



## **THE HARBOR – EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE**

### **Juvenile Assessment Center Minutes**

**October 26, 2022 – 1:00 PM**

The Harbor

861 N. Pecos Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89101

*Minutes taken by Sheila Scott*

#### **Present in Person**

##### **Department of Health and Human Services**

Ellen Richardson-Adams, Outpatient Administrator, Department of Public and Behavioral Health – **Board Member and Vice Chair**

##### **Clark County Administrators Association**

Jeff Horn, Executive Director – **Board Member**

##### **Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services**

John Martin, Director – **Board Member**

Cheryl Wright, Assistant Director

Alexa Rodriguez, Manager

Sheila Scott, Administrative Secretary

##### **Clark County District Attorney's Office**

Brigid Duffy, Deputy Juvenile District Attorney - **Board Member**

Catherine Jorgensen, Civil District Attorney

##### **Clark County Family Court**

Judge David Gibson – **Board Member**

##### **Clark County Law Enforcement**

Deputy Chief Nicholas Farese, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department – **Board Member**

Captain Adam Hyde, North Las Vegas Police Department – **Board Member**

Mario Perez, North Las Vegas Police Department

##### **Clark County School District**

Robert Weires, Director of Psychological Services – **Board Member**

Henry Blackeye, Chief, CCSD PD – **Board Member**

Dan Burgess, CCSD PD

##### **City of Las Vegas**

Sheena Judie-Mitchell

## **Community Representative**

Amet Landry – Parent Representative – *Board Member*

## **Eagle Quest**

Dave Doyle – *Board Member*

Jennifer Bevacqua

## **Present By Phone**

### **Department of Family Services**

Abigail Frierson, Assistant Director – *Board Member*

### **Workforce Connections**

Dr. Ricardo Villalobos, Chief Programs Officer – *Board Member*

#### **I. Call to Order – 1:04 pm**

Ellen Richardson-Adams, Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Vice Chair called meeting to order, there was a quorum.

#### **II. Public Comments**

None at this time.

#### **III. Approval of April 27, 2022, Minutes -Approved**

#### **IV. Approval of October 26, 2022 Agenda - Approved**

#### **V. Welcome New Members– Ellen Richardson-Adams**

Ms. Richardson-Adams invited all board members and guests in attendance to introduce themselves and share who they represent. Special welcome to our new board members Judge David Gibson representing the Eighth Judicial District Court, Family Division, and Deputy Chief Nick Farese, representing The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

#### **VI. Discussion Regarding Updates/Modifications to The Harbor Interlocal Agreement- Catherine Jorgensen**

Ms. Jorgensen recommends an entire overhaul/redo of the agreement. The original agreement was created in 2016 and has had multiple amendments with the most recent in December of 2018.

One area that needs clarification is Section III. Functions of the Center, Items E and F. The language in these items regarding information and records is not clear. We can do a better job at defining what the records are, what information is confidential, and how the records will be handled and distributed.

Another item needing revision is Section II. Responsibilities, Item B, In Kind Contributions. This section itemizes each agencies contribution. We have struggled to keep this section accurate because the language is so specific. There is a way to write this section that builds in a minimum contribution, but also provides flexibility for change.

The current agreement terminates in December 2023 and rather than creating another amendment, it would better serve the organization to update the entire contract. This would allow us to build in flexibility in ways that don't exist in the current contract. Ms. Jorgensen proposed she put together a draft with the

suggested changes that have already been received and revise the items that really need updating. The draft would then be disseminated to the board and participating entities for review and feedback.

**VII. Hiring and Retention – Ellen Richardson-Adams**

Ms. Richardson-Adams shares the difficulties the state is facing with hiring and retention. She attests her dedication to the Harbor and her commitment to placing valuable people in the Harbor positions.

Ms. Wright agreed with Ms. Richardson-Adams regarding the challenges for hiring employees. Ms. Wright informed the board of the multiple vacancies within the Harbor and the challenges that come with being understaffed.

The group discussed the staffing shortages and possible solutions to fill vacancies. Suggestions included upcoming job fairs, utilizing volunteers, and networking.

**VIII. Presentation of the Quarterly Manager’s Report – Cheryl Wright**

Ms. Wright presented the Quarterly Report and highlighted the following items:

- a. The Harbor has participated in 18 community events during from July 2022 through September 2022.
- b. 385 Youth participated in classes at the Harbor during the reporting period. These classes are facilitated in house by the Harbor staff.
- c. Expanded Client Support Services for Families and Kids.
- d. The Parenting Project is now at several Harbor locations and they are providing classes in both English and Spanish.

Ms. Wright introduced the Eagle Quest Adventure Program. The importance of the program is to provide an opportunity for supervised pro-social activities for youth who may have been bullied or are isolated. It also allows disadvantaged youth to participate in activities that they would not be able to participate in otherwise.

Jennifer Bevacqua presented a video of youth testimonials and some of the events the youth were able to participate in this year. Ms. Bevacqua invited everyone to come to an event or stop by and visit the recreation center.

Mr. Doyle spoke about the positive energy from youth participating in the program and he thanked the committee for supporting the program.

**IX. Informational Items**

- a. The next meeting date is January 25, 2023, at 1:00 pm at The Harbor Mojave.
- b. Public Safety Job Fair to be held on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at LVMPD Headquarters.
- c. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting:
  - i. Interlocal Agreement
  - ii. Data tracking update
  - iii. Legislative information
  - iv. Harbor work-flow education

**X. Public Comments**

The group discussed the positive and sometimes negative attitudes towards the Harbor. A few suggestions to help promote the Harbor included: better educating the agencies we work with and sharing success stories.

Mr. Martin shared information about a new partnership with Workforce Connections. Workforce has teamed up with the Harbor to provide vocational and career training. There are programs available for the youth as well as their parents.

Ms. Wright shared information about the Harbor Crisis Response Services. This is a pilot program in conjunction with the court to provide a specialized approach to domestic violence cases. Crisis responders will have the ability to go out to the homes and reach out to families immediately after the event to connect families to services. Cases will be heard in a specialized court that would provide an additional level of support.

**XI. Adjournment – 2:16 pm.**