

OYCR Workgroup Meeting Notes June 3rd 2021

Committee Members: Elizabeth Calvin, Sue Burrell, Miguel Garcia, Frankie Guzman, Rosalinda Vint, and Diana Becton; **Attendees:** Libby Sanchez, Stanicia Boetner, Brenda Grealish, Joan Tillman and Tracy Kenny; **Staff:** Stephanie Welch, Tran Duong, and Anna Labaya

Purpose: This workgroup meeting was requested at the May 10th full OYCR subcommittee meeting in order to provide more time for committee members who were interested to get together to discuss matters related to the OYCR subcommittee and other topics of interest. Topics selected for this workgroup include:

- 1) How can the OYCR subcommittee fulfill statutory mandates to support the implementation of SB 823 both in the short and long term?
- 2) How can the OYCR subcommittee be useful in setting up the OYCR to help achieve its purposes?
- 3) What is the relationship of the OYCR subcommittee to the Child Welfare Council?

Discussion Topics:

Fulfilling Statutory Obligations –

- There is an immediate need to serve as a resource as counties are developing their plans to serve the realigned target population
- Guidance can be suggestions and principles but needs to be soon
- Need to create a strong stakeholder list – need to involve and include providers who work in this space and who have implementation expertise
- Suggested Activities:
 - Host a virtual forum with presenters that can outline the contents of SB 823/ SB 92. Use the additional time to talk through with the participants what questions they have about the laws and the process of implementation.
 - Involve community-based organizations in setting up the forums to encourage authentic discussion.
 - Consider producing an FAQ and providing a subcommittee to respond to questions and concerns.
 - Expedited survey of counties, simple check in on where they are in the process, gather input on what they need and how the OYCR subcommittee might be able to help -
 - How can we best reach out to counties
 - How can we communicate that we are here to be helpful
 - Was the 9M provided for facilities enough, what else do they need
 - Develop a draft/ or sample grant document that would provide some guidance on how to review and assess submitted grants
 - Develop a vision statement; center racial equity lens

- Note: Need to look into how the Juvenile Justice Committee at the BSCC is statutorily required/directed to engage with OYCR

Providing Technical Assistance (TA) and Training –

- Should be contracting with individuals who have subject matter expertise through lived experience to support all aspects of OYCR and specifically to design TA and training. It was noted that mentors and mentorship should be a value and a program under OYCR
- Identify and disseminate best practices in configuring existing facilities for long-term custody
- Identify and disseminate various community programs that can be alternatives to secure environments
- Need to talk about what specifically trauma-informed care looks like in these programs (e.g. use of seclusion and restraints)
- Develop guidance on least restrictive environment
- Determine how secure youth treatment facilities should interact with BSCC
- For OYCR there is value in contracting for TA in developing metrics to review plans
 - What should be expected in the short-term, midterm, and long-term
 - Identify goals for the OYCR and link it back to the data that can measure how the goals are being met
 - While it is often that we measure “negative outcomes” e.g. recidivism, we should make a conscious effort to measure positive outcomes ... how did programs/ interventions/ policies lead to improved lives and quality of life
 - Stay current on research on the science of what works, program evaluation

Standing up the OYCR –

- The OYCR needs to identify Vision, Mission, Values, Goals and Objectives that are consistent with the statute and that help guide the OYCR subcommittee
- Identify the qualities and the qualifications needed for the Exec Director
- What are the qualifications and skillsets of key staff
- Provide input on the structure of the Office and how to balance the process of staffing up in concert with what has to get done so that the process can be accomplished in appropriate waves (sequencing)
- Help identify where contract funds could be used immediately to provide the most useful support to county implementers (e.g. guidance on developing least restrictive environments and graduations to secure treatment facilities)
- Need to establish a working relationship with BSCC
- Explore the ways OYCR can work with other parts of HHS, e.g., Surgeon General

- Support the OYCR to not just keep up with current best practices and research, but to have the capacity to develop California's own best practices
- Explore moving the committee out of Child Welfare Council to facilitate being more nimble

Note on the CWC: There was discussion about the role of the OYCR subcommittee and its relation to the CWC via SB 823 and other actions. Staff will work with counsel to explore this and bring findings forward to the full subcommittee when available.