MINUTES OF THE NEW MEXICO JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 17, 2024
CNM Workforce Training Center, 5600 Eagle Rock Rd., NE, Room 103
Albuquerque, NM 87113

I) Call to Order: Chair Tom Swisstack called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II) Roll Call for Quorum

A quorum was established with the following members present:

Members Present

Tom Swisstack	Jayda Cordero	Ron West
Anthony Trujillo	Keryl Work	Ronald Lucero
Hon. Angie Schneider	May Sagbakken	Tina Harris
Hon. Alan Kirk	Moneka Stevens	Victoria Standley
Dean Johnson	Nick Costales	

Members Absent

Reuben Barreras	Anna Maria Marshall	Danielle Trujillo
Ted Lovato (Proxy Ron West)		

Guests in Attendance

Danielle Vanderpool	Kirstin Keller	Alma Christine Roberson
Ruth Dirmeyer	Rachel Montano	Denise Sandoval
Sara Thompson	Christine Arrellin	Yossie Nieblas
Anadely Martinez	Abby Long	Walter Lujan
Sterling Donner	Pat Acosta	Rebecca Armstrong
Lindsey Jones	Michaela Rae Davis	Richard Lindahl
Felicia Lujan	Carmela Romero	Tamera Marcontel

Staff in Attendance

Corey Adams	Jessica Reno	Kelly Jo Parker
Melissa Gomez	Christopher Baca	Melanie Chavez
Bianca Padilla	Rachel Fischbach-Saiz	Jeanne Masterson
Carolyn Casillas	Bob Cleavall	

Following the Roll Call Chair Swisstack informed the Committee that Member Ted Lovato's father had passed away within the past week and requested a moment of silence in honor of him and his family. After this pause, Chair Swisstack thanked the Committee and attendees for this.

III) Welcome & Approval of Agenda:
Chair Swisstack called for a motion to approve the Agenda for today's meeting. Alan Kirk so moved, seconded by Mr. Trujillo. The vote was conducted. There being no opposition and no abstentions, the agenda was approved.

IV) Approval of Minutes
SKIPPED

V) JJAC Chairman Update, Tom Swisstack, Chair

a) Chair Swisstack welcomed new Committee member Ms. Victoria Standley and asked her to introduce herself. He also recognized new staff members, Ms. Rachel Saiz and Ms. Melanie Chavez

b) Three-Year Executive Plan Summary and Request for Applications (RFA)
Chair Swisstack described the process of developing the Three-Year Plan at the JJAC retreat.

1). He emphasized the plan to continue efforts with regard to collaboration with tribal communities regarding their needs and existing resources available for youth in these communities.
2). Beginning to fund school-based programs; what this would look like and how to begin partnering with schools.

3). Addressing mental health and substance abuse issues; acknowledging the shortages of social workers, clinicians, etc., what the future needs will be, and how to help youth faced with these types of challenges.

4). How can services in the detention centers be facilitated, and how can the transition toward release or transfer to another facility be bridged?

He expressed his appreciation to the Committee members for their work in this regard.

He stated that there is a correction to this Agenda item in that the intention will be to look at RFPs, not RFAs. The reasoning for this will be the use of multi-use vendors, concentrating on helping people start to work together and leveraging resources directly to the youth. He noted that he has asked Ron Lucero and Judge Kirk to work with the Subcommittees to get an RFP out to CYFD no later than February 1st, to get this implemented during February. He added that the RFP will be a four-year opportunity.

VI) Presentation – Bernalillo County Continuum
Carmela Romero, Deputy Director of Administration, Bernalillo County Youth Services Center (BCYSC)
Chair Swisstack thanked Bernalillo County for hosting today's meeting.
Ms. Romero welcomed the Committee to Bernalillo County. She then narrated a very informative PowerPoint presentation which included a welcome message from the Bernalillo County Chair, Presiding Judge Alma Roberson. She stated that the Bernalillo County Continuum underwent a reassessment and reorganization process post-COVID and discovered four items that were most important to families and youth: 1) Awareness and access to social services. 2). Medical and mental health services. 3). Addressing substance use. 4). Transportation. She noted how similar these items are to the goals previously expressed by Chair Swisstack concerning the Committee's Three-Year Plan. She described many of the challenges that were encountered during COVID and the processes involved in solving these and that now Bernalillo County is entering a "Year of Transition", and described a very successful community mixer event held at the State Fair Grounds with over 100 participants, which provided an opportunity for families and youth to observe the services available and connect with those providers, as well as fostering connections and collaboration between the community providers.

Ms. Romero noted that the Bernalillo Board has been looking at the aspects of coordination of care or continuum of care and the partnerships involved which include the Detention Center as well as the JJAC-funded services, which include the Santa Fe Mountain Center, the Keshet Arts and Dance Initiative, WT Equestrian, PB&J Family Services beginning this year, Food Corp New Mexico through La Placita Institute, Arts Matter and various religious organizations. She added that in the past couple of years, the OSHA-10 training has been added.

Ms. Romero reviewed the services contracted out through JJAC funding in 2023-2024 as well as the data regarding

youth served. She then described the programming planned for the future including a behavioral health mentoring and support program, mentoring and system community navigation, Restorative Justice, a reception and assessment center, New Day which is an alternative to detention, and a violence prevention program. She then described the RFP process that Bernalillo County is pursuing in partnership with the Youth Services Center and the Behavioral Program Services.

Ms. Romero introduced Antonio Olivares, a young man who has participated in the Bernalillo County services. Mr. Olivares shared that he is now 22 years old and has been in CYFD custody for most of his life. He described his experience with the New Day Program in the past and that he is currently in the TLP program and working on getting his life back on track after having just been released from custody. There were several questions posed, but the audio did not pick them up, however, Mr. Olivares responded that he had no complaints and that every time he was at New Day he enjoyed his time there.

Mr. Costales asked Mr. Olivares if there was anything that could have been done differently that might have altered his trajectory. Mr. Olivares replied that there was nothing he could think of, the programs were doing a good job; he just did not want to follow the rules.

Mr. Trujillo commented that he was glad to hear Mr. Olivares benefitted from the center he was in, but it seemed that there was a disconnect outside of that situation; "Where was the community itself?", noting the lack of community support. Mr. Olivares responded that he was not in contact with his family for long periods of time and that may have contributed to the situation.

Mr. Swisstack asked what Mr. Olivares would like to see now in terms of support, now that he is transitioning into adulthood. Mr. Olivares replied that he is getting support with things like access to therapy.

Ms. Stevens thanked Mr. Olivares for sharing his story and congratulated him on his participation in the TLP program.

Judge Schneider asked Ms. Romero where the funding came from for the survey she mentioned in her presentation. Ms. Romero stated that the County paid for the survey through Survey Monkey and that Bernalillo County was able to gather all the information and put it together. Judge Schneider asked for a copy of that survey or a link to it as she would like to see this.

_____ question could not be heard. Ms. Romero stated this will depend on the vendor chosen to provide this service and the local Board will select the vendor. They will then meet with the vendor to discuss the needs and expectations. She described previous experience with Community Custody as a template, and a previously funded case manager for this. She added that this position is now a full-time paid County position and this case manager is continuing that work. She stated that the use of the case manager approach, fitting them with a young person, through a local vendor, agency or service is the approach they will be pursuing.

Mr. Costales asked if the Violence Prevention Program is still awaiting the RFP, or if this is up and running. Ms. Romero replied that everything reviewed today is currently through the RFP and the Bernalillo Board is reviewing the submitted proposals with decisions regarding this to be made in the next two weeks.

Mr. Costales asked what the plan is for youth who start the OSHA program but are discharged from detention before completing the program. Ms. Romero stated that these youth have the ability to log in, outside of the detention facility, even those who have gone into the adult facility, which allows for continued coordination of the continuing education program through APS.

_____ unheard question. Ms. Romero responded that for the scope of work, the JJAC definition of any at-risk youth is used for those applying for services. She gave another brief review of the data previously presented regarding first-time offenders, etc., and that the majority of youth served in Bernalillo County are first-time offenders. She added that first-time offenders tend to be connected to JJAC services more quickly than at-risk youth and that the providers and the County are still working on outreach to connect with at-risk youth.

Ms. Stevens thanked Ms. Romero for the presentation and the work being done. She asked Ms. Romero if any paid internships would be available in any of the new programming, such as the one associated with the La Placitas Food Corp. Ms. Romero replied that this was not written into the RFP process, but they would be working on the possibilities of stipends or internships available, and that these may not come through JJAC but could come through County funding or the agency itself.

Mr. Swisstack asked if Ms. Romero could share their RFP with Ms. Padilla. Ms. Romero replied that she would check with their procurement department to be certain, but she believed they should be able to do so.

Judge Schneider noted that in the Second Judicial District, there is a Young Adult Court with a couple of different

tracks and asked if there was any cross-over work in terms of services and collaboration with that team. Ms. Romero stated that because Judge Roberson is the Chair of the local Board there is quite a bit of collaboration between the courts and the Board. She gave the example of the Violence Intervention program staff giving a presentation to the Board on the services they provide to youth in that program.

Mr. Swisstack asked for a round of applause in appreciation for the host, Bernalillo County Continuum, for the great presentation by Ms. Romero and for the guest speaker, Mr. Olivares.

VII) Presentation – Los Alamos Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (LAJJAB), Executive Director, Rachel Mohr-Richards

Chair Swisstack noted that he had the opportunity to visit Los Alamos recently with Ron West, and many references were made regarding how instrumental Judge Alan Kirk has been in establishing the work there. He stated that he was impressed with what Los Alamos has done as an example of what could be done when people work together.

Ms. Mohr-Richards thanked Chair Swisstack for his comments and the invitation to speak today. She congratulated Ms. Romero for the work being done in Bernalillo County. Ms. Mohr-Richards narrated a very informative PowerPoint presentation, which began with slides representing JJAC's past and present as part of a celebration of 20 years of service to the Los Alamos community, which occurred in September of this year. She stated that their mission is to provide programs and resources to the children, youth, and families of Los Alamos that build resiliency, with their vision being for every youth in Los Alamos to be meaningfully connected and provided the capacity to thrive, supplying tools for youth to feel integrated and supported by their community. She stated that they do presentations of their programs at all of the school's open house events so families will know what is available.

She gave special recognition to Judge Kirk for his work in establishing the Continuum and then gave a brief history of the Continuum, stating that it was formed in 2004 as a joint resolution between the Los Alamos County Council and the schools, as they realized there were youth in the County involved with either juvenile probation or the citation program, and these youth were having to go to Santa Fe or Albuquerque to satisfy the requirements of those programs and these youth needed to be supported in Los Alamos. She shared that the LAJJAB received its 501(c)3 status in 2007 and this is a fully functional nonprofit organization their largest program, their Resource Specialist Program, was started in 2012 with a single resource specialist providing case management and now there is a team of six full-time case managers as well as well as a program manager.

Ms. Mohr-Richards shared that the organization has a “braided funding structure”, which includes funding from JJAC, Los Alamos County, Los Alamos Public Schools, and organizations such as the ConAlma Health Foundation and the Southwest Council of Governments, in addition to private donors.

She commended the Los Alamos Board for their support and especially recognized one of their longest-standing Board Members, Carter Payne, who is the Assistant Superintendent of Los Alamos Public Schools. She shared that they have several youth members on the Board, who are instrumental in keeping the Board apprised of youth issues and providing feedback regarding community trends. She also noted they have several community liaisons who are non-voting members, but provide information about issues in the community, and include the social services manager, a member of the County Council, and a member of the Public-School Board.

She gave an overview of their three JJAC programs; the Resource Specialist or case management program, One Circle, and Restorative Justice. She noted that referrals to the Resource Specialist program can come from any source, with the public schools being the largest source of referrals and gave details of the types of referrals they receive and how those are addressed. She also reviewed their data for FY2024, showing 211 cases, the demographics of those, and their case goals, as well as the aggregate data associated with those. She then reviewed their One Circle program, which includes the Unity Circle, with these groups having the support of the Los Alamos

Schools making it possible for these groups to meet on school campuses during the lunch hour. She shared the data for the One Circle program, consisting of 205 sessions, 27 groups, and 160 youth participating. She reviewed their Restorative Justice program, with referrals coming from the Teen Court Diversion program, and details of how this program works. She presented the data for this program with 14 referrals received, 10 resulting in a conference, and the other four being determined not appropriate for the program.

She reported that they are adding two youth substance use programs funded through Los Alamos County and other funding sources, one of which will be the Seven Challenges, and the other will provide a part-time youth peer support specialist. She stated they are also becoming affiliated with the Los Alamos County Imagination Library program, which is part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program for children ages birth through age five. She presented information about their Youth Mental Health First Aid Program and noted that they also fund two programs through the Los Alamos Teen Center which are Arts and Resiliency and Youth Mobilizers. She described their partnership with the public schools, where they fund their Saturday School Program, assisting youth who need help getting back on track academically if they have fallen behind, and other social/emotional learning initiatives. She gave information about their Community Conversations program, a collaboration between JJAB, the public schools, the courts, and the County, bringing in experts to speak on different topics, such as fentanyl awareness, etc., which occur approximately quarterly.

She commented that all of these programs have been made possible due to the wonderful collaborations with many individuals and organizations in the community and gave specific information about some of the individuals as she reviewed photographs in the presentation. She again recapped the activities associated with the 20th anniversary celebration.

Chair Swisstack called for questions for Ms. Mohr-Richards.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he was glad to have been able to participate in their 20th-anniversary event, and noted how impressive it was to see how the community has come together to support the Mental Health program(s) and asked how they have been able to get the different community members to join in this work. Ms. Mohr-Richards stated this has taken quite some time, to build trust and relationships with the schools. Mr. Trujillo added that he was impressed with the makeup of their Board and noted that other communities do not have that kind of participation. He asked how this was accomplished. Ms. Mohr-Richards stated that their Executive Committee is very proactive in filling open positions and many members have been on the Board for a long time, with many newer members as well, resulting in a very good mix. She thanked Mr. Trujillo for attending the September event.

Mr. Costales thanked Ms. Mohr-Richards for her presentation and commented that he was glad to see the emphasis being placed on helping families with access to programs. He asked if they were finding ways to track long-term results, i.e. returns to the program, new referrals, etc. Ms. Mohr-Richards stated that they are using the JJAC exit survey, with youth self-reporting better school attendance, better grades, and increased perception of social support, etc. He stated he was glad to hear they are using Seven Challenges as well as the Unity Circle. Ms. Mohr-Richards reported that she has been informed that the One Circle Foundation will be producing a new curriculum on boundaries and consent and she is looking forward to seeing this made available.

Ms. Stevens thanked Ms. Mohr-Richards for her presentation. She stated that she was glad to see the Restorative Justice program being used in Los Alamos and asked about the referral process for this. Ms. Mohr-Richards replied that referrals usually come from Teen Court or a Juvenile Probation Officer, however, there have been a few instances where families have requested a restorative circle for situations that did not rise to the level of court intervention or a citation, so families can also self-refer. Ms. Stevens asked if the Mental Health First Aid training would become available for youth under the age of 18. Ms. Mohr-Richards stated that this has been discussed with

the schools, however, the challenge is one of time restraints for this intensive training within the school day. She added that the program is not off the table entirely. Ms. Stevens shared that she has also found the time requirements to be a challenge for other schools, however, she has seen some success with breaking up the training into two-hour sessions. She congratulated Ms. Mohr-Richards on the peer support work.

Mr. Swisstack asked if the current resources have always been available in Los Alamos and how to address those who think Los Alamos has greater funding available than other communities/counties. Ms. Mohr-Richards stated that she agrees that they are in a privileged position concerning funding, however, over the past 20 years, much of this is due to the amazing foundation laid down by Judge Kirk during his tenure. She added that they have not always had the same resources available now. She asked Mr. Swisstack if he was referring to funding or the programs. Mr. Swisstack responded that he was referring to both. Mr. Mohr-Richards stated that the substance abuse programs are new and these were made possible through the CYFD grant and the needs assessment related to that, revealing this as a critical area that needed to be addressed. She reiterated the wonderful working relationship she has with their social services manager, who is also the fiscal agent, and they work together to identify gaps in an ongoing effort to meet the needs of the community.

Chair Swisstack asked if there were any further questions.

Ms. Sagbakken asked what population Los Alamos programming serves. Ms. Mohr-Richards replied that they serve every age, from elementary through high school and there has been a lot of advocacy relative to the Teen Center and talks continue regarding this.

Chair Swisstack asked if there were any further questions. There were none. He thanked Ms. Mohr-Richards for her presentation and response to questions.

Chair Swisstack asked if all of the Committee members present would introduce themselves, beginning with Judge Schneider and continuing across the panel, which they did.

Chair Swisstack introduced Ms. Reno, who is the person providing data to the Committee members, explaining how to interpret that data and how the data will help make informed decisions. He explained that he has asked Ms. Reno to present at each quarterly meeting so all the Committee members are operating from the same base and using the same data to try to interpret this consistently in determining how best to realign resources.

Chair Swisstack informed the Council that he will be leaving this meeting in about 15 minutes to attend another emergency meeting, and Judge Kirk will assume the Chair for the remainder of this meeting. He apologized to the Committee for this situation.

VIII) JJAC Strategic Plan Performance Measures Presentation, Jessica Reno, Operations Research Analyst

Mr. Reno introduced herself and gave a detailed review of a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation which began with Youth Crime Trends and then covered the Performance Measures for the JJAC Board Strategic Plan.

Youth Crime Trends:

She noted that in SFY23 there were 5,225 youth referrals and in SFY24 there were 5,810, which is a significant increase, however, this is a 24% decrease from 2019. She reviewed the details of the various charges and age ranges, as well as the referral rate per 1,000 population. She also reported on the overall trends in youth offenses over the past couple of decades and important events that influenced this, including the September 2023 Executive Order related to gun violence, the COVID pandemic in 2019-2020, implementation of the Revised Probation Agreement in 2019, and the statewide freeze of Medicaid reimbursement for behavioral health agencies. She gave

an overview of offense categories that increased or decreased relative to the pandemic.

Concerning recidivism, she reported that in SFY23, after release from probation 22% recidivated within two years, after adjudication that number was 38%, and in SFY24 both of these categories increased to 27% and 39.2%, respectively, however, there has been an increase in referrals and offenses in SFY24. She added that the type of the original offense affects the recidivism rates, and if a violent crime is committed 35% recidivate with the smallest recidivism rate being for drug offenses. She also gave details regarding recidivism relative to ethnicity and noted that this information is collected from the Structured Decision-Making Tool or SDM, completed at the beginning of the supervision or probation period, and is intended to assess the needs, risks, and strengths of the youth. She described the following risk factors and their relationship to recidivism, family relationships, education, employment, substance use, and gang affiliation.

Performance Measures for the JJAC Board Strategic Plan:
She reported that she will update the following goals regularly:

Goal 1: Tribal Community Engagement
In 2023 44 clients participated in JJAC programs, affiliated with 15 different tribes, with 29 clients living in tribal areas. During this time there were three Continuums lost which had communities with tribal youth: Otero County, Lincoln County and San Miguel County. In 2024 there were 13 clients affiliated with a tribe and thus far in 2025 there have only been three, so things appear to be on track to have about the same amount as 2024.

Goal 2: School-Based Programming
Chronic absenteeism rates have dropped from 39% to 33% in 2024, demonstrating 1/3 of youth who are missing 10% of their classes. Of the top 10 counties for chronic absenteeism Luna, McKinley, Union, and Sierra Counties do not have a Continuum, and Curry County is in the process of establishing a Continuum. She reviewed the results of the discharge survey results, especially concerning behavior at school, grades, and attendance; 51% reported improved school behavior in 2024and so far in 2025 this has been 69%, 41% reported improved school attendance in 2024 and this is 64% in 2025, 36% reported improvement of grades in 2024 and 67% in 2025. She commended the Continuums with diversion programs in 2024, which were Bernalillo County and Socorro County, which had 80% improved behavior, 78% improved attendance, and 67% improved grades. She noted that social competency results are not available yet.

Goal 3: Behavioral Health
In 2024 there were 2,800 clients in behavioral health-related programs with 1,800 completing discharge surveys, showing 60% reporting a decrease in substance abuse and 73% with improved mental health. In 2025 there have not been many youth reporting that they were using substances, however, 1/3 of those reported decreased substance use while in their program. Most youth reporting substance use are in juvenile citation programs or gender-specific programs.

She noted that the YRRS had been reporting decreasing or worse outcomes for youth for the last several years, however, they have just released the 2023 results which show improvement among high school students for mental health, suicide risk, and substance use.

Goal 4: Promoting Strategies for Youth in Detention:
In 2023 there were 835 detentions, with 579 restraint incidents, and on a single day, that being November 1st, 84 youth were in detention. In 2024 this increased slightly to 884 detentions with 689 restraint incidents. So far this year there have been 270 detentions, which is on track for fewer detentions, being approximately 810 at the current rate, however, the rate of restraint incidents has increased. Reasons for detention, as reported by admissions at

the detention centers, show 44% of detentions are for violent crimes, 12% for probation violations, 11% for weapons-related offenses, followed by violation of court order, property, delinquent motor vehicle, public order, the court holds, ICJ holds, drug-related offenses and other. The average length of stay in detention for 2023 was 61 days, the median being 15 days. In 2024 the average length of stay increased to 70 days, with 17 days as the median. The average time to detention hearing was 15 days, the median being three days, which slightly decreased in 2024. The average time from disposition to placement most recently is 83 days, with a median of eight; this is for youth being moved either to an RTD or commitment.

Judge Kirk called for questions, but also stated that having gone to the OJJDP meeting in Washington he saw that the New Mexico trends are almost exactly the same as the national trends from 2000 forward.

Mr. Lucero asked if this data was from pre-adjudicated facilities. Ms. Reno replied yes, that is correct. Mr. Lucero asked how many facilities there are in New Mexico. Ms. Reno responded that there are four. Mr. Lucero asked where these are. Ms. Reno replied that they are in Bernalillo, Dona Ana, Lea and San Juan Counties. Mr. Lucero thanked Ms. Reno for her responses.

Ms. Sagbakken commented that this was an excellent presentation and thanked Ms. Reno for this. She asked that there be the use of matching maps for accountability and RFPs, noting that this information clearly showed areas of the state with high absenteeism and high referrals, which are counties that do not have any after-school programs or any teen centers and are low income and close to the border. She commented that it seems as though most of the funding ends up in the Rio Grande corridor. She challenged the Council members to use these maps for equitable dissemination of funding into areas of highest need. She also commented that only 24 states in the country have made truancy a crime, New Mexico being one of them. She asked what happens to the 7% in the truancy category, whether they are detained or there are other consequences. Ms. Reno asked what 7% Ms. Sagbakken was referring to. Ms. Sagbakken stated she was referring to the statutory offenses, of which truancy was one of these. Ms. Reno corrected the statement, saying this was under the status offenses. Ms. Sagbakken agreed. Ms. Reno stated that these youth cannot be detained so they will have a preliminary inquiry, like all other referrals, and most of these are handled informally, dependent on how each county or district is handling these cases, but generally they are handled informally. Ms. Sagbakken stated this was great news and again reiterated the need to see funding support these areas. She noted that in terms of the YRRS survey, there was a 30% drop in participation due to chronic absenteeism, with 30% fewer youth participating and this may be impacting the decrease in the numbers overall. She encouraged Ms. Reno to consult with Ms. Courtney Fitzgerald regarding this. Ms. Reno agreed to do so.

Mr. Costales commended Ms. Reno for gathering and presenting this data, and that formerly there were two people performing this task and now Ms. Reno is doing this solo, and that this is an amazing report. Mr. Costales noted that regarding truancy there is a difference between a referral and a crime. He added that schools report truancy differently and this can affect the data points as well as the referrals related to truancy.

Mr. Trujillo asked where this data is originating. Ms. Reno stated that data on referrals and offenses comes from the CYFD facts database, which is where all the JJS referrals are entered along with the crimes associated with those. Mr. Trujillo asked where JJS gets this information. Ms. Reno asked if he meant who entered the data. Mr. Trujillo asked where the data comes from. He noted that from personal experience with police statistics in Santa Fe, he believes they report inaccurate information, as they often do not respond to situations. He expressed his concern with the statistics which may not be accurate and the need to be careful with data sources. He added that he trusts Ms. Reno's work completely, he is just questioning the accuracy of the data sources. Ms. Reno agreed with Mr. Trujillo but stated that the caveat here is for this data to be reported, someone has to; 1) hear that something is happening and 2) send it to Law Enforcement, both of those things have to happen. She noted that

much has changed over the last couple of decades, so what is being seen in terms of trends is relative to what is being entered into the database compared to the reporting systems of the past. She agreed with Mr. Trujillo in that law enforcement has its databases, but the data she is using is that which has been referred to Juvenile Justice, which is a different system.

Mr. Costales explained that delinquent referrals come only from a police report from law enforcement, truancy typically comes from schools and the ones for FINS can come from anyone.

Judge Kirk gave some follow-up to Mr. Trujillo's comment, perhaps a different perspective, which may vary by jurisdiction and location, but he expressed his concern about first offenses being felonies. Youth are getting into trouble but there is no intervention, whether it be misdemeanors or small offenses, then suddenly there is a spike that their first offense is a felony. These youth should be identified earlier to hopefully prevent them from entering the system or committing felonies. He stated he thought this was what Mr. Trujillo was alluding to, which is the need to be more aggressive with intervention with these youth early on. He stated that he is aware that in some jurisdictions law enforcement no longer responds to misdemeanors so there is no investigation and no referral. He stated that this is something the Council needs to be aware of and be mindful of.

Judge Kirk asked if there were any other questions.

Judge Schneider commended Ms. Reno for her presentation. She asked Ms. Reno if she was talking about formal referrals such as IC recommendations being filed, when she was referring to prior involvement, or could also include referrals handled informally. Ms. Reno stated it did not matter how these were handled as long as a case had been opened. Judge Schneider asked for clarification on whether this would be a JPO case or a court case. Ms. Reno stated this could be a case with JPO, not necessarily a court case. According to Mr. Olivares, sharing his experiences related to JJAC programming, Judge Schneider wondered whether this data is being compared to trends and data related to those youth who have been removed from their families for abuse and neglect. Ms. Reno responded that she was not aware of any such comparison. Judge Schneider stated that this needs to happen as it is all CYFD data ____(could not hear the rest of her statement). Judge Schneider then had a question about the reference Ms. Reno made in the data relative to after adjudication and after probation, and whether after adjudication meant being on probation. Ms. Reno responded that for the population that had been released from supervision, she included both informal and formal. Judge Schneider stated that in referring to post-adjudication and release from probation those are overlapping. Ms. Reno stated that these are two of the fundamental measures of juvenile justice, just looking at different but overlapping populations , so where they overlap are the youth that are adjudicated to probation and one group has everyone who participates in supervision or probation, whether it is court ordered or not and the other is everyone who is adjudicated whether they go on to commitment or RTC or probation, so they do overlap. Judge Schneider stated she would like to see the recidivism rates of youth while on supervision versus post-completion of probation. Ms. Reno asked if this would be those who violate probation. (Could not hear Judge Schneider's response) Judge Schneider referred to the reasons for recidivism Ms. Reno had given, one of which was family relationships, and that one part of this, which is critical, is the youth who are removed from the home for abuse and neglect. She also noted that for these youth who are removed from the home, concerning education, they often have to be removed from their school of origin because there are no foster families available in that area, which could be another data point relative to education. She also stated that she is appalled that it is taking judges 15 days to hold a detention hearing and this is a judicial issue that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Costales referred to the slides showing the data related to serious domestic discord and domestic discord in the Structured Decision-Making tool, which showed 74%, and queried whether there should be a surprise that battery is the number one offense. Ms. Reno offered a correction, that this number represents those who recidivated. Mr. Costales acknowledges this correction, and he is aware, but this shows that this issue exists at a

high percentage relative to the battery offenses. Mr. Costales referred to the information presented about the time between post-adjudication and even being placed in RTC or the facility, and he would like to see the percentages between these two and queried whether RTC placement takes longer or is sent to a facility.

Ms. Cordero asked how many current JJAC members are tribal affiliated. Ms. Reno replied that she did not know the answer to this question, but there has been a community survey conducted where the local JJAC boards were asked how many of their members were tribal affiliated, but she does not have those results with her today. Ms. Padilla stated that this is the position being recruited for now, as there were two members previously. She added that this vacancy has to be appointed by the Governor. Ms. Cordero asked how many programs are currently in tribal communities, and if there are none is this due to lack of interest. Ms. Reno replied that she would let Ms. Padilla answer this more thoroughly, however, the three Continuums that had been lost were those most involved with tribal communities in FY22 and FY23. Ms. Padilla noted that item number one of the federal plan addresses tribal pass-through funding, with one goal being to obtain federal funding to start Native American Tribe programs, and another being to get a Continuum site that is on a nation, tribe, or pueblo, which Ms. Kirsten Keller is working on. She also stated that another goal is to bring San Juan County, Otero, and Lincoln Counties back into the program, as these communities have Native American youth, and these will provide programming in those areas.

Ms. Stevens thanked Ms. Reno for her presentation. She asked if there was a rise in detention admissions other than the topics relative to gun access and murder. Ms. Reno stated that she did not have the specific numbers with her today, but she anecdotally recalls that during that time facilities were near capacity, not bed capacity, but staff capacity, and there were issues with having to turn youth away because of this along with a surge in detentions for youth with weapons. Ms. Stevens thanked her for this information.

Question from the audience that could not be heard. Ms. Reno explained that in September 2023 the Governor issued an Executive Order to combat gun violence, which was not specific to youth, but included youth crime, and a lot of this order referred to detentions for youth in possession of weapons. Ms. Padilla added that this order stated that youth in possession of a weapon would be detained.

Question from the audience that could not be heard. Ms. Reno restated the question: Are there any former probation officers in the room who would like to talk about the SDM and how you would classify domestic violence on that. There was no response to this.

Ms. Acosta asked a question about battery against a household member citation. Ms. Costales replied that the Structured Decision-Making tool pulls information directly out of the facts database, the CYFD database, so if there are previous history, charges, adjudications, or things of this nature, that can create the score, as well as conversations with the family that can also impact the score. He added that a plan of care is formulated from the information in the SDM, and the plan of care pulls information from the database, but also includes information obtained from the family, so some of the information could be considered self-reporting, but most of it is pre-existing information taken from the database.

Other comments from the audience could not be heard.

Ms. Sagbakken had a question about the high number of restraints, asking what types of restraints are happening in juvenile detention, what training is available to staff to reduce restraints, what kind of support youth are getting to manage their struggles, as this could be a hidden potential traumatic impact relative to this high number of restraints.

Judge Schneider commented that in reference to a previous question from Ms. Stevens, she had messaged her CEO

and she believes that the court can pull data on the number of motions to detain that have been filed and possibly on detentions over an X period of time, and she will pursue this information and share this, as they keep their data in her court. She asked about the ability to gather another data point on youth being detained and then being released to supervision, because to detain, a judge has to make findings that the individual is a danger to themselves, a danger to the community, or that they will leave the jurisdiction. If these findings are being made and a decision is made to hold youth in detention, how can these youth be released to supervision? How can this happen if they are so dangerous at one point and then subsequently released into the community? This needs to be investigated and she will attempt to provide data from her court.

Judge Kirk announced there would be a 10-minute break for everyone to get their lunch.

IX) Lunch Break

X) Continuum Coordinator Update, Christine Arrellin

Ms. Arrellin reported that the Continuum Coordinators will complete the Mental Health First Aid for Youth training in April, which will consist of two half-day sessions. She stated that the Leadership team, consisting of herself, Kirsten Keller, and Rebecca Armstrong, submitted the grant guidance to JJAC for review. A question was asked about the dates for the Mental Health First Aid for Youth training. Ms. Arrellin confirmed that this training course is scheduled for the first Wednesday/Thursday in April and an invitation to this will be sent to the questioner if they desire to attend the training.

Ms. Padilla added that the Coordinator Leadership Team provides two training sessions per year, on different topics, such as the Youth Mental Health First-Aid. She asked what other trainings have been provided. Ms. Arrellin stated that there was a Narcan training in October.

Judge Kirk thanked Ms. Arrellin for her report.

XI) JJAC Youth Update, Jayda Cordero and Tina Harris

a) 2024 OJJDP National Conference: Ms. Cordero stated this was the first conference or professional event she has attended. She reported that this was a great experience and expressed the hope for more opportunities such as this in the future for youth members or youth in general. She noted in particular, the Emerging Leaders Track, which she found very interesting as it provided professional development opportunities, etc.

Judge Kirk asked for any questions. There were none.

XII) Board Comments

Ms. Standley referenced a statement made by Mr. Olivares earlier in the meeting where he stated at New Day "he had fun" and "I got to be a kid". She queried if programs could be considered that would allow young people "to be a kid", noting that so many of the youth that is offending have so many responsibilities beyond being a kid, so she suggested incorporating activities that allow them to be a kid, along with the other dynamics of their program.

Judge Kirk stated that many of the presentations at the OJJDP conference in Washington were about things that this Council and the Continuums here in New Mexico have been doing for ten years, which shocked him. He added that he believed the people involved here in New Mexico have not been willing to take credit for what they have been doing, so in the future, this needs to be voiced, that basically, New Mexico has just been a little quiet about what is happening here and how successful it has been.

Mr. Trujillo reported that he also attended the OJJDP conference and attended several of the sessions dealing with

tribes and how they fund their programs. He stated that some wonderful programs are being used by the tribes around the country and perhaps this has not been approached correctly here in New Mexico. He noted that in other areas of the country, many tribes come together and form their tribal judicial system to deal with children and youth, which is very family-oriented, much like a restorative justice-type setting, and is quite successful. He suggested looking at programs such as the ones used in Alaska and having those successful tribes communicate with tribes here in New Mexico.

Judge Schneider noted the resources for tribal partners in Lincoln and Otero Counties, as mentioned by Ms. Padilla, Otero County is in the process of obtaining funding for a program coordinator, and the Juvenile Justice Board there has continued to meet. She agreed with Mr. Trujillo's comments about being very mindful and intentional in these tribal partnerships. She also stated that Lincoln County intends to move forward with seeking a program coordinator. She expressed thanks and appreciation to all of the CYFD staff for their efforts in assisting Otero County to move things forward.

Judge Kirk thanked Ms. Romero, Ms. Mohr-Richards and Ms. Reno again for their presentations. He reminded the Board that data is an overwhelming world and if they wish to request data from Ms. Reno that they complete the data request form.

XIII) Public Comment

Judge Kirk asked if there was any public comment.

Ms. Harris stated that she is working on the Youth Re-Entry focus group with AIR. She will be offering gift cards to youth willing to participate in 2025 and will be sending out an e-mail with a flyer containing more information. Ms. Padilla added that Ms. Harris works for an organization called the American Institutes of Research and this program will be giving gift cards to youth and young people if they participate in a re-entry survey. Once this information is available, they can share it with those who wish to participate, and this will also help Ms. Harris with her national partnership.

Ms. Work thanked the Youth Engagement team for their update. She also noted in the Executive Subcommittee the Board Development Subcommittee had been focusing on ideas for improving youth engagement. She expressed her appreciation to Judge Kirk and Mr. Cleavall for their help and reported that there is movement forward in identifying youth in the system who could participate.

Ms. Cordero reported that she attended a refresher at the OJJDP conference where there was one speaker who piqued her interest, which was the Youth Subcommittee Chair from Iowa, who reported that they have 10-15 youth members, and they do a lot of outreach events focusing on their communities, partnering one-on-one with their JJAC program members, etc. She added that she was at a table with many other peers who had never heard of JJAC and did not know that their state even had a state advisory group, and they asked if they could or should join their state advisory group, and whether or not they are directly impacted youth and whether or not their voice would be valued or heard. She noted that these same issues may be what is hindering the efforts to get more youth members for JJAC here; things such as imposter syndrome, and insecurities about whether or not they should be involved in a group such as this, but they also are unaware that this group exists. She noted the need for re-establishing a strong Youth Subcommittee and her interest in pursuing this and the possibility of doing outreach events. She stated that she believed there were currently three youth members. Ms. Padilla confirmed this and there should be at least five, with one pending appointment, who is currently in a facility. Ms. Padilla added that Ms. Cordero had volunteered to Chair the Subcommittee, which Ms. Cordero confirmed.

Judge Kirk thanked these Committee members for their comments.

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Judge Kirk thanked these Committee members for their comments.

Seeing no further public comment Judge Kirk noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18th, in Luna County. Ms. Padilla added that at the end of the year the Committee will be visiting Santa Fe.

XIV) Adjournment

Judge Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Trujillo so moved, seconded by Judge Schneider. There being no opposition and no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at (time).

The next proposed meeting is to be held on Tuesday, March 18th
in Luna County, NM

Minutes Approved on (date):

Tom Swisstack, Chair