treatment programs for the Youths, Juvenile Hall often becomes a de facto mental health facility. Superintendent Boltz, his staff and Ms. Navarro and Mr. Godwin should be commended on their heroic efforts to provide mental health services to the Youths at Juvenile Hall.

There are no recommendations for improvement in mental health services at Juvenile Hall.

To assist in the mental health staffing shortage, the JJC strongly urges Napa County to increase the salary package for mental health therapists to make them competitive with neighboring counties. The JJC also urges the State of California to invest more funding for mental health treatment and facilities for Youth in Napa County.

Inspection of the Kitchen/Food Services:

The kitchen was impeccably clean and well organized. There are no significant health or safety issues, and it is in compliance with the Napa County Public Health Division and the requirements under California Code of Regulations Title 15 and 24 for food services. Juvenile Hall Food Services also meets the healthy food requirements of the Napa Valley Unified School District.

There are no recommendations for improvements to the Kitchen/Food Services.

Inspection of Health Care Facility

The Health Care Facility was clean. All cabinets and refrigerators were locked including the medicine cabinet. The Health Care Facility Staff continue to utilize bubble packs and have a bin for new Youths' medications until the medical staff make a new prescription. Only licensed personnel are entitled to provide medication to the Youths and a Licensed Vocational Nurse ("LVN") comes in the evening to administer the evening medications. Health Care Facility Staff are entitled to provide over-the-counter medications such as Tums, acetaminophen and Chapstick.

When Youths are admitted into Juvenile Hall, they fill out an intake sheet which includes questions about abuse and risky sexual activity. A Registered Nurse ("RN") reviews all their intake sheets and offers Sexually Transmitted Disease ("STD") screenings to Youths, pregnancy testing and referrals or Child Protective Services as needed. If a Youth does not want these services, they must sign a refusal.

After admission, there is a 96-hour health appraisal, and a physical is performed by a Medical Doctor ("MD") or a Nurse Practitioner ("NP"). COVID intake protocols are followed. (See Introduction) The physical is repeated annually if the Youth remains at Juvenile Hall. A voluntary genital exam is offered with the physical, if refused, the Youth must sign a refusal. If an RN is called out during a health intake interview, the RN needs to complete a new form "Medical Intake Triage/Receiving Screening." If the Youth is returning in less than one year, the RN will do a re-admit review, if new or greater than one year a new physical is performed. Tuberculosis skin tests ("TB tests") are administered to all Youths if greater than six months have passed since they were admitted, or they are new to Juvenile Hall. Pregnancy tests are done on all female Youths admitted to Juvenile Hall. Plan B emergency

contraception is given based on sexual history and risks. Plan B it is not formulary, so the Staff send a secure message requesting an exemption and then they pick up Plan B at a local drug store a few blocks away. DMPA – hormonal birth control shots are offered and given if the pregnancy tests are negative. The Staff continue to use typed labels for charts and all labeling for clear identity. The RN states that the Youths have access to educational pamphlets about STDs and other health topics. Vaccinations are given, as necessary.

There is a medication binder that contains each Youths' medication list with name, dose, time, and route to administer. If a Youth brings in his or her own medication, the RN will use if clearly labeled and will write on the Youth's medication list, "own medication." The RN will use the Youth's own medication until it is gone and then use individual bubble packs prescribed by the MD.

Wellpath Licenses are clearly posted.

There are no recommendations for the Health Care Facility.

Juvenile Hall Physical Inspection

The grounds outside Juvenile Hall are maintained by the County of Napa. In the last year AstroTurf has replaced the grass. It is clean and well maintained. There was no garbage of any kind on the grounds, and the general condition of the exterior of the building looks good.

Inside of Juvenile Hall was clean and well-maintained. The hallways were clear. The Youths' sleeping rooms were clean and had both a mattress with a built-in pillow and an extra pillow. The Youths do complain that the mattresses are uncomfortable. There was no graffiti, and the lighting was adequate. The linens in the Youths' rooms are changed weekly, towels are changed daily, and new blankets are distributed monthly, and more are given upon request. The thermostats are all centralized from the downtown county building. All the Youths reported that it is quite cold at night in their rooms, but they are given extra blankets if requested. All cleaning fluids and chemicals are all labeled and safely locked in place, stored in a room with a locked door.

The outdoor secure areas for exercise were clean and well maintained. The sports equipment was in fair condition and there appeared to be plenty of recreational equipment including volleyballs, basketballs, games, etc. There was a covered outdoor area for exercise in bad weather. The covered outdoor area is also used for Youths that have sun sensitivity due to their prescribed psychotropic drugs. There was a garden area for use in the Gardening Program.

All COVID protocols were appropriately implemented.

There are no recommendations for improvement to the inside or outside of Juvenile Hall.

Youths Policies and Procedures:

Every Youth upon entering Juvenile Hall is assigned a Juvenile Hall Counselor who meets with them weekly. In addition, they write up a behavior support plan with the Youth every 2 weeks.

All Youths are given an orientation packet when they are admitted to Juvenile Hall, which reviews the rules and policies. In addition, Staff are available to review the packet with the Youths. The orientation packet and grievance forms are available in Spanish as well.

With LGBTQI Youths, at intake they are asked how they identify, and the Staff will refer to the Youth as their preferred name and gender pronoun. The Youths are provided and are permitted to dress in a manner consistent with their gender identity. The Youth is provided a single room and the

ability to shower privately. If a physical pat down is performed, the Youth is asked what gender of Staff they would prefer to do the search.

All the clothes and non-contraband property that the Youths are admitted with is placed in personal storage which is labeled for the Youths and locked with a zip tie.

Juvenile Hall Staff attempt to individualize rewards and consequences by using the behavior modification Point System, where Youths can earn points and privileges for good behavior. Other interventions include non-verbal and verbal cues, time outs, early bedtimes, and special programs. The Staff use hands on restraint only when Staff or Youths are in danger and only as a last resort.

Youths are encouraged to resolve their own conflicts with Staff acting as facilitators. If a Youth has a grievance or complaint, there are forms posted on the wall in each unit for them to fill out. The Staff review these first and then send them up the chain of command if not resolved. In addition, the JJC reviews these grievances as well as incident reports in our monthly meetings.

The Youths are required to clean their rooms, observe personal hygiene and good table manners.

The Youths can use the phone to call home, but this must be arranged through their probation officer. Youths can write letters and have free postage. Their mail is not read by Staff. Staff keep a log of all correspondence sent and received by the Youths. The letters must be opened by the Youths in front of Staff and are shaken out to confirm there is no contraband or items the Youths are not allowed to possess.

Parents can visit their child, in a large visitation room, twice a week and sit at their own table for privacy. Staff monitor all visits except for attorney visits. Youths or parents can refuse the option of visitation. Their probation officer must approve any visits that occur outside of Juvenile Hall or any special visits.

All Youths have access to religious services. Currently religious services are offered online.

All Youths have access to physical education which includes one hour per day (large muscle exercise).

Youths can shower once a day and Staff supervise by being able to only see the Youths' ankles and head. Youths are assigned clothing. Clothing, underwear, and masks are provided to the Youths and laundered daily. Youths are provided with personal hygiene accessories, such as soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste etc.

All Youths have access to medical services. There is a nurse available on site seven days a week for 6 hours a day.

Discipline of the Youths:

The Staff use behavior modification to discipline the Youths. The Youths earn and lose points based on their behavior. The Youths' points determine the amount of time they can spend out of their rooms and other benefits. Other behavior modification techniques include, time outs, having to eat their meals in their rooms and writing papers on their bad behavior. Interventions range from verbal counseling, room confinement (15 minute maximum) and assigning essays, to hands-on management without restraints to management of assaultive behavior with restraints. The Staff meet and talk with the Youths to resolve conflicts. Grievance Reports are read by Staff bi-weekly, statistics are recorded, and then the reports are sent to the supervisors.

There are no recommendations for improvement of the discipline of the Youths.

Conclusions and Acknowledgments:

As a result of the JJC's inspection, the JJC finds that the Juvenile Hall Detention Facility in compliance with the California Code of Regulations Title 15, Division 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter 5 - Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities and Title 24, Part 2, Section 1230 – Minimum Standards for Juvenile Hall Facilities for the year 2020

The JJC is impressed by the continued high morale of the Juvenile Hall Staff. The JJC also is thrilled to have Superintendent Boltz on board and the JJC appreciates his commitment, guidance, and leadership.

The JJC wants to thank retired Chief Probation Officer Julie Baptista for her commitment, hard work, creativity and concern for the Youth of Napa. Chief Baptista will be sorely missed but the JJC wishes her luck in her retirement. The JJC is looking forward to working with Chief Amanda Gibbs, an excellent choice for the new Chief Probation Officer.

I would also like to thank Juvenile Hall Supervisor Lisa Martindale for her ongoing assistance in performing the annual inspection.

I would also like to thank Superintendent Boltz for helping me to continue to do the work of the JJC despite COVID mandates and restrictions.

I would also like to thank all the JJC Commissioners and the Presiding Juvenile Judge Joseph Solga for your assistance in this difficult year. The JJC looks forward to working with Commissioner Stamps and Judge Wood in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Bevins
Chair Napa County Juvenile Justice Commission.