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JUVENILE JUSTICE STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Department of Human Services, State of Hawaii
Office of Youth Services

Prevention and Accountability Standing Committee (P&A SC) Meeting
Princess Victoria Kamamalu Building, Basement Level Conference Room
Thursday, February 27, 2020
10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Members Present: Susan Pirsch (Chair), August Suehiro, Wally Lau, Charity Dudoit

Members Absent:

Members Excused:

Guests Present: Judge Edmund Acoba, Vonnell Ramos, Ellen Schroeder, Barbara Fuller

Staff Present: Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos, Norene Machida

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DATE DUE
I. Call to Order /Establishment of Quorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting called to order at 10:34 am by Chair Susan Pirsch • Quorum was established • Introduction of Attendee <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Susan Pirsch-P&A Chair, Youth & Family Services Maui 2. August Suehiro-Member, Retiree 3. Wally Lau-Member, Retiree 4. Charity Dudoit-Member, Therapist Child & Family Service, Program Director of Community Health, Napuwahi Moloka'i 5. Judge Edmund Acoba-Member, Family Court Judge Kaua'i 6. Vonnell Ramos-Member, Executive Director Hale Opio Kaua'i 7. Ellen Schroeder-Retiree 8. Barbara Fuller-Retiree 			
II. Consideration and Approval of Minutes for the following Meeting: August 14, 2019	<p>(10:40)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 14, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Corrections to be made on page 2: Change Hirsch to Pirsch ○ Correction to be made on page 3: Change Principle to Principal ○ Correction to be made on page 4: Change Myra to VERA ○ Correction to be made on page 4: Change Ke Kaulike to Kulike ○ Correction to be made on page 5: Change Koa Like to Kulike ○ Correction to be made on page 5: Change HPD to MPD • Motion to approve minutes as corrected -Wally Lau • Motion to approve minutes as corrected seconded – Susan Pirsch 			
III. Community Input [Pursuant to section 92-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Community Members will have 3 mins. to speak, i.e. per person, per item, or written testimony can be submitted on agenda items]	<p>(10:41) (Susan Pirsch) 3 minutes for community members in attendance</p> <p>(10:42) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded Truancy Court on Kaua'i 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Started 3 years ago on the West Side in the Waimea Complex for intermediate and high schools. ○ Now expanded to the East Side Complex ○ Hoping to expand to the Central Complex in a couple of years, which is the largest complex. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to find funding and staffing to cover the complex ▪ Probation officers are currently assigned to each of the complexes. <p>(10:42) Susan Pirsch Each Circuit handles truancy differently. On Maui, the youth are not necessarily entangled with the law.</p> <p>(10:43) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It starts with early intervention. Before Family Court is involved, there is a 2-step process which begins in school. This may lead to referring the youth to an Intervention program. ● Family Court is still involved in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monthly meetings to working together, we decide which youth will be referred to court or if intervention should be continued. ○ If intervention measures have failed and before the petition is filed, we go out to the families. <p>(10:44) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On Maui the school petition is filed 			

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	<p>(10:45) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melinda Montgomery from Hale Kipa on Kaua'i is working on getting a similar model of petitions being filed like Maui and currently working with people from the Big Island. • We have seen a decline in petitions filed in both district because intervention is in place. • When we address the issues earlier, we see better results • We engage with the community. On the West side, there are stores providing poke bowls when they go to school for a who week. Some even offer jobs. • The Department of Education does not do outreach services if the youth does not attend school. • Highschool's are moving into Academies. One school in Kaua'i helps them find work around their school schedule. They cater to the youth and help formulate a program if they want to graduate early. <p>(10:54) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This helps stop truancy because they are interested in going <p>(10:54) (Vonnell Ramos)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hale Opio has diversion programs and teen court. • Want to see the families more involved than just at intake or drop off • Goal is for more engagement with parents and guardian. • Build a network for families to get the support they need for youth who may also have underlying issues. 			

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	<p>(10:56) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captain Mike Kunishima talked about Prosecutor’s office re-establishing a Teen Court on Oah’u. Are youth apart of the jury? <p>(10:57) Vonnell Ramos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sentenced youth is a part of the court process and mock trial. • They are represented by an attorney or the State • They are assigned different roles in the trial <p>(10:59) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student’s representative makes arguments on behalf of the sentenced youth. • The jury are their peers and they decide from an array of dispositions, what the person should receive. • They can be ordered to participate in community services as well as services offered by Providers. <p>(11:00) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What cases are brought there? Truancy, theft, substance abuse, status offense, crimes against persons? Any level? <p>(11:01) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The youth referred to court are first time law offenders, who have admitted to the charge. The charges mentioned are misdemeanor’s and lesser charges which is the level of intake. • Prosecutor’s decide and refer them to court. Normally police are involved in the diversion decision. 			

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	<p>(11:02) Vonnell Ramos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Big Island Teen Court has been successful and service many youths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is a large facility where there are rooms for sessions, hearings and classes. ○ It is run by youth, volunteers and two (2) paid staff. • We visited their facility and observed what has helped them with their success <p>(11:03) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does County and Judiciary contribute funding for Teen Court? <p>(11:03) Vonnell Ramos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County funds thru OYS, Office of Youth Services. We also receive funding from the Judiciary and grants from the Hawaii Justice Foundation. <p>(11:04) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The petitions sent to Family Court are not filed to allow them to be diverted. If they do not attend a Diversion program, then the petition is filed. • There have been some admissions to teen court after the petition have been filed. This could be due to negotiations with defense attorney and prosecutor. They are directed to teen court and placed in a diversion program. Upon successful completion, their charges are dismissed. 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on our discussions from our last meeting on November 14, 2019, I polled the different Islands and Circuits regarding expungement of arrest records for first offenders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Both Judge Heely on Maui, and Judge Nagata on Kaua'i never had a petition to expunge a juvenile record ○ As a public defender for over 20 years, I have never petitioned to expunge a juvenile record ○ Judge Browning suggested to come up with a mechanism to expunge records because the charges are dismissed but there is still an arrest record ○ If this can be put in place, it could incite youth to participate in Diversion Programs ○ We have a Judicial Conferences twice a year and I am addressing this topic to find a mechanism to expunge records after they complete a Diversion program • I have been an advocate for youth who will be turning 17 & 18 years old, who are soon to be adults, that have gone thru the Juvenile Justice system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Their parents are not in their lives ○ They are like foster youth and not getting the support they need. ○ They tend to be in the system because they do not have parental support, or their home is disarranged, or they are homeless. ○ They have no idea on how to apply for college, services, and medical. ○ Leads to a social issue such as homelessness and unemployment. 			

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	<p>(11:05) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have an Intensive Mentoring Program on Maui funded by OYS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Youth on probation is referred ○ Women mentors help them with services and relationships they need assisting the probation officer. ○ Curriculum called “Why Try” ○ One on one attention with an adult is successful <p>(11:07) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging our Judges to assist youth when they age out, to help find programs for financial literacy, applying for college, vital documents and credit reports. 			
<p>IV. Old Business: a. P&A Membership Update b. Data Dashboard</p>	<p>(11:09) Susan Pirsh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have any holes in our membership? <p>(11:09) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee decides how many individuals they need. Then the committee makes a motion to bring in more members. <p>(11:10) Wally Lau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need one more representation from the Hawai’i Island. I represent the West side and a person from the East side would be good to add. I have possible names of people who are interested. <p>(11:11) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We don’t have anyone from Kaua’i on the committee 	<p>Submit names of interested members for P&A Committee</p>	<p>Wally Lau</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I am hearing we need one person from each Island and more than one person from Oahu because of the diverse areas <p>(11:12) August Suehiro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need some who will be committed and has a passion, someone who will show up. • Get along with people • Do their job • If we have 10 people on the committee, we may not be able to make quorum, because only 4 people show up. • Shannessy meet with Kula Gaughen, principal of Kamehameha Middle School, Kapalama campus who may be an interested member. • I invited 2 people who are in attendance. They are committed, have experience and are new voices with new ideas. <p>(11:13) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we process new membership for the committee? <p>(11:13) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee would recommend or motion that person to be in the committee • It would be a topic on the agenda • One recommendation is to look at the by-laws for the purpose of this committee and how it works. <p>(11:14) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We talked about the mapping the diversion strategies across the State. This would help to come up with ideas on how to fill needs and align with what's working. 			

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	<p>(11:15) Wally Lau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happened to the Judge Browning and Carol Matsuoka initiative, JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative)? <p>(11:16) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OYS has a diversion program called Ho’opono Mamo, in District 5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This opened in response to Act 201 when the Juvenile Justice Reforms were trying to get the status offenders away from detention. ○ Serves the need of the status offenders and first-time law violators to be diverted. ○ The plans for JDAI was to expand beyond District 5 and go Island-wide and be implemented State-wide. ○ One of the barriers to expanding has been funding ○ One of the components to the diversion program was cultural ○ Because of the lack of funding, we can only fund an Assessment Center <p>(11:18) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JDAI has been encouraging Judges to look at what criteria we should be going thru before sending a youth to detention and holding them for a long period of time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will be discussed at our next Judicial Conference ○ Judge Murakami, Awali and Browning oversee this ○ They will notify and question us when a youth is detained for more than a week. ○ If the numbers start getting high, we will get orders to find placement ○ One of the JDAI models I visited in Northern California goes thru an initial assessment to divert before it is referred to the Prosecutor’s office 			

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	<p>(11:20) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to look at mental health because some of the youth are so traumatized. <p>(11:20) Wally Lau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JDAI worked with DOH (Department of Health) <p>(11:21) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is hard to get an assessment done within a week. On Kaua'i we don't have many therapeutical foster homes or transitional homes. <p>(11:22) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the committee able to do a retreat and come up with things youth can benefit from? <p>(11:23) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This request can be submitted to Shannessy, as I am not aware of the fiscal portion of money that is available. You can make that recommendation. <p>(11:24) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an app for foster youth that has been helpful. I can use it for juvenile delinquents to hook them up with jobs. <p>(11:25)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OYS has a directory of youth services called 808Youth.com 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It provides too comprehensive information so when a Provider is searching for a particular service, it mixes with other categories. ○ We contracted University of Hawaii to make it more organized <p>(11:26) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Let's move to the next item on the agenda, the Data Dashboard. <p>(11:26) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At the last discussion, there was data provided by JJIS (Juvenile Justice Information System) on crime analysis. It tracks the different decision points in the Juvenile Justice System every 3 years. The most recent is from 2015-2017. ● A few years ago, one of the recommendations made for this committee was to create a data dashboard to identify important trends. For instance, if you see a spike in status offenses, you would create a chart showing the upward trend. The committee was tasked with identifying trends to present and educate JJSAC. ● An additional resource was also provided by the Attorney General's Office and JJIS on a 10-year analysis from 2007-2016 on the different decision points in the Juvenile Justice System for each County. ● You can look at the age, gender, offenses, and identify trends ● On the next report, OYS asked to break out the status offenses because there was a rise in runaways. We wanted to track how much it was going up or down. ● When we identify a downward trend, we ask the County what they are doing that is working. ● Upward trends alert us we need to do something 			

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	<p>(11:28) Ellen Schroeder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does “other” largest offense type State-wide mean? <p>(11:28) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not sure how this is defined in the report and will review and advise. 	<p>Advise what is “other” category in the report</p>	<p>Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p>	
<p>V. New Business: a. Prevention Program Development 1. Available Funds</p>	<p>(11:29) (Susan Pirsch) Prevention Program Development is there funding</p> <p>(11:29) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the last meeting and in speaking with Merton Chinen a few times, how can we use some of the money to reward youth who are adjudicated and complete the program or make progress in an intervention program. The last response was it will be looked into. • It’s not fair for youth to have to be adjudicated to be rewarded. We want to reward them for their good behavior and progress, so they continue attending intervention programs. This prevents them from being adjudicated. <p>(11:30) August Suehiro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OYS funded Ma Ka Hana Ka ‘Ike, a construction and building skills training program for at risk youth in the Hana district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rick Rutiz, Executive Director, built community partnerships. Home Depot would give a chop saw when the youth completed the program 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They helped their community by designing and building ramps for the elderly who own old plantation homes. ○ They built buildings for Hana Elementary and High School • Kaua'i had a mock trial winner who defeated all the other schools State-wide. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Mock Trial Program in Honolulu has been going on for a while. Schools who participate offer course credits. ○ This helps with youth who are behind in credits ○ The program is offered only once a year. It's a month-long program with 4 matches. Possibly plan to do this year-round. <p>(11:34) Edmund Acoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is part of the Truancy Court Project Intervention. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We find out they are not going to school, and try to get them caught up, provide them assistance for mentors and tutors. ○ Part of the intervention is identifying them early and finding out what barriers are preventing them from going to school ○ Nalu Studies, which started on Oahu, and came to Kaua'i for one week during spring break. ○ They provided a program that focused on youth at risk who were behind on their science credits. ○ They would do research and a presentation. ○ They not only earned high school credit, but college credits as well ○ The program has a healing side because the students are teamed, and they begin opening on what's holding them back and going in their lives. They build a bond. 			

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	<p>(11:35) Ellen Schroder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manning Taite, who is the Executive Director, offers this program to many students on the Windward side of Oah’u. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is an intense program on marine science ○ High tech and vigorous curriculum ○ We had a student from Olomana who participated. He is now 21 years old and Manning still keeps in touch with him. ○ The grant is thru Pacific American Foundation and NOA <p>(11:36) August Suehiro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a student, in her senior year who needed to graduate because she was offered a job in Alaska. She earned 12 credits in one year because she had a path. • Youth who are so behind in credits give up. Her accomplishment gives them hope it can be done. <p>(11:38) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be good to have DOE (Department of Education) at these meetings • OYS is a good funder <p>(11:39) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OYS is continuing with services and looking at how to divert youth from continuing to get deeper into the system • I can’t answer the question on what federal funds are available, but you can make a recommendation at every meeting to have specific information from OYS. 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can request what funds are available on the federal side from Shannessy Ahu, Federal Grants Manager and Program Specialist V for OYS • This committee’s initiative is to look at the programs that are being federally funded and oversee how the programs are functioning and make recommendations. • We have very limited federal funds. Over the years, the funds have decreased considerably • We are currently funding only one contract on Kaua’i called Youth on Probation • The other programs that were funded federally are now funded by the State • Another part of this Committee is the opportunity to recommend to JJSAC, legislation for diversion programs, justifying and getting appropriations thru the Legislature <p>(11:44) Susan Pirsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we get a map of what diversion programs are out there, and have an opportunity to have a retreat to brainstorm with the data that supports it, we could bring that information forward to JJSAC and ask for Legislation lift <p>(11:45) Wally Lau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is responsible to bring key people together to talk about the barriers and challenges that are occurring? • Judge Browning would be at a level to bring people together from different departments for JDAI • We must have hard conversations with the right people 			

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	(11:47) Ana Mejia-Vasconcellos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's part of JJSAC to invite stakeholders, different agencies, Courts, Mental Health, DOE. 			
VI. Announcements	No Announcements			
VI. New Business	No New Business			
VII. Next Meetings	Next Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Thursday, May 28, 2020 · Thursday, August 27, 2020 · Thursday, November 19, 2020 			
VIII. Adjournment	(11:48) Motion to adjourn meeting made by Susan Pirsch. Motion is second by August Suehiro Motion is approved and carried. Meeting is adjourned at 11:48 p.m.			