

**ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE
SALT LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER**

Meeting minutes

Prepared by: Michelle Grahame, CJC Victim Services Coordinator

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 3, 2021

LOCATION: WebEx

PRESENT: Blake Nakamura, Carola Verdoia, Victor Siebeneck, Karen Crompton, Brooks Keeshin, Tracy Mills, Ryan Woodmansee, Josh Jones, Judge Annette Jan, Sandy Growe, Alissa Black, Susanne Mitchell

GUESTS: Lorianne Szendre, Lizet Torres, Sarah Houser, Polina Lyubavina

EXOFFICIO: Michelle Grahame

EXCUSED: Ted Harris

1. Carol Verdoia called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.
 - A. Welcome Guests and new members: Sarah Houser- Victim Services Manager. Polina Lyubavina-Office Coordinator. Captain Victor Siebeneck- Salt Lake City PD. Judge Annette Jan- Juvenile Court Judge.
2. Roll Call- Susanne Mitchell
Excused: Ted Harris
3. Approval of the November minutes- Carol Verdoia
 - A. Carol Verdoia asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Blake Nakamura made the motion, Alissa Black second, all in favor. November minutes approved.
4. Public Comment- Carol Verdoia
 - A. Open for public comment- No public in attendance
5. Business Items- Susanne Mitchell
 - A. Terms ending for Brooks Keeshin and Ted Harris. Susanne thanked them for their involvement and support for their years served on the board.
6. Legislative Changes – Susanne Mitchell
 - A. DCFS No Access Case
 - Carol Verdoia- The legislature restored the budget cut that allowed DCFS to stop investigating cases where the alleged perpetrator had no access to the child. There are two main changes that have been made moving forward. The caseworker is no longer required to make a home visit if the perpetrator has no access to the child. Second, the caseworker is not required to go and find a collateral contact if one is not provided.
 - Ryan Woodmansee- DCFS started taking back on all cases beginning May 1, 2021. DCFS is currently hiring for new positions that were previously lost and should be back to full staff around mid-June.
 - B. CJC Local Advisory Boards
 - HB10- House Bill 10 repealed certain board and commissions and put certain provisions on state board. The advisory board will no longer be state mandated effective July 1, 2021. The CJC directors

across the state that maintaining advisory boards is important for Children's Justice Center. The Attorney General's office will write into the next contract that CJC advisory boards will be maintained.

7. Friends Nonprofit Update- Susanne Mitchell and Josh Jones
 - A. Friends Awareness video - The Friends created an awareness video that features a parent and child that were served by the program to talk about their experience. Susanne shared this video with the board.
 - B. The Friends have recently completed a 3-year strategic plan. Moving forward, they would like to modernize the nonprofit as they have recently received great feedback along with large donations. Currently the board is experiencing turnover, and Josh asked the board to refer people that would be willing to be a board member. The board needs someone who is good at administrative tasks, someone that is confident standing in front of donors, and someone that is great at handling relationships. This is a volunteer position that only usually requires a few hours a month. Josh asked to send referrals to president@cjcslc.org.
8. CJC Program Update- Susanne Mitchell
 - A. Funding update
 - New furniture has been set up in the living room at South Valley CJC, thanks to Federal VOCA grant funding. The furniture is comfortable, easy to clean, and looks more cohesive.
 - Federal grant cuts expected the next 2 years. This affects 4 federal grants. VOCA is experiencing cuts that will be 10% at year 1, and 15% more at year 2.
 - A VOCA fix to sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021 has been introduced at the US House and Senate level.
 - The National Children's Alliance usually awards each CJC building \$7,000 a year, however that is being cut next year.
 - NCA awarded the CJC with a \$50,000 grant for a staff position at CJC north and may be able to renew that grant next year.
 - Friends Nonprofit Support. The Friends have pledged \$54,000 to assist with the CJC relocation project. The Friends have had great grant writing success to assist with program operating costs along with fence repairs and update security system at South Valley CJC.
 - B. CJC Avenues Relocation Project
 - The Avenues CJC has been completely cleared out, and construction has begun at the new location at the District Attorney's office.
 - A new high definition recording system and soundproofing for rooms has been completed. Susanne mentioned we are hoping to work towards a way in the near future to transfer media files of interviews to law enforcement and caseworkers to store in their records, rather than burning a disk.
 - New furniture is being ordered that will be comfortable for the children and interviewer.
 - Currently working on instructions for clients and professionals on directions and where to park.
 - Updating the CJC website to create a page for clients that will provide helpful information.
 - The CJC is offering cab services to clients to make transportation easier.
 - CJC North should be opening soon and will plan on having a soft opening.
 - Carol asked some questions regarding recreating the "home like" environment of the CJC. Susanne provided some examples of other CJC in the country with similar functioning that are being done in the space to make is comfortable for families. Susanne and Blake encouraged comments or concerns and welcomed another to come visit the space.
9. Other Items - All members
 - A. Camp Hope News - Opening for its first overnight camp. Susanne shared videos made by Camp Hope America and Camp Hope America Utah. Blake explained the importance of Camp Hope and being an important part regarding the post-adjudication services. They are hoping in the future to expand this camp to adults.

- This summer they will have two camps occurring during the same week for children ages 8 to 17. They are hoping to host a maximum of 72 campers this summer.
- Blake mentioned there is a year-round program called "Pathways" that is worked in conjunction with the weeklong camp. Pathways is meant to help continue friendships formed at camp, along with receiving continued services.
- Annette asked a question regarding the selection criteria for campers. Blake stated referrals mainly come from the counseling unit and a process has been developed that allows counselor to make referrals. Lorianne stated they are looking at cases for children whose cases have finished in and around the last year. The counselors are going into their records for cases that had child involvement and have been pulling data to make referrals. With the data pulled, Julianna Potter goes through and identified cases that the criteria and appropriate age group. Julianna will reach out to the caseworker to see if the family would be a good fit, and then directly reaches out to the families. All children who participated last year could continue to attend camp.

B. Next meetings for 2021 via WebEx: August 2, November 1 or 8

10. Meeting was concluded at 1:08pm.