San Francisco
Public Defender's Juvenile Justice Summit 2005

//May 17, 2005//10:00am - 4:30pm//Civic Center Main Library Koret Auditorium



//Designed By Manen Pau//Mural by Jason 'Compa' Tréas//thebeatwithin.org

"Re-Forming Juvenile Justice: Prevention, Accountability and Empowerment"

SUMMIT THEME:

"REFORMING JUVENILE JUSTICE: PREVENTION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND EMPOWERMENT."

"REFORMING IS THE PROCESS OF RESTORING THE IDEAL OF JUVENILE JUSTICE – TO EMPOWER YOUTH TO SUCCEED IN LIFE WHILE ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY."

"PREVENTION is the practice of employing effective prevention programs that deter involvement in activity that may lead to involvement in the juvenile justice system. ACCOUNTABILITY means that a strong system of accountability holds both the juvenile justice system and youth and their families accountable for measurable outcomes. EMPOWERMENT requires youth, families, schools, community service organizations, judges, police, the district attorney, the public defender and the probation department and other juvenile justice stakeholders to participate in the process of developing a humane and just juvenile justice system."

Office of the Public Defender
City and County of San Francisco

JEFF ADACHI
Public Defender

TERESA CAFFESE
Chief Attorney

May 17, 2005

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Public Defender's second annual Juvenile Justice Summit, "Reforming Juvenile Justice: Prevention, Accountability and Empowerment," and thank you for participating in today's conference. The purpose of this conference is to bring together a wide array of juvenile justice advocates, experts, social workers, community leaders, attorneys and probation officers around the issue of improving the juvenile justice system.

Our morning panel of experts and youth advocates will examine the juvenile justice system, on a local and statewide level, to determine what is and what is not working, and identify solutions. Our afternoon panels will identify new strategies to help families better navigate through the juvenile justice, and improve accountability between juvenile justice stakeholders and community youth agencies, while increasing public safety.

On the state level, the past year has been a whirlwind of change and activism, and unfortunately, tragedy. Yesterday, Governor Schwarzenegger's administration submitted its plan to redesign the Youth Authority, promising smaller, community-based facilities with intensive counseling, education and vocational programs. Although the tragic suicides of two young teens at Preston and the beatings of two youth have ignited a reform movement, only time will tell whether true reform will result.

Locally, promising developments have set the stage for reform. Bill Siffermann, who helped lead the juvenile justice reform efforts in Chicago, is the new Chief of the Juvenile Probation Department. The San Francisco Grand Jury released a report last week recommending institutional changes in the probation department, thus providing the Chief with a mandate for change. This fall, a new detention facility will open, replacing the antiquated Youth Guidance Center. And Mayor Newsom's blue ribbon commission on Log Cabin Ranch and Hidden Valley will soon release its recommendations to re-design both residential facilities.

The Public Defender's office is proud to report on its efforts to implement the agenda of last year's summit. The office's juvenile division, under the leadership of Patti Lee, continues to provide top-notch representation to juveniles. In 2004, the office added two social workers to its staff to meet the needs of boys and girls.

In May 2004, the Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities (MAGIC) collaborative was launched Bayview Hunters Point. Now comprised of over 40 youth agencies working together to improve prevention efforts in the community, MAGIC has begun the process of implementing a comprehensive plan for juvenile justice reform and has hosted positive activities for over 2,000 youth. In October, the office sponsored trainings for community-based

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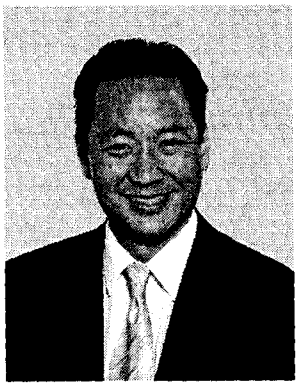
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youth agencies, presenting workshops on best practices and effective management of non-profits and technology. Throughout the year, we followed up on our call for a moratorium on Youth Authority commitments by seeking alternative placements for youth currently at the Youth Authority.

Like last year's summit, this year's summit will be televised. This allows the discussion and problem solving to reach a larger audience. Please tell those who were unable to attend to tune in on May 21, 2005 on SFGTV, Channel 26.

Only by working together, by putting our differences aside and uniting around a common vision will we continue to move forward. We hope that this summit contributes to the ultimate goal of creating a healthy, safe and humane world for all of the children and families who live in our great City. After all, it's all about the youth!



Very truly yours,

Jeff Adachi

San Francisco Public Defender's Juvenile Justice Summit 2005

"Re-forming Juvenile Justice: Prevention, Accountability and Empowerment"

9:30-10:00 a.m.	**Registration**
10:00–10:10 a.m.	**Summit Introduction** *Jeff Adachi*
10:10 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	**Panel 1: Re-forming Juvenile Justice** *Jeff Adachi* *Lenore Anderson* *Captain Marsha Ashe* *Marcus Gallegos* *Russell Giunitini* *Patti Lee* *Bill Siffermann* *Ayoka Turner*
12:00-1:20 p.m.	**Luncheon:** **Spoken Word** *Roxanne Hanna* **SF Public Defender Juvenile Justice Award** *Introduction by Shawn Richard, Brothers Against Guns* **Keepin' it Real and Not Fakin' the Funk** *Jack Jacqua*
1:20-2:40 p.m.	**Panel 2: Navigating the System: A Toolkit for Families** *Roger Chan* *Rev. Toni Dunbar* *Victoria Dominguez* *Hydra Mendoza* *Abigail Trillin* *Lynn Westry*
2:40-4:00 p.m.	**Panel 3: Community Based Organizations: Strategies for Success and Survival** *Kyra Bobinet, M.D.* *Alfredo Bojórquez* *Kim Celoni* *Rudy Corpuz, Jr.* *Stephanie Hall* *Barbara Howard* *Sarah Wan* *Marynella Woods*
4:00 – 4:30 p.m.	**Wrap Up: Creating an Action Plan**

San Francisco Public Defender's Juvenile Justice Summit 2005
"Re-forming Juvenile Justice: Prevention, Accountability and Empowerment"

Panelist Bios

Jeff Adachi

Jeff Adachi was elected to the office of the San Francisco Public Defender in 2002 and leads an office of 90 attorneys and 50 support staff who provide legal representation to over 20,000 people each year accused of crime; he previously served as the Chief Attorney from 1998-2001 and as a deputy public defender from 1986-1998.

Lenore Anderson

Lenore Anderson is the director for Books Not Bars, a project of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights. Books Not Bars engages in grassroots campaigns to push for education and opportunities for youth instead of punishment and incarceration. Currently, Books Not Bars is campaigning to close California's 8 CYA youth prisons, bolster local alternatives and build regional rehabilitation centers for youth in need. Books Not Bars also runs a statewide support network for parents of the CYA incarcerated youth, Families for Books Not Bars and youth leadership development and organizing projects in Oakland called Let's Get Free. Lenore is also the President of the Board of Directors for the Center for Young Women's Development, a San Francisco-based organization that provides gender specific, peer based opportunities for high0risk low and no-income young women to build healthier lives and healthier communities. She graduated from New York University School of Law in 2001.

Captain Marsha Ashe

Capt. Marsha Ashe is the commander of the Juvenile Division of the San Francisco Police Department. The juvenile section comprises child abuse, Internet crime, juvenile offender, missing persons and youth programs. A veteran officer with over 20 years experience, Captain Ashe is one of only two women today to hold the rank of captain on the San Francisco police force, which has 364 women amongst its 2,000 members.

Kyra J. Bobinet, M.D.

Kyra J. Bobinet, M.D. is the Executive Director and Foundation of Vision Youthz, a San Francisco-based organization dedicated to holistic personal transformation of youth through building diverse service communities and fostering healthy connections to inner self, society and nature. Vision Youthz serves at-risk and incarcerated youth, 13-21 years old.

Dr. Bobinet is a 1998 graduate of the University of California, San Francsico School of Medicine. She is the recipient of the 1997 James Comer Fellowship (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry), 1998 UCSF Martin Luther King Jr. Award, and the 1998 Echoing Green Graduate Fellowship in Community Service.

Dr. Bobinet is of Ojibway, Lakota and Czech descent , and a parent. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is dedicated to promoting and serving the unconditional worth of all beings.

Alfredo Bojórquez

Alfredo Bojórquez, a life long San Francisco Mission District resident of Mexican heritage has for the last 23 years dedicated himself to providing advocacy to at-risk Latino youth and their families. Mr. Bojórquez' advocacy is concentrated in the San Francisco Juvenile Justice System.

Mr. Bojórquez' former employer the Real Alternatives Program (RAP) had served him and his family at their moments of need during his adolescence and it was there that he was exposed to community organizing. He quickly developed a talent for reaching out to other youth and became RAP's Juvenile Court Liaison. In that capacity Mr. Bojórquez met the challenge of representing youth during their adjudication process and developing comprehensive alternative disposition(sentencing) plans for their submission to the court. His diplomatic persona soon was recognized by the Juvenile Court and detention systems as he facilitated various support groups for Latino youth in detention thus making his alternative recommendation all the more creditable.

Additionally, during his tenure with RAP, Mr. Bojórquez served as the Co-Director for the Mayor's Criminal Justice Council's Mission District Gang Prevention/Intervention Program and provided not only court representation but also direct services in the street during high risk evening and night hours. He was able to impact several young lives, which could have resulted in tragic ends.

Currently, Mr. Bojórquez serves as the Youth Services Coordinator for Instituto Familiar de la Raza, a community-based non-profit mental health and social services agency. His clientele continues to be youth and families experiencing the Juvenile Justice System and those at risk of coming to the attention of the Juvenile Authorities.

Mr. Bojórquez also serves on the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), as well as chairing the committee on Language Access and Cultural Competency of JDAI. This initiative is committed to bringing institutional policy change in the San Francisco Juvenile Justice System. Furthermore Mr. Bojórquez is a member of the San Francisco Gang Free Initiative Steering Committee San Francisco Gang Free Initiative is charged with establishing policy on how San Francisco responds to gang related issues city-wide.

In 20054, Mr. Bojórquez was selected to co-chair the San Francisco Juvenile Justice Provider's Association (JJPA) which acts as a city-wide clearinghouse for community based organizations who provide service to wards of the court and advocates accountability of the Juvenile Authorities.

Kimberely Celoni

Kimberly Celoni is a mother, counselor, children's advocate, motivational speaker, community activist and San Francisco native. She lists among her accomplishments as a motivational speaker, actively inspiring at risk men and women, recovering addicts, ex-felons and students of all ages that success through change is possible. Kim has inspired city college students, inmates in San Francisco County Jail, adolescents in group homes, rehabilitation treatment facilities, hospital psychiatric wards and community centers with passion, purpose and perspective. Kim has worked in the community, Women's Alcoholism Center, Haight Ashbury Women's AIDS program, in Home Base Supervision Program for youth transitioning from detention, an alternative to incarceration, Morrisania West Incorporated as a youth substance abuse counselor and currently collaborates with San Francisco County Probation and Juvenile

Justice systems, advocating for our youth. With all of this she is a full-time mother and champion, who insists on making a difference in our community.

Roger Chan

Roger Chan is a Deputy Public Defender specializing in juvenile delinquency and dependency cases. He currently works with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, where he handles educational advocacy and out-of-home placement cases. Roger is also a member of the advisory Board for the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley and UC Hastings College of Law.

Rudy Corpuz Jr.

Born and Raised in San Francisco, Rudy Corpuz Jr is currently operating United Playaz, a violence prevention program in inner city schools and juvenile detention centers and adult facilities. Curpuz has been in the battlefield serving the community and youth for 11 strong years.

Reverand Toni Dunbar

The Reverend Toni Dunbar is a 35-year resident of the Bay Area. She brought sixteen years experience in urban ministry, church-based community services and non-profit program development to her historic role as the first Chaplain at the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department, in 1998. Rev. Dunbar is an Associate Conference Minister of the Northern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ, with a portfolio emphasizing judicatory and urban ministries. She earned her Master of Divinity degree at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, and is an Associate Pastor of City of Refuge United Church of Christ in San Francisco.

In her home city of Berkeley, Toni previously served as the pastoral associate of South Berkeley Community UCC, and founded the experimental outreach Pangaean Christian Fellowship, Inc. She completed the inaugural volunteer chaplain training of the City of Berkeley Police Department, and was named Woman of Year by the City of Berkeley Commission of the Status of Women in 1997.

Toni periodically provides consultant services to non-profit and faith-based organizations nationwide. She has instructed organizations such as the 100th Annual UC Berkeley Graduate Theological Union Earl Lectures and the Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI) Urban Youth Workers Conference on methods of developing faith-based interventions for high-risk youth. She was named the Professional Woman of the Year 2002 by the San Francisco Business and Professional Women, Inc.

Toni is the author of Blessed! Sermons from the Edge, and a member of several alliances, boards and consortia promoting the role of communities-including communities of faith-in the reclamation of their most marginalized and highly at-risk members.

At the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department, Toni's zest for life and passion for youth motivates her to live out her favorite quotation by Alice Walker: "Anything we love can be saved."

Victoria Dominguez

Victoria Dominguez is the parent of a child who has been involved in the Juvenile Justice system, as well as with other service programs in San Francisco Bay View/Hunter's Point area. She also has a background in caring for children with special needs.

Katherine Feinstein

Katherine Feinstein currently serves as the Supervising Judge of San Francisco's Unified Family Court. Bench officers in this court division hear matters related to juvenile dependency and delinquency, family law, domestic violence and child support.

Judge Feinstein served as a delinquency judge in Department 30 for two and one-half years before becoming the supervising judge. She continues to preside over the Youth Family Violence Court, long cause delinquency trials and fitness hearings at the Youth Guidance Center. She is also Chair of the SAFE START initiative and Co-Chair of the Mayor's Log Cabin Ranch Work Group.

Before becoming a judge, Feinstein served as a deputy city attorney managing the Family & Children Services Unit and worked as a private attorney representing children in dependency and dispute custody cases. Other past experience includes services as a deputy district attorney, membership on the San Francisco Police Commission, and directorship of the Mayor's Criminal Justice Council.

Feinstein is a 1984 graduate of Hastings College of the Law and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of California, Berkeley.

Marcus Gallegos

Marcus is 22 years old and is a native San Franciscan. He entered the juvenile justice system at the age of 15 and at 17 was committed to Log Cabin Ranch School by the courts. He received his high school diploma at the Ranch and graduated successfully. While working at the YGC Corner Store, he attended classes at City College. ON May 9, 2005 Marcus took the examination to become a real estate sales agent.

Stephanie Hall

Stephanie Hall is Program Director of the Detention Diversion Advocacy Program. She has worked with DDAP for four and a half years, primarily with the Placement Population and high-risk youth. Hall previously worked with the Department of Human Services providing wrap around family services to high-risk families in Bayview, Sunnydale and Potrero Hill.

Hall was a member of the startup committee of the Annie E. Casey Family to Family initiative. She participated in a documentary that outlined high rates of foster care children in San Francisco. She is a mother of 8.

Roxanne C. Hann Ware

36 Years old, San Francisco native found her pen voice at the age of 12. Her first works included cries for justice during the tragic Atlanta children murders and was printed in The Sun Reporter, a local and honored community newspaper. She has performed nationwide as a spoken word artist. However, her passion is for community and cultural work that she is able to continue doing, working with the Institute for the advanced Study of Black Family Life & Culture, Inc. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology (SFSU 1995) as well as a Master's Degree in the

field of Counseling (SFSU 2000). She continues to write, being inspired by her ancestors, whom she says "whisper speaks-sees in her ear … so they become the words heard, and your eyes open-WIDE!"

Barbara Howard

Ms. Howard has lived in the Bay Area for over 50 years. She has encouraged many youth and their families to embrace their Minds in the Future towards Excellence! She is a mother of two: Le'Andre Boddie and Shan'drea Lewis. She also is a partner in their family business, Wendy's Cheesecake Bakery which has been serving the Bay Area for over 30 years and a partner in the Daughter's of Wendy's Cheesecake Bakery #2, Wendy's Le'Royalty Ladies Catering Service.

The Journey she has embarked upon has been given to her by her Lord Jesus Christ and her Ancients. She has chosen to make a difference in people lives with words of encouragement, empowerment workshops, transformation of the mind mentoring tours called "Taking Control of your own Destiny" and community events. A few of these events have included: "Extraordinary Individuals that Make it Happen!", "The 4th Annual Black History Celebrations, Embracing the Minds of the Future to Reach for Excellence and Success with Strong Minds.

Ms. Howard is on the board of The Women's Chamber of Commerce of Oakland, California with CEO Cathy Jackson. She has a column in the Meena Newspaper, "Inspirational Messages". She's an active member of MAGIC (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities" program with Jeff Adachi, San Francisco Public Defender. She started a non-profit organization "B.H. Brilliant Minds Project Inc." which is a mentoring program helping youth and their families take control of their own destiny, encouraging and teaching them that what ever they set their minds in life to do can be done by trusting in believing in self and God. Ms. Howard is a performer of Spoke Words with the extraordinary group called Jazz Hieroglyphics featuring Maestro Brian of San Francisco and has performed with the band, X Pression.

Ms. Howard is determined to make a difference in the world and be a role model, like her forefathers and mothers.

Jack Jacqua

Jack Jacqua is a former schoolteacher, counselor, and coach with the San Francisco Unified School District. Mr. Jacqua is a community activist on behalf of children and has been for 35 years. He is the peer counselor coordinator for and co-founder of the Omega Boys Club, a nationally recognized organization for youth and young adults emphasizing academic achievement and non-involvement with violence and drugs. Jack is currently an advocate for young men and women at the Youth Guidance Center in San Francisco.

Jack spends his time at Juvenile Hall and a number youth and adult prisons such as 850 Bryant Street, Log Cabin Ranch, San Bruno, and on the street corners of San Francisco neighborhoods. Omega boys Club is and extended family based on fundamental Afro-centric principles and is a model for violence prevention and academic success from the jailhouse to the schoolhouse throughout the country.

Patricia Lee

Patricia Lee has been a Deputy Public Defender in San Francisco since 1978, and has been practicing in the Juvenile Courts since 1981. She is currently managing attorney for the Juvenile Division of the San Francisco Public Defender's Office.

Her advocacy of children extends beyond the courtroom into the community. She has been past president of the San Francisco Delinquency Prevention Commission. She is the founding member of the Center for Young Women's Development, a peer-led organization that hires at-risk young women to provide outreach and advocacy for young women who have lived or other street economies. She is also the past president of Coleman Youth Advocates, a network of child activists engaged in improving the plight of children and families.

Patricia was the recipient of the 1997 National Organization for Women Community activist of the Year Award on behalf of her work with children. She is also the recipient of the 2004 "Woman Warrior" Award for the Pacific Asian American Women Bay Area Coalition.

Ms. Hydra Mendoza

Ms. Hydra Mendoza is a founding member of Parents for Public Schools of San Francisco and has been the Executive Director since fall of 2001. Parents for Public Schools of San Francisco is the local chapter of a national organization of parents and community members who work to support, promote and improve public education. Ms. Mendoza is the parent of two children at Fairmount Elementary School, which houses a 2-way Spanish immersion program. She has been the Co-chair of Fairmount's School Site Council, Member of the English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC), Vice-President of Outreach for their PTA. In addition, Ms. Mendoza holds a community member seat on the board of the Japanese Community Youth Council and a member of the newly formed Mayor's Policy Council on Children, Youth and Families. Over the last 4 years, Ms. Mendoza has served as a community member on a number of key policy changing committees/task forces for the San Francisco Unified School District, including the Weighted Student Formula, Student Assignment Task Force, Family Hardship Appeals Committee (Co-Chair), Thurgood Marshall Community Task Force, Citizen Bond Oversight Committee (Vice Chair) and is a core member of the Superintendent's monthly parent roundtable. In addition, she has chaired and facilitated the PPS Two Way Immersion and Language Acquisition Task Force, which was established in 2002. She has been invited to speak on issues of enrollment, parent involvement, bilingual education and school governance at schools and for organizations across the city as well as on panels for State and National organizations such as the California Council of Parent Participatory Nursery Schools, California Association for Compensatory Education, California Association for Bilingual Education and Teach for America. She is a member of the Public Education Leadership Project, a joint effort by the Harvard School of Business and School of Education. She is committed to using the strength and influence of parents to push forward public school reform efforts.

Her previous professional work experience as Vice President of Regional Operations for a financial service provider and as a core member of two start up companies have strengthened her skills in management, marketing and finance which has been valuable towards her efforts to help change the way our public schools utilize parents, identify the needs of our families and redefine the role of parents active in our schools and set policy. Her personal experience as a mother, pre-school teacher, community organizer and active parent locally and district-wide has increased her knowledge base of the structure and inter-workings of our public schools and how they serve our children. She was very active in both the grassroots efforts and in working with

the business community to successfully pass Proposition "A", the school bond and is the Vice Chair for the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, which will see the bond through construction completion. She served on the steering committee of Proposition "H," which will bring much-needed funds to our San Francisco public schools for art, music, sports, librarians, nurses and preschool for all. She is also the key parent organizer who brought together civic leaders and philanthropists in San Francisco to provide support and opportunities to the children in our San Francisco Public Schools.

The California Association for Bilingual Education just named Ms. Mendoza 2005 "Parent of the Year."

William P. Siffermann

Prior to his appointment as Chief Probation Officer for the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department, Mr. Siffermann served as Deputy Director of Probation and Court Services for Cook County Juvenile Probation Department in Chicago where he led a department with over 500 employees and an annual budget of $47 million.

From 1986 to 1995, as Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Mr. Siffermann was responsible for developing and managing the state's first Juvenile Intensive Probation Supervision Program, the state's first Juvenile Intensive Drug Program and the Home Confinement Program.

Mr. Siffermann has presented numerous workshops on Juvenile Justice issues for the Office of Juvenile and Delinquency Prevention, the National Juvenile Detention Association, the Annie. E Casey Foundation and the National Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He was a charter partner of the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, where he was a key leader in statewide detention reform. Bill has authored numerous innovative policies, procedures and programs.

Undfe the leadership of Chief Probation Officer Siffermann, the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) locates, develops and administers programs for the assessment, education, treatment, appropriate rehabilitation and effective supervision of youth under the jurisdiction of the Department. His mission is to incorporate the use of detention alternatives and principles of balanced and restorative justice into the Department's daily operation. The restoration of the juvenile offenders and the public's trust in San Francisco's Juvenile Justice System is the Department's primary objective.

Bill holds a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Loyola University and a Masters Degree in Social Justice from Lewis University.

Abigail Trillin

Abigail Trillin is the managing attorney at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco and the co-director of the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center. She has been at Legal Services for Children, handling guardianship, dependency, immigration and school discipline cases since 1996. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Trillin taught elementary school in Los Angeles. Ms. Trillin holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from New York University.

T. Ayoka Turner

Ayoka Turner is a youth worker and community activities who has worked in and for youth and communities for the past 15 years. She was borne and raised in New York City and moved to San Francisco in 2000 to continue her work fighting for economic and social justice for low-income youth and communities of color. Ayoka's work has focused on juvenile justice and

economic, community and youth development. Currently she is staff of the San Francisco Youth Commission.

Sarah Ching-Tin Wan

Sarah Ching-Ting Wan, CYC's Executive Director, has over ten years' experience in youth services. An advocate for youth and the Asian American community in San Francisco, her work in youth development focuses on gang, violence, and juvenile delinquency prevention; and juvenile justice and education issues for immigrant youth.

Born in Hong Kong, Ms. Wan moved to the United States at the age of 16 to continue her secondary education at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory in San Francisco. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of California at Berkeley in 1997. She later earned her Master's of Social Work degree (administration and planning concentration) from San Francisco State University in 2002. Ms. Wan also received a full scholarship to participate in a year-long cultural exchange program at Kyushu University in Japan.

Ms Wan began her service with CYC in 1997 as a youth and family counselor. She eventually served as program coordinator and program director for CYC before becoming executive director. Ms. Wan's service to the San Francisco Asian American community also includes working as an intern at Asian Community Mental Health Service and serving as a member on various committees. Among these committees are the American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter Youth Services Committee, San Francisco Gang Free Communities Initiative, and the Adolescent Health Working Group Steering Committee.

Ms. Wan's work has been featured in Sing Tao Daily, AsianWeek, and other publications. She was honored with CYC's Staff Recognition Award at CYC's 30th Anniversary Event in 2000 and was a recipient of the "Everyday Hero Award" from CompassPoint Nonprofit Services in 2001.

Lynn Westry

Lynn Westry has been a long time survivor and advocate in the Bayview Hunters Point community. In the past decade, she has worked actively to help bring the voices of victims to public earshot. She has been engaged in numerous citywide efforts including candlelight vigils and other activities to bring healing to mothers and survivors of violence.

Ms. Westry is a mother of two beautiful daughters and a grandmother of a granddaughter. The oldest of her two daughters is now living peacefully in heaven. While living, her daughter had a lot of behavioral problems that were not fully diagnosed. She never received all the services that she needed and deserved. Her death heightened Ms. Westry's awareness of mental health issues and sparked her desire to help other families who have similar experiences. The barriers and what seems like "unfinished business" has led her to continue in her line of work and to constantly strive to be better educated and to be an example to her surviving daughter and granddaughter.

Always a change-agent, Ms. Westry has been a Peer Parent Advocate for the last 5 years providing for families under the Department of Public Health for the CSOC Family Involvement Team. By weaving her passions and her concerns about her community in to her daily work, Ms. Westry forged progress tying violence prevention with mental health by helping to create Life Endangerment Affects Families (LEAF). LEAF was a pilot project that served as a platform for discussing how victims of violence in the Southeast sector could obtain mental health help and

healing. This project helped to perpetuate the movement towards addressing violence as a health concern.

Marynella Woods

Marynella Woods, M.S.W., is a social worker for the San Francisco Public Defender's Office. She has worked extensively with juveniles and their families in the dependency and delinquency courts. San Francisco County commitments to the California Youth Authority have been among the lowest of any county in the State. Ms. Woods' work within the Public Defenders' office for over two decades is a significant factor in the success of that county. Her alternative dispositional plans, which incorporate an in-depth social history, a working knowledge of mental health issues facing adolescents, years of work with delinquents and an extensive knowledge of alternative dispositional resources are a powerful tool for the lawyers advocating for the juvenile offender. Ms. Woods has also been involved in developing the Youth Treatment and Education Court (YTEC), a drug court program which has served as nationwide treatment model. She has spoken extensively on various aspects of advocacy, including how to relate to juvenile clients and finding creative alternative dispositions. She is the 1993 recipient of the Youth Center's Unsung Heroes award for her outstanding advocacy on behalf of youth at the San Francisco Juvenile Hall.

Summit Materials

Summit Materials Index

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2. SFPD Policies and Procedures for Juveniles Detention, Arrest, and Custody.

3. What can we do to lower the detention rates of youth at YGC?

4. What do the young people want? What do the judges want?

5. Raise the Bar - *By Dana Williams*

6. Juvenile Justice Directory of Resources

7. Five Policies to transform juveniles justice – *By Dr. Kyra Bobinet*

8. Navigating the System: 10 Tips for Parents & Guardians – *By Roger Chan, Deputy Public Defender and Marynella Woods, M.S.W.*

9. A Starting Point Resource Guide for Families

10. Juvenile Court Information for Parents

11. What is Magic?

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"JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM: IS IT FINALLY COMING TO SAN FRANCISCO?"

By Jeff Adachi

"The problem is not in knowing or planning. The problem is in doing."

--- Dr. Mimi Silbert,

Juvenile Justice Action Plan (1996)

Each year, there are about 4,000 youth who are arrested in San Francisco. About 3,000 end up being referred to the Juvenile Probation department, resulting in about 1,400 annual court filings. San Francisco has struggled with the question of how to effectively administer juvenile justice over the past 20 years. Numerous studies and reports have called for major reforms, including construction of a new Youth Guidance Center, reducing detention rates, particularly of children of color in favor of non-custodial alternative programs, and improving accountability between the courts, service providers and the juvenile justice stakeholders.

In the mid-90's, Dr. Mimi Silbert of Delancey Street, at the request of former Mayor Willie Brown, developed a "Juvenile Justice Action Plan." The plan was based on solid research, methodology and best practices from around the country. Based upon interviews with over 400 people involved at various levels of the juvenile justice system including 164 youths, the plan recommended that youth charged with non-serious crimes be diverted into specific programs geared to their individual needs and strengths, while youth who committed more serious juvenile offenses be placed in a life-altering wrap-around interventions. The philosophy of the plan was based on the concept of "reciprocal restitution" --- "the offender gives back services and are to his/her community and society restores to its disadvantaged the development of skills and opportunities needed for legitimate and successful living."

The plan also identified gaps in the services available to juveniles. As a result, in 1998, a Community Assessment and Referral Center (CARC) was created to individually assess, divert, book, provide crisis counseling and follow up to youths brought to the center. Aftercare programs, known as "safe havens" and "life learning day treatment centers" were established in three key communities with high juvenile arrest rates. A charter school was established at Treasure Island to provide a focused education in a nurturing environment. The city-owned facilities at Log Cabin Ranch and Hidden Valley Ranch would be re-designed to provide both boys and girls with long term residential centers with structured activities designed to meet each youth's needs and length of stay.

The plan also relied heavily on the probation department and youth agencies to perform community supervision and provide follow-up and aftercare services to youth, and added that training was necessary to ensure that staff had a clear, shared vision of their respective missions and worked together as a team.

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Chief Attorney

Fast forward nearly ten years later. The number of youths detained has remained about the same, despite a significant drop in juvenile arrests and the implementation of the "juvenile detention alternatives initiative" which set up a committee to evaluate detained youth and recommend alternatives to incarceration. Statistics show that youth of color are still disproportionately represented in both the number of arrests and detentions. However, critics point out that recommendations of this committee have not been followed and are routinely overridden by the probation department.

Each year, over 500 youth are brought to CARC instead of being booked at the Youth Guidance Center. While the Treasure Island school still exists and is prospering, the aftercare programs do not. In their place are two evening reporting centers, in the Mission and Bayview Hunters Point districts, where youth on probation can report to the centers instead of going to YGC. However, funding to run these centers are anemic, at $70,000 per year for each center and only five slots per center, and resources available for these programs are minimal.

Log Cabin Ranch, the City's alternative to the California Youth Authority operated by the probation department, houses only about 15 youth, although it has a capacity for 75. The programming is uneven, and the facility has experienced severe staffing problems according to a Controller's report issued last month, with annual costs of over $2 million dollars. Hidden Valley ranch remains closed and has not been used for several years.

So what happened? As Mimi Silbert warned when she submitted her Juvenile Justice Action Plan in 1996, "the problem was not in the planning, but the doing." According to a report issued by the San Francisco Grand Jury last week, the Juvenile Probation Department "must develop and enforce policies and procedures that support the goal of reducing the population of youth in secure detention that are unnecessarily detained." The report also recommends that CARC's hours be extended to 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, and that CARC be moved closer to the Youth Guidance Center so it is more convenient for police officers to bring youth there. Finally, the report recommends improving standards by which community-based agencies providing services to youth are evaluated, and regular management audits by the city controller.

However, with new leadership, the Juvenile Probation Department may be on its way to reform. Bill Siffermann, who helped lead the juvenile justice reform efforts in Chicago, is the new Chief of the Juvenile Probation Department. The timely release of the grand jury report provides the new Chief with a mandate for change. This Fall, a new Youth Guidance Center detention facility will open, replacing the antiquated structure. A blue ribbon committee was recently formed by Mayor Gavin Newsom to develop a new plan for both Log Cabin ranch and Hidden Valley, and will soon release its recommendations. The fortunes of both sites received a boost when Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law senate leader Gloria Romero's bill downsizing the Youth Authority, which will hopefully creating both incentives and funding to create local alternatives. However, only time will tell if San Francisco can learn from its past mistakes and make juvenile justice reform a priority.

SFPD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
FOR JUVENILES DETENTION, ARREST, AND CUSTODY.

This is a proposed draft order to set policy and procedures regarding arrest, detention, shelter bookings, and diversion of juveniles. Please note that this is a DRAFT ONLY and has not been approved. Organizations involved in drafting this document include Community Assessment and Referral Center of Huckleberry Youth Services, Legal Services for Children, Juvenile Public Defenders Office, Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, Office of Citizens Complaints and the San Francisco Youth Commission.

To review the proposed general order, visit the Youth Commission website at the following link: http://www.sfgov.org/site/youth_commission_page.asp?id=28788. Please feel free to contact Ayoka Turner, Youth Empowerment Coordinator of the San Francisco Youth Commission at 415.554.6254 with any questions.

What can we do to lower the detention rates of youth at the Youth Guidance Center?



Overrides

Currently, all youth brought to the Youth Guidance Center are evaluated by the Juvenile Probation Department using the JDAI(Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives) Risk Assessment Instrument to determine when to detain or release arrested youth.

Overrides

- However, 30% of the time, the recommendation of the JDAI stakeholders to release a minor is rejected or "overridden" by probation officers, who decide to detain the minor.
- Non-violent charges and violation of court orders account for 90% of overrides.
- There were 602 overrides by Juvenile Probation officers in 2003, out of 2,048 youth detained. If JDAI's recommendations were followed, detentions would be reduced by one-third (30%).
- Juvenile probation's policies requiring a supervisor's signature for all overrides is not being followed.

(Sources: 2004 Risk Assessment (RAI) by the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative; May 10, 2005 Grand Jury Report; December 2004 Juvenile Probation Department Monthly Report.)

Alternatives to Detention

Currently, approximately 500-600 youth charged with non-serious crimes are brought to the Community Assessment and Referral Center (CARC) for treatment in lieu of detention at the Youth Guidance Center. This is 2[illegible] arrested youth.

Alternatives to Detention

- However, CARC has had no impact on the percentage of youth detained at the Youth Guidance Center which has stayed the same (62%).
- In 2003, 418 youth were not brought to CARC because CARC was closed.
- In 2003, 8% of youth arrested by police were brought directly to the Youth Guidance Center without contacting CARC even though CARC was open.
- If CARC were open 24 hours and all arrested youth were brought to CARC by police, detentions would be reduced by 26%.

(Source: May 10, 2005 Grand Jury Report.)

Race/Ethnic Origin	Number	Percent
African American	1147	56.0
Asian Indian	1	0.0
Cambodian	15	0.7
Chinese	69	3.4
Filipino	48	2.3
Hawaiian	0	0.0
Japanese	4	0.2
Korean	2	0.1
Laotian	0	0.0
Latin American	394	19.2
Native American	4	0.2
Other	47	2.3
Other Asian	30	1.5
Pacific Islander	1	0.0
Samoan	75	3.7
Vietnamese	29	1.4
White	182	8.9
Total	**2048**	**100.0**

Geographical Residence	Total	Percent
Bayview	354	17.3
Haight Ashbury/Castro	13	0.6
Ingleside (West of Twin Peaks)	126	6.2
Inner Mission	106	5.2
Marina	14	0.7
North of Market/Downtown	22	1.1
Outer Mission	332	16.2
Parkside	32	1.6
Potrero	47	2.3
Richmond	38	1.9
South of Market/Tenderloin	51	2.5
Sunset	47	2.3
Treasure Island/Yerba Buena	19	0.9
Western Addition	231	11.3
[1] *Non-San Francisco and Unknown*	616	30.1
Total	**2048**	**100.0**

Detainees on December 31st, 2003

Race/Ethnic Groups by Gender

	Female	Male	Total	Percent
African American	4	44	48	57.83%
Chinese	1	0	1	1.20%
Filipino	1	4	5	6.02%
Latin American	2	15	17	20.48%
Other	1	2	3	3.61%
Samoan	0	2	2	2.41%
Vietnamese	0	1	1	1.20%
White	1	5	6	7.23%
TOTAL	10	73	83	100.00%

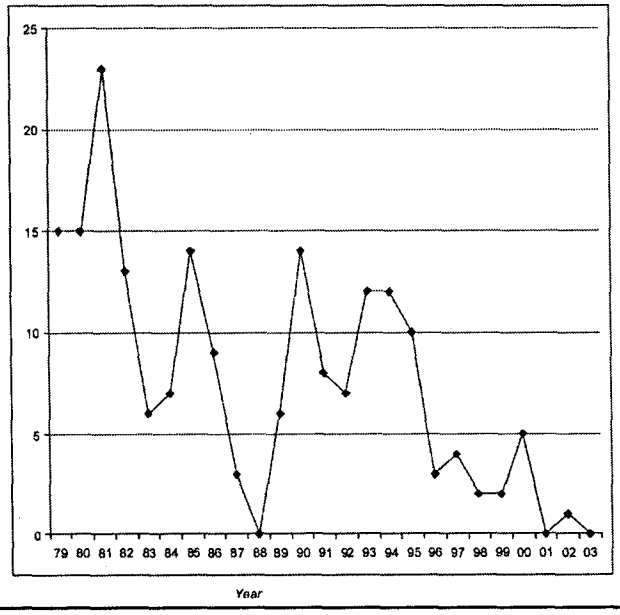
Age by Gender

	Sex		
Age	Female	Male	Total
12	0	1	1
13	0	4	4
14	1	2	3
15	2	15	17
16	2	24	26
17	4	21	25
18	1	6	7
Total	10	73	83
%	12.0%	88.0%	100%

Remands to Adult Court

1979-2003

Year	Remands
79	15
80	15
81	23
82	13
83	6
84	7
85	14
86	9
87	3
88	0
89	6
90	14
91	8
92	7
93	12
94	12
95	10
96	3
97	4
98	2
99	2
00	5
01	0
02	1
03	0

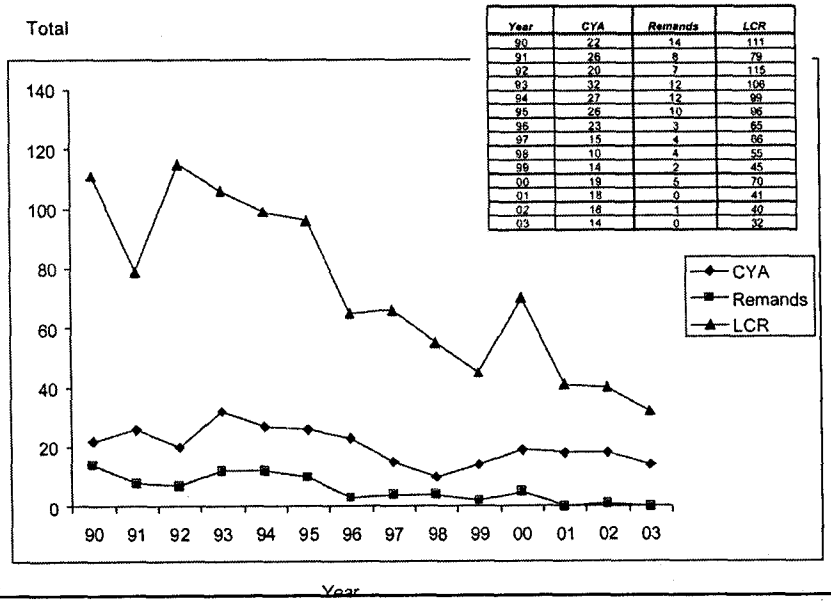


Court Dispositions

California Youth Authority-Remands-Log Cabin Ranch

1990-2003

Year	CYA	Remands	LCR
90	22	14	111
91	26	8	79
92	20	7	115
93	32	12	106
94	27	12	99
95	26	10	96
96	23	3	65
97	15	4	66
98	10	4	55
99	14	2	45
00	19	5	70
01	18	0	41
02	16	1	40
03	14	0	32



RAISE THE BAR by Dana Williams

With more than 600,000 children admitted to juvenile detention facilities each year, the nation struggles to help young offenders gain control of their studies and their lives. A juvenile detention facility in Detroit has found a way: focus on development, not detention.

Twelve teenage boys look up from their seats as a teacher stands at the chalkboard explaining a complicated math problem. They appear captivated by the tall man standing before them with the booming voice and commanding presence. A former NFL player, Michael Oldham has spent the last few years teaching young adults, inspiring their minds and ambitions with a mix of mathematics and mentoring.

Behind Mr. Oldham are posters that read "If you think nobody cares, think again," and "You won't know the outcome until you try." If the personal interaction he shares with his students is any indication, these posters are much more than empty words on a wall.

Just down the hall, four tables of teenage girls work on various art projects using oil pastels. Laura Wayne, their teacher, visits from table to table, hunching over to offer advice on color choices or drawing techniques. One girl sketches a blue Corvette, so immersed in the strokes of her pen she hardly notices Ms. Wayne leaning over to compliment her work.

These students are attending the first week of summer school at Detroit's Benjamin Carson Academy (BCA), believed to be the nation's first charter school for juvenile offenders.

Opened in 1999, BCA is housed in the newly built Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility, a state of the art, 89,300-square-foot building in downtown Detroit with half a dozen gymnasiums, two computer labs, a media center, mental health unit and medical and dental facilities. All Wayne County youth ages 8 to 21 who are arrested or removed from their families are held at this facility and, while incarcerated, attend school at BCA.

It isn't the architecture or physical amenities, however, that has drawn praise from juvenile justice advocates and experts nationwide. It is instead the school's unique focus on providing a nurturing atmosphere and quality education. It also is the mentoring and personal attention aimed at helping young people gain control of their studies — and their lives.

With more than 600,000 children admitted each year to some 500 secure juvenile detention facilities in the United States, such gains are vital.

'Yearning for learning'

Named after Dr. Benjamin Carson, a noted African American surgeon who turned his life around after spending time in Detroit's juvenile justice system, BCA provides small classes, individualized instruction and collaboration with students' home schools.

"We try to touch each and every kid here," said principal Nathaniel King. "We try to make kids like school again, make them aware that they can learn, and we try to reach them at their level."

That's a daunting task for any school, but especially this one. Some 3,000 to 4,000 youth enter and leave the juvenile facility during a given year, with an average daily enrollment of about 170 students. The majority of students enrolled at BCA are urban youth who have been in and out of school, in trouble with the law, functioning well below grade level.

Adding to those challenges is the uncertainty in length of enrollment. Students may remain in the school for a couple of weeks or a few years, depending on the severity of their offense and how quickly or slowly the case moves through the system. That revolving door, King says, is often frustrating, sometimes heartbreaking.

"You go through your process, you're making in-roads with a kid, you see the light bulb go off — then they're gone. But you hope that you've helped instill that yearning for learning, and you just hope it continues."

Efficiency, flexibility and a team-approach, King says, are key to helping kids get the most from their time at BCA.

"We have to manage every case effectively, as if kids are going to be here for the entire school year," said King. "We deal with and expect the turnover, but we still try and treat each and every kid as if it's a kid we'll have around for the whole year."

Helping King manage each case is a staff of 15 certified teachers, 13 teachers' aides, three social workers and an active five-member board.

Patricia Moore, lead social worker, plays a vital role in making sure students receive instruction appropriate for their educational level. Her staff is responsible for identifying students with special education and mental health needs — about 30 percent of the students enrolled.

The team of social workers has implemented a specialized model to identify and evaluate students with special education needs upon arrival to BCA. Like medical and dental screenings, identification of special education and mental health needs is part of the registration process. A child study team meets weekly to review students with special concerns.

Constant exchange of information with the public school system ensures that necessary records are not only obtained by Benjamin Carson Academy but also are forwarded to a student's home school once he or she has completed time in the juvenile facility.

"In the last three years, we've evaluated and identified five students missed in the Detroit Public Schools as having special education needs," said Moore. "We pass that information on once the students leave us, and they can start getting the services they need when they get back to their regular school."

Aside from identifying students requiring special education services, BCA staff also identify and assess students' academic level, grouping them by ability rather than age or grade.

"We may have had 11th-graders who couldn't read or were very poor readers," said King. "If you

put that kid in a class with other kids who are performing at academic level, he is going to act out. He's going to act out because he is behind and he doesn't want anybody to know it."

King says this approach improves classroom environment as well as student confidence. "If a kid mispronounces a word or doesn't understand something, there is no ridicule. They're not afraid to ask for help or admit they don't get something because they know other kids in the class need help, too."

'Culture counts'

About 90% of youth serving time in the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility are African American. The staff of BCA works to integrate African American history and culture into all aspects of the students' experience.

"Culture counts," says Leonard Dixon, director of the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility. "Many of these kids don't know much or anything at all about black leaders and other folks who overcame hard times and accomplished great things. We try to give them a sense of this history, to show them what is possible."

A plaque bearing the face of an African American leader hangs at every classroom door, and a library mural highlights famous faces, past and present, of black history. The units in which students are held while serving time in the juvenile facility are named for leaders in the black community, too.

"Numbers don't mean anything to anybody," Dixon said, stopping a tall teenage boy in line during a class change to ask him the name of his unit.

"Frederick D., I'm on Frederick D.," the student responded, before turning to catch up to the rest of his class in line.

"Frederick Douglass. That kid's unit is named for Frederick Douglass," Dixon said. "Who knows? He might not have known anything about Frederick Douglass before he got here. He might not have learned much about him since he's been here. But maybe one day, when he leaves this place, he might hear that name and think back to being here in that unit. Maybe it will mean something to him."

Going the extra mile

Most days at BCA, the staff's work doesn't end with the school day. Many put in extra hours administering an after-school program four nights each week, offering students extra help in reading, math and GED preparation. A weekend program brings in motivational speakers and involves kids in activities like chess and stock clubs. The BCA staff encourages parents to remain involved while their children are in the juvenile facility.

"We probably have a better turnout at our parent/teacher conferences than some public schools," King said. "We have an innovative staff, and we do come up with some interesting strategies to get them in here and get them involved."

Strategies like holding conferences on parent visitation day, repeat notices and phone calls, even door prizes.

"Whatever it takes to get them in here, to let them know that we want them to be here and to be involved," King said.

Teachers aren't the only ones going the extra mile. James Perkins, a judge in the juvenile court, can be seen in his robe hearing a case in the morning, then up on the floor helping a student with homework in the afternoon.

That kind of dedication sends a strong message to the youth.

"If a kid comes before me in court but still knows I might be up on the floor later, that kid knows I'm interested. And he knows I'm going to know what he is doing and that I'll have that information when he comes before me again," Perkins said. "That can make a difference in how that kid spends his time in here."

A new approach

The Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility hasn't always been the juvenile justice model it is today. Before moving into the new facility, the center was not unlike many juvenile facilities across the country — overcrowded, dilapidated, poorly run and poorly staffed. The facility also was under investigation by the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department.

"We used to have eight or nine fights a day in the old building. Now, if we have two fights in a two-week period, we think the kids are off the hook," King said. "But those were signs of the residual effects of poor programming and a lack of consistency. It was an atmosphere of chaos."

That all changed, King says, not only with the new facility, but also with the implementation of a sound educational program run and administered by New Jersey-based Innovative Educational Strategies.

"As the academic program evolved, behavior improved," said King. "We started dealing with the kids on an individual basis, spending time with them after school."

Arthur Carter, Child Family Services director, cites the new approach as a big reason for the turnaround.

"It's a developmental approach," Carter said. "We're attempting to develop something in these young people that will help them improve their lives. It is as much a juvenile development facility as it is a detention facility."

According to King, it's an approach more people should consider.

"It's not the kids with the 3-point GPAs, the ones with the two-parent homes and the middle-class incomes who need the most help. It's these kids — they need all the help we can give, and then

more."

Turning it around

Michael, a soft-spoken 17-year-old, speaks of the help he's received during his four months at BCA. Wearing a dark blue jumpsuit and bright white shoes, he sits at a table in the library where he is helping label and repair books.

"I like coming in here to work," Michael says, looking up from the stack of paperbacks in front of him. "It's quiet in here. I can think about things while I'm doing this."

He has quite a few things to think about. In less than 24 hours he will face sentencing for attempted murder. Originally from Ohio, Michael got into trouble while visiting family in Detroit, his life forever changed by a handgun and one very bad decision.

"I'll be locked up for a minute; but this will be the first and the last time. One day, I'm going to own my own business," he says, folding his arms and leaning forward with a determined expression.

Michael credits teachers at BCA and other adults at the detention facility for helping plant those seeds of determination. Especially math teacher, Mr. Oldham.

"He's been a role model. That's something I've never really had before," Michael says.

"He listens, he'll help you in any way he can, and he has worked with me a lot, helped me get myself together. I know that I can get out of here one day and make something out of myself."

Dana Williams is a writer for Tolerance.org.

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JUVENILE JUSTICE DIRECTORY OF RESOURCES

ORGANIZATIONS

The National Center on Education, Disability and Juvenile Justice provides assistance in delinquency prevention, education services in detention facilities and transition services. The National Center on Education, Disability and Juvenile Justice, University of Maryland, 1224 Benjamin Building, College Park, MD 20742, www.edjj.org

Building Blocks for Youth seeks to protect minority youth in the justice system and promote effective juvenile justice policies. Building Blocks for Youth, Youth Law Center, 1010 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20005, www.buildingblocksforyouth.org.

Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana promotes rehabilitation and education as effective ways to prevent recidivism. Juvenile Justice of Project of Louisiana, 1600 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70113, (504) 522-55437, www.jjpl.org

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice is a premier national resource on delinquency prevention and juvenile justice issues. Coalition for Juvenile Justice, 2030 M St., NW, Suite 701, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 467-0864, www.juvjustice.org

The Juvenile Justice Educational Enhancement Program at Forida State University works to ensure students assigned to the state's juvenile justice programs receive high-quality, comprehensive educational services. Juvenile Justice Educational Enhancement Program, 345 S. Magnolia Drive, Suite D-23, Tallahassee, FL 32301-2987 (850) 414,8355, www.jjeep.org.

The National Center for Juvenile Justice is a resource for independent and original research on topics in the field of juvenile justice. National Center for Juvenile Justice, 710 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-3000, (412) 227-6950, www.ncjj.org.

The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ) was established to promote balanced and human criminal and juvenile justice policies that reduce incarceration and promote long-term public safety. CJCJ has a number of model programs and conducts extensive research in the field of juvenile justice. Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, 54 Dore St., San Francisco, CA 94103, (415) 621-5661, www.cjcj.org.

Pacific Juvenile Defender Center provides technical assistance to help juvenile public defenders and defense attorneys address practice issues, improve advocacy skills, build partnerships, exchange information, and participate in the national debate over juvenile justice. Pacific Juvenile Defender Center, 1254 Market Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 863-3762 x 314, www.cjcj.org/pjdc.

ON THE WEB

The Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse offers information and programs for youth and juvenile justice employment opportunities. www.fsu.edu/~crimdo/jjclearhouse

The Community Justice Exchange site focuses primarily on community courts and restorative justice concepts. www.communityjustice.org/exchange.asp

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention site of the U.S. Department of Justice provides information and resources on juvenile justice and delinquency. www.Ojjdp.ncjrs.org

Michigan's Balanced and Restorative Justice site offers information and advice on implementing, sustaining and evaluating balanced and restorative justice. www.mibarj.org.

SF Grand Jury report on Juvenile Probation Department. http://www.sfgov.org/site/courts_page.asp?id=3680

FIVE POLICIES TO TRANSFORM JUVENILE JUSTICE
by Dr. Kyra Bobinet

When I began working with youth at the Youth Guidance Center in 1994, I immediately noticed the rapid recidivism of youth leaving B4 Unit. This seemed contrary to the number of youth programs available to "at-risk" youth, so I decided to investigate further into the dynamics of aftercare.

I interviewed youth, families, probation officers, youth programs, adult recovery programs, group homes, research scientists, psychologists, lawyers, and physicians to gather information. Through this process, I identified at least five patterns that were supportive of recidivism. Five of these were, 1.) Youth programs did not have the support or motivation to chase after more difficult or resistant youth and there was no system to discriminate levels of risk in youth, 2.) The recidivism from the juvenile to the adult system was unknown, therefore what was tried at the juvenile level was of unknown efficacy. 3.) Youth continued to be drawn into the justice system because their juvenile record wasn't closed, 4.) Adults did not have a developmental or relationship-based foundation for their decision-making or guidance of young people, Programs did not emphasize relationships as a factor in treating higher risk youth, and 5.) There was no developmentally sound measurement of a youth's transition into adulthood vis a vis measuring the maturity of their perspective.

There are many more substantial targets for policy change. However, addressing these five obstacles would be achievable and of significant benefit for youth to permanently leave the criminal justice system.

1.) MEASURING AND WEIGHTING AFTERCARE BASED ON YOUTH SEVERITY
Currently, there is NO incentive for programs to take on more obstinate, hostile or complicated youth. Research has coined the term "intensive case management". I would suggest that there is a level of "extreme case management" that has not been cultivated because there is no incentive to do so.

I attended a mapping exercise at YGC in January for the JJCC. It was clear in reviewing the prevention to intervention continuum of methods that we (the community) have a cluster of effectiveness when the youth are young, motivated, or just slightly at-risk, then we lose them if they get older/worse but haven't yet entered into our next cluster of court mandates. Finally, if they resist our court-ordered stuff, they then pick-up speed (and numbers of adults who label them as "bad, manipulative") and end-up in the longest juvenile incarceration possible or (strangely paradoxically) released into the community if they are close to aging out of the juvenile system.

In real-time treatment reality, I would determine that at-risk youth can be divided into many categories of difficulty. This would be a unique classification system from the "level 1-14" system used to incarcerate. Instead, a new system would speak to the relationship between the increasing amount of trust and effort needed for us as care

providers (to earn the right) to possess in order to serve the youth who have suffered the most abuse, neglect, or institutionalization.

There should also be a realistic depiction of what each classification costs for care. Clarity around this would help our whole community and address what it might take to target the high-cost individuals who slip through the current structure and become the future "shot-callers". Is the corrections system the ONLY field that does not specifically have a Research and Development department?

2.) LONG-TERM PROSPECTIVE DATA FOR RECIDIVISM OF JUVENILES

As a research scientist and MD, I was trained rigorously in evidence-based practice. As a person practicing new forms of post-detention care, I have been impaired by the lack of data on long-term outcomes of youth from varying treatment modalities. In breast cancer, there is at least a five-year survival rate that is measured and even 10 and 20-year survival rates for most interventions. Yet, in criminal justice, I am scarce to find any statistically significant prospective (or even retrospective) studies on interventions and what their long-term impact is on youth.

For example, there has been so much hand waving about how Log Cabin Ranch is less effective than Glen Mills. I just can't tell because there is no data that can compare the two, while controlling for the differences in the type of youth sent to each. Intuitively, it makes sense that a hand-picked youth placed in an educationally-enriched program for over a year would make more progress than a shorter, weaker program serving more complex youth. However, we have no empirical evidence for the long-term impact--we are still basing our decisions on individual case studies, as far as I know. In practice, I have seen both failures and successes from these two programs. Beyond this simple comparison, we lack long-term data on outcomes of youth from all of our treatment modalities and haven't linked that to our decisions during juvenile care.

The information on criminal records as adults is recorded, and it works against these youth all of the time anyway in moving beyond their criminal past. The police and DA's already have this information. I would suggest that linking the data from juvenile to adult systems for the purposes of informing juvenile justice decision-making would be the equivalent of 5-year data for breast cancer survivors. To my knowledge from my national policy colleagues, no community is doing this as yet. Can we?

3.) AUTOMATIC CLOSURE OF JUVENILE RECORDS

There are many layers of punishment and ripples of complexity for having contact with the criminal justice system. Secondary punishments for juveniles include police harassment, being ostracized post-detention at mainstream schools, and other sequelae of having a juvenile record. Developmentally, adolescence is high-tide for identity formation. Psychologically, youth are impaired with carrying a juvenile record into the world and often feel defeated to join the mainstream. I could tell many stories.

Suffice it to say that if closure of their record was automatic, unless they were actively on probation, youth could move on and out much more readily. The fact that we continue to reference them back to YGC (even through P.O. visits) is itself harmful and reinforcing of a negative identity. I see breaking this association in their minds as fundamental to their rehabilitation.

4.) DEVELOPMENTALLY-BASED, RELATIONSHIP-BASED CARE
I appreciate all of the academic work on strengths-based approaches, protective factors, and wrap-around intensive care. I would submit that beyond these terms, we are lacking an overall mapping of human development that is fundamental to assisting youth in transcending crime and violence. I have witnessed thousands of conversations where an adult tells an incarcerated youth, "you need to get a job and stop messing around". The youth parrot it back when you ask them what they want to do when they get out, "I want to get a job and keep busy so I don't go back to what I was doing." Is that a reliable mantra? Does it get at what is really happening developmentally or what is really needed?

Back to the basics, I can envision that pervasive knowledge on what it truly looks like to be an adolescent versus being an adult would empower everyone involved in juvenile justice to conduct themselves with more integrity and uplift youth. Can there be a policy that makes human development a driver for everything done in juvenile justice?

Additionally, a culture of relationship-based care (i.e. youth feel really loved and we stop creating referrals for youth we know are non-referable without a solid relationship there) will extend our efficacy with higher-risk individuals. If programs were measured based on how good they made youth feel about themselves, it may be a better indicator than the numbers of heads that walked through their doors (which are often meaningless numbers anyway.)

5.) LOCUS OF CONTROL CULTURE
Most criminally involved youth have issues with authority. Most of these issues come from deep anger from being bullied or abandoned by someone they loved. Whatever the point of origin, these youth more than any other youth require a dramatic shift in their locus of control from "out there" to "in here".

I have struggled to create an environment that will promote this, but frankly, it is hard. My best thinking to date is that having youth input into everything opens the door. Training staff how to give power to youth without giving it up themselves, and training youth on pattern recognition and problem solving brings us through the door. After all of my studies and experience of people of all walks of life, I have come to simplify that measuring a person's locus of control is the single biggest tipping point in their energetic passage into adulthood. Adult-aged people who haven't done this are still developmentally adolescents.

Kyra Bobinet is a 1998 graduate of the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine and a recipient of the 1997 James Comer Fellowship (American Academy of

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry), 1998 UCSF Martin Luther King Jr. Award, and 1998 Echoing Green Graduate Fellowship in Community Service. She is of Ojibway, Lakota, and Czech descent, and a mother of two. She indefinitely postponed her research and medical career for a life of service and empowerment of youth and others. She believes in the unconditional worth of all beings. Kyra is the founder and Executive Director of Vision Youthz. She be reached at kyrabobinetmd@visionyouthz.org.

2005 SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER JUVENILE JUSTICE SUMMIT

NAVIGATING THE SYSTEM: 10 TIPS FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

By Roger Chan, Deputy Public Defender, and Marynella Woods, M.S.W.

1. **You are your child's best advocate.**
   Nobody knows your child better than you. Don't be afraid to speak up for what you think your child needs to succeed.

2. **Don't wait until it's too late.**
   Seek help before your child ever enters the juvenile justice system. Find out what services exist in your community and school. If your child is having trouble in school, request an assessment (I.E.P.) and meet with your child's teachers and counselors.

3. **Keep organized.**
   Dealing with the system means interacting with (sometimes) numerous contacts and providers. Keep accurate notes of who you spoke with and when, and their contact information.

4. **Don't minimize your child's bad behavior.**
   The judges and probation officers want to know that the responsible adults are able to deal with the problems that come up. The courts have more confidence in parents and guardians who don't simply make excuses for their children.

5. **Be willing to confront and deal with problems in the home.**
   Many youth who enter the juvenile justice system come from troubled backgrounds. Young people often act out in response to problems they are facing at home or in the community. Have the courage to seek help for yourself as well as for your child.

6. **Develop support networks.**
   It's tough to be parent/guardian dealing with the system alone. You are not alone. Find and develop support networks. Join your school-site councils and PTSA's, and mobilize to create positive changes in the system!

7. **Be a part of the decision making.**
   Parents and guardians frequently and mistakenly believe that they have lost their parental rights when their children enter the juvenile justice system. Not true! While the court may limit your rights, you are still the parent. Find out who the probation officer is and contact him/her as soon as possible. Give input about what you think is in your child's best interests. Develop family-based plans, including asking relatives to help out if necessary.

8. **Follow through and stay involved.**
   If you develop a plan for your child, you have to follow through on it as well, for better or worse. If the plan is not working, then don't cover up for your child. If your child is temporarily removed from your home, maintain contact and visit. Keep up the relationship. Write and call. Let the P.O. and the program know that you are interested and involved.

9. **Don't lose your cool.**
You may not be treated with the type of respect and consideration that you deserve, but it is always more beneficial to your child not to lose your temper. The most important thing is to help your child and get your child out of the system.

10. **Don't give up!**
Be persistent. Even when you reach a dead end and get frustrated, keep pressing forward. Make the system work for you and don't stop until your issue is resolved.

2005 SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER JUVENILE JUSTICE SUMMIT
A STARTING POINT RESOURCE GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

San Francisco Juvenile Court Contacts

- **Public Defender, Juvenile Division**
  258-A Laguna Honda Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94116
  (415) 753-8174 or (415) 753-7601 (Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
  The Public Defender represents youth charged in delinquency proceedings. Also contact the Public Defender if your child was cited and referred to CARC. An attorney is available to counsel the youth before meeting with the probation officer.

- **District Attorney** (415) 753-7700

- **Juvenile Probation**: 8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. (415) 753-7800
  All other times: (415) 753-7500

- **Community Assessment and Referral Center (CARC)**
  121 Leavenworth Street
  San Francisco, CA 94102
  (415) 567-8078

- **Juvenile Justice Commission:** (415) 753-7756
  Oversees San Francisco's juvenile facilities, including juvenile hall, group homes, and Log Cabin Ranch. Works to make sure that no young person's rights are being violated while they are locked up and that all laws are followed. They also review all grievances.

Support for Youth:

- **Huckleberry House** (Temporary shelter for runaway youth)
  1292 Page Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
  (415) 621-2929
  Provides free food, clothing, shelter and medical care for housed clients. Individual and family counseling. Assessment of needs. 24-hour hotline and referrals.

- **Youth Line**: (415) 777-3399
  Is an informational and support hotline that offers young folks in the Bay Area support around issues they may be facing. All operators have a large database and can offer referrals and information about different services for youth to the caller. They also provide crisis intervention counseling. Hours of Operations: 12 noon to 12 midnight, 7 days a week.

- **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of San Francisco**: (415) 693-7700
  To provide positive, long-term mentoring to youths who face the challenges of growing up in low income, single-parent homes.

- **San Francisco Youth Commission:** (415) 554-6446
  Represents and Advocates for the needs and wants of San Francisco's youth and to encourage youth involvement in the political process.

Parent Support Groups

- Coleman Advocates for Youth: (415) 239-0161
- Juvenile Probation Parenting Skills Classes: (415) 753-7594
- Stress Hotlines:
  For parents and children: Talk Live, (415) 441-KIDS (441-5437)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health

- **Community Mental Health Services (Department of Public Health)**
  For information and referrals:
  Mental Health, (415) 255-3400
  Substance Abuse, (415) 255-3500

Assistance with School Issues:

- SFUSD Office of Parent Relations: (415) 241-6185
- Legal Services for Children: (415) 863-3762
  (Monday to Friday, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 pm.)
- Parents Helping Parents: (415) 841-8820
- Community Alliance for Special Education: (415) 431-2285

Lawyer Referrals:

Bar Association of San Francisco
(415) 989-1616

Family Law

Bay Area Legal Aid: (415) 982-1300
Assists with child custody issues, filling out papers, assistance in getting kids back, etc. You have to be low income and you have to live in San Francisco. Intake: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Child Abuse Reporting

San Francisco County Child Abuse Reporting Unit: (415) 206-8772

SAN FRANCISCO**County**

JUVENILE COURT

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The purposes of the delinquency court are: to protect, to give guidance, and to punish children who commit delinquent acts, and to protect the community.

If your child becomes a ward of the court as a juvenile delinquent, the court will make orders for you and your child so that your child and the community will be protected.

As a ward of the delinquency court:

1. Your child may be allowed to live in your home under court supervision; or
2. Your child may be placed outside of your home in an unlocked or locked facility, depending upon your child's age, the seriousness of the offense, and your child's history of delinquency.

The petition and other papers you may have received say your child is accused of having done certain delinquent acts. The petition does not prove anything, but it is important for you to know what your child is accused of having done. You have the right to receive a copy of the petition.

PLEASE READ THE PETITION CAREFULLY.

1. My child came home after being arrested. What will happen now?

Your county's probation department will probably get in touch with you and ask your child to come in for a meeting

Form Approved for Optional Use
Judicial Council of California
JV-060 [New January 1, 2000]

with a probation officer. You will receive a Notice to Appear (a specific date and time you must show up at the probation department).

In very serious cases, your child may receive a Notice to Appear directly in juvenile court.

2. My child was arrested and taken into custody. What can the arresting officer do?

The officer may do one of five things:

1. Let your child go home to you or accompany him or her home or back to the place of arrest, and maintain a record of the contact.
2. Refer your child to a community agency providing shelter, care, diversion, or counseling.
3. In some counties, require your child to return to the police station rather than to the probation department (this is sometimes referred to as "cited back").
4. Give you and your child a Notice to Appear, telling you what you and your child must do and when you must do it.
5. Shortly after the arrest, lock up your child in the probation juvenile hall (this is called "detention"). If your child is locked up or held by the officer, your child has the right to make at least two phone calls no later than one hour after arrest. One of the phone calls must be a completed call to a parent, guardian, responsible relative, or employer. The other call must be a completed call to an attorney. If the officer is going to question your child about what happened, the officer must also tell your child that he or she has the right to remain silent, that anything your child says will be used against him or her, that he or she has a right to be represented by a lawyer, and that the court will appoint a lawyer if your child cannot afford one. These are

called *Miranda* rights. If the officer is not going to question your child, the officer will not necessarily explain these rights.

If your child is locked up or held somewhere, the officer must take immediate steps to notify you that your child is in custody and where your child is being held. When you are notified, the officer must also tell you about each of the *Miranda* rights that your child has.

3. If we get a Notice to Appear, what will happen at the meeting with the probation officer? What should I do?

If your child doesn't already have a lawyer, you may wish to contact the public defender or a private attorney for advice.

One of three things may happen at the meeting:

1. The probation officer can reprimand your child and then let your child go home without getting the juvenile court involved.
2. The probation officer may offer your child a voluntary program instead of going to court. Each county is different and programs vary, but generally if your son or daughter successfully completes the program (for example, attending special classes or substance abuse counseling, performing community service, cleaning graffiti, or going to a youth or peer court if your county has one), the juvenile court does not need to become involved. If you and your child agree to a voluntary program, the probation department may ask you to sign an informal contract describing what you and your child must do. It can last up to six months.
3. The probation officer can refer your child's case to the district attorney, who will decide whether or not to file a petition.

4. Do I need a lawyer for myself?

No, not usually. If your child has a lawyer, the lawyer represents your child and not you.

5. Does my child need a lawyer?

Yes, and your child has a right to a lawyer who is both effective and prepared.

If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer for your child, the court will appoint a lawyer to represent your child.

6. My child's probation officer told me that the district attorney will be filing a petition. What does that mean?

A petition asks the court to become involved in your child's life. The petition says what the state believes your child did. Later, a judge will decide if what the petition says is true.

There are two types of petitions. They are named after numbered sections of California law:

a. **601 Petition.** A 601 Petition is filed by the probation department and says that a child has run away, skipped school, violated curfew, or regularly disobeyed his or her parents. If the court finds that the petition is true, the youth may become, a "ward" of the court and is known as a "status offender."

b. **602 Petition.** A 602 Petition is filed by the district attorney's office and says that a child has committed an act that would be considered against the law if an adult had done it. If the court finds the facts stated in the petition to be true, the child becomes a "ward" of the court as a delinquent.

Section 602 covers any act that is against the law when an adult does it. This includes felonies such as auto theft, burglary, selling a controlled substance (drugs), rape, and murder, and misdemeanors such as simple assault and drunk driving.

The penalty for the offense depends on the type of offense.

7. What will happen if my child is taken to juvenile hall after the arrest?

It is up to the probation officer whether or not to keep your child in custody. The probation officer may let your child go home without asking the district attorney to file a petition. The probation officer may allow your child to go home and still refer the case to the district attorney who will decide whether or not to file a petition. There may be restrictions placed on your child as a condition of being allowed to go home.

If the probation officer keeps your child locked up, the law requires that a petition be filed very quickly, usually within 48 hours from the time the child is taken into custody by the police. Then there must be a detention hearing the next day that the court is in session. The courts are closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

8. How long could my child have to stay in juvenile hall?

At the detention hearing, the judge could decide your child must be kept in juvenile hall until the next hearing. The different hearings are described in question 12. The judge may continue to order your child to remain in juvenile hall until the case is finished.

9. Can I visit my child in juvenile hall?

Usually, but you should contact the probation officer to find out when you can see your child.

10. What is the role of the probation officer?

The probation officer is responsible for writing a report to the juvenile court judge about your child. The report tells the judge what the probation department thinks would be best for your child if the judge finds that your child committed the crime. The report also includes your child's prior arrest

record; a description of the current offense; statements from your child, his or her family, and other people who know your child well; a school report; and a statement by the victim. The probation officer presents this report at the disposition hearing.

If your child is placed on probation, the probation officer will enforce the court's orders. This means monitoring your child to make sure he or she obeys the law and follows the terms of probation. The probation officer will also encourage your child's positive involvement in school and participation in job training, counseling, and community programs. Depending on the situation, the probation officer could meet with your child as often as twice a week or as little as once a month.

If your child is in custody, and the judge decides your child should not go home right after the case is finished, the probation officer's job is to find an appropriate placement for your child. This could be with a relative, in a county-based foster or group home, or in a private institution.

11. How will my child and I find out about the court hearings?

If your child is locked up you should get the petition and notice of the hearing, personally or by mail, as soon as possible after the petition is filed and at least 5 days before the hearing. If the hearing is less than 5 days after the petition is filed, you will get notice at least 24 hours before the hearing. Your child has the right to get notice if he or she is at least 8 years old.

If your child is not in custody, you should get notice of the petition and hearing personally or by first-class mail at least 10 calendar days before the hearing.

12. What hearings will my child go to in juvenile court?

There are several types of hearings:

a. **The Detention Hearing.** If your child is locked up in juvenile hall for more than 48 hours, there will be a

detention hearing after no more than 72 hours, counting only court business days (no Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays). At the detention hearing, the judge will decide whether or not to let your child go home before the next hearing.

b. **The Pre-trial or Settlement Conference.** In many counties, a court appearance is scheduled to try to resolve the matter without a trial.

c. **Hearings on Motions.** There may be court appearances for the court to hear additional matters that come up before the matter is resolved.

d. **The Fitness or Waiver Hearing.** If your child is at least 14 years old, the district attorney may ask that your child be tried in adult court. At the fitness hearing the judge will decide whether your child will be tried in adult court or in juvenile court. If your child is ruled "unfit" for juvenile court, he or she will be tried in adult court. If your child is younger than 14, there will be no fitness hearing.

e. **The Jurisdiction Hearing.** At the jurisdictional hearing, the judge will decide whether or not your child committed the offense.

f. **The Disposition Hearing.** If the judge rules that your child committed the offense, then at the disposition hearing the judge will decide what orders should be made about your child. If the judge rules that your child did not commit the offense, there is no disposition hearing. Sometimes the disposition hearing is held right after the jurisdiction hearing, on the same day.

g. **Review Hearings.** In some cases, the law or the court may set hearings to review your child's progress and performance under probation supervision.

13. What will happen at the jurisdiction hearing?

In many cases, the child will admit all or part of the petition.

Your child's attorney will advise your child as to whether or not to make an admission.

If there is a contested hearing, or "trial," the district attorney will present the case against your child. Then your child's attorney will present your child's defense. Based on this evidence, the judge will decide whether or not your child has committed the acts he or she is accused of. If the judge makes a "true finding," this means that there is enough evidence for the judge to find beyond a reasonable doubt that your child did commit the acts.

After a "true finding," the judge schedules a disposition hearing to decide what the consequences will be.

If there is not enough evidence for the judge to find that your child committed the act he or she is accused of, the case will be dismissed. If your child is in custody, he or she will be released.

14. What will happen at the disposition hearing?

The judge will decide one of six things:

a. Your child may remain at home on probation supervision for up to 6 months.

b. Your child may be ordered home under the formal supervision of a probation officer. Formal supervision is set up by the judge.

c. Your child may be placed on probation and ordered to live in a relative's home, a private residential group home, or an institutional program.

d. You child may be placed on probation and sent to a probation camp or ranch.

e. Your child may be committed to the California Youth Authority (CYA). (But if your child is tried as an adult, the adult criminal court could sentence your child to the California Department of Corrections (CDC) (see questions 19 and 20).

f. As a parent, you may be ordered to comply with conditions such as counseling or parent training.

15. May I be present at the hearings?

Yes. In fact, new state law requires you to be present. One thing the judge will decide is what will be best for your child. Depending on the offense, if you can show that your child will listen to you and follow your rules, and that you will hold your child accountable and be supportive at home, the judge may order that your child be released to your custody.

16. May I speak at the hearings?

You may speak if the judge asks you questions directly, or if you are called as a witness. You may ask to speak to the judge. Generally, your child's lawyer will speak for your child. The district attorney will speak for the state. The probation department may be called as a witness.

17. Do we have the right to an interpreter?

Your child has a constitutional right to an interpreter. You may also have a right to an interpreter and should ask for one if you need one.

18. May the victim attend and speak at the disposition hearing?

Yes. A crime victim's bill of rights allows the victim to come to the hearing. The victim, and his or her parents if the victim is a child, will get notice of the hearing.

19. When can my child be tried as an adult?

For some felonies, your child can be tried and sentenced as an adult if your child is at least 14 years old. The case would be moved to adult court. There are major differences between juvenile and adult criminal court procedures and philosophies. If the district attorney requests that your child be tried as an adult, it is extremely

important to talk to your child's attorney about all of the very serious consequences of your child's situation.

20. What felonies are likely to be tried in adult court?

A child can be tried in adult court for a wide range of offenses. These are *violent* and *serious* offenses, including murder and attempted murder, arson of an inhabited building, robbery with a dangerous or deadly weapon, some forms of rape, some forms of kidnapping and carjacking, some felonies involving firearms, certain controlled substance offenses, and certain violent escapes from a juvenile detention facility.

21. Where will my child go if he or she is sent to the California Youth Authority (CYA)?

Your child will first go to a reception center for 30 to 90 days. After that, your child will be sent to one of nine correctional facilities or one of four youth camps. These are the three reception centers where staff will assess your child's education and treatment needs:

a. The Northern Youth Correctional Reception Center and Clinic in Sacramento (916-733-2350)

b. The Southern Youth Correctional Reception Center and Clinic in Norwalk (562-868-9979)

c. The Ventura Youth Correctional Facility (for girls) (805-485-7951)

You may visit your child during visiting hours, which are on Saturdays or Sundays for 2 to 3 hours at a time, depending on the reception center. The Ventura reception center for girls allows visits for up to 6½ hours at a time. You may not call your child at the reception center, but you may write to your child. Your child may make collect calls to you from a pay phone.

22. When would my child go to the California Department of Corrections (CDC) instead of the California Youth Authority (CYA)?

Your child can be sentenced to adult prison (CDC) only if

he or she is tried as an adult (see questions 19 and 20). If your child will be tried as an adult, it is extremely important to talk to your child's attorney about all of the very serious consequences of your child's situation.

Between the ages of 14 and 16, your child must stay at CYA even if he or she is sentenced to adult prison.

If your child is at least 16 years old and is tried in adult court, the judge can order your child to serve time in adult prison rather than at CYA.

If your child is at least 16, he or she may serve the entire term at CYA only if the term will end before he or she reaches age 21. If your child's term will last past age 21, then your child could be at CYA until age 18, and then would automatically be transferred to CDC on his or her 18th birthday. The court could also order your child directly to CDC at age 16.

23. Am I financially liable for my child's acts?

Yes. You may also have to pay restitution to the victim if your child is ordered to pay. Restitution is money to pay for the victim's losses caused by your child's illegal conduct. Examples of restitution might include the value of stolen or damaged property, medical expenses, and lost wages.

24. Will I be required to pay my child's fees?

Yes. Unless you have been the victim of your child's crime, you will receive a bill from the county for your child's attorney's fees. You will be billed for probation department services fees (such as food and laundry while your child was in juvenile hall), and placement costs for keeping your child in a state placement such as the California Youth Authority, a probation camp, or an out-of-home placement. These costs can be expensive. You will have a chance to show how much, if any, of these costs you are able to pay. The Juvenile Court does not make this determination.

25. Can my child's juvenile records be sealed?

This is very important for your child, but will not happen

automatically, and not all records may be sealed including some Department of Motor Vehicle convictions. Your child must file a petition to request this.

Your child can file a petition after he or she turns 18. Your child can also file a petition 5 years (in some cases, 6 years) after everything connected with his or her case is over. The probation department will make sure that your child was not involved in any later crime. If the petition to seal the records is granted by the court, all records of the case and the arrest will be ordered sealed.

Ask your child's attorney or probation officer for help.

26. Can my child's juvenile court record be used against him or her as an adult?

Under the three-strikes law, certain serious or violent felonies committed as a juvenile can be counted as strikes and used against your child in the future. This can happen even if the juvenile court record has been sealed.

27. What should I do as a parent?

All your parental responsibilities continue when your child receives a citation. You may want to contact a lawyer for assistance.

If your child is placed in a group home or committed to a probation camp or the California Youth Authority, do your best to maintain contact with your child and support the positive activities he or she does there. Understand what is happening in your child's life so that you can prepare for his or her return. Explore ways of creating a protective and supportive environment for your child's return to school or work. Develop strategies to hold your child accountable for his or her behavior.

Contact your child's parole agent or probation officer to ask for referrals to community organizations that can assist you, such as parent groups or counseling. Your school district and local hospital or mental health department may also offer programs.

MAGIC: Mobilizing Adolescent Growth In Our Communities

If children experience MAGIC in their world,
They will have hope for the future.

What is MAGIC?

Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities (MAGIC) is a collaborative effort involving a growing number of community based organizations in Bayview Hunters Point, the Urban Services YMCA, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), the W. Haywood Burns Institute, the Community Leadership Council (CLC) and the San Francisco Public Defender's Office. MAGIC was formed to implement the Comprehensive Strategy to promote juvenile justice reform by bolstering strengths and proving support for San Francisco communities suffering from violence and crime. The Comprehensive Strategy is a 1000-page comprehensive community planning juvenile justice model, which has been successfully implemented in over 50 cities nationwide.

MAGIC was formed in February 2004 by the Public Defender's office in response to the need for improved communication, cooperation and collaboration between the juvenile justice system, youth, families, schools, health and mental health departments, and youth and family service providers. Over the past year, MAGIC has grown to include representatives from over 40 Bayview Hunters Point youth and family agencies. MAGIC hopes to reach out to all of San Francisco, and is implementing its multi-year strategic plan with a neighborhood-by-neighborhood approach, targeting one community at a time. MAGIC decided to begin its work in one San Francisco community, Bayview Hunters Point (BVHP), because Bayview has the largest number of single-family residences and the largest youth population. Over 7,900 (approximately 32%) of Bayview residents are children, and nearly 30% of the 1400 youth represented by the Public Defenders Office each year come from Bayview. Bayview Hunters Point is also rich in resources and community organizations, which are coming together to help spread MAGIC for youth. For more information about BVHP, please visit MAGIC's website at www.bayviewmagic.com.

MAGIC is rapidly growing and expanding. Its current programs and activities include: (1) mobilization of key community stakeholders interested in youth and juvenile justice to participate in a process that positively affects the health, education and well-being of the community; (2) assessment of the issues, obstacles, and barriers facing youth in the targeted community based upon validated data and research; (3) prioritization of the identified issues and development of a plan to address the issues; (4) implementation the Comprehensive Strategy through the mobilization and assessment process, and subsequent provision of needed, relevant, effective services for youth in the targeted community.

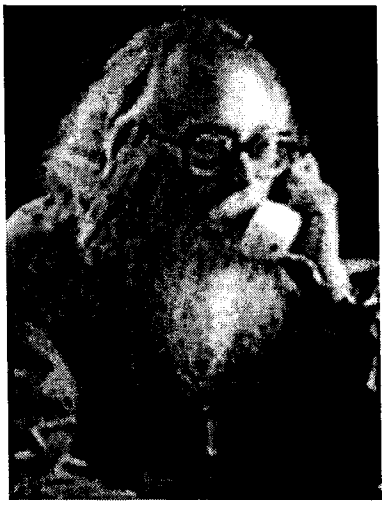
MAGIC also organizes programs to bring community organizations together to benefit youth and families in the targeted community. For example, in August 2004, MAGIC sponsored a "Back-to-School" celebration in BVHP, where we distributed over 1,000 backpacks and school supplies to children, and exposed children and families to available services and community resources. In October 2004, MAGIC hosted a workshop for Bayview community based organizations, enabling community organizations to come together to generate and share ideas and resources, receive technological support and training, and develop a comprehensive community resource guide for Bayview residents. In November 2004, MAGIC held the first annual MAGIC mentoring fair, bringing together Bayview children, youth and families for a fun-filled event, exposing them to educational, athletic, artistic and vocational opportunities and activities and long-term mentorship possibilities in their communities. This event was be followed by a series of MAGIC mentoring events in January and February 2005. During these events, MAGIC organized activities and trips for youth to visit various city organizations, agencies, vocations and programs, offering BVHP children and youth the opportunity to shadow professionals and positive mentors in various fields of interest. In May 2005, MAGIC hosted a Book and Technology Fair, distributing over 1,500 new books and providing on-site technology workshops for youth. The same month, MAGIC launched its Youth and Family Resource Guide, a comprehensive listing of youth agencies, at www.bayviewmagic.com.

MAGIC has developed the enclosed position papers to articulate its vision on education, youth services and juvenile justice. MAGIC also has a technology plan, and a mentoring overview. Please visit the MAGIC website for further information: www.bayviewmagic.com or contact (415) 905-9100 for more information.

MAGIC invites your participation!

The SF Public Defender's office is proud to announce

The Jack Jacqua Foundation



Jack Jacqua is a former schoolteacher, counselor, and coach with the San Francisco Unified School District.

Mr. Jacqua is a community activist on children's behalf and has been for 35 years. He is the peer counselor coordinator for and cofounder of the Omega Boys Club, a nationally recognized organization for youth and young adults emphasizing academic achievement and noninvolvement with violence and drugs. Jack is currently an advocate for young men and women at the Youth Guidance Center in San Francisco.

He spends his time at Juvenile Hall and a number of youth and adult prisons such as 850 Bryant Street, Log Cabin Ranch, San Bruno, and on the street corners of San Francisco neighborhoods. Omega Boys Club is an extended family based on fundamental Afro-centric principles and is a model for violence prevention and academic success from the jailhouse to the schoolhouse throughout the country.

Proceeds from the Foundation will be used to provide direct assistance to young people at the Youth Guidance Center of San Francisco.

Please send tax-deductible donation to:

City Youth Now
375 Woodside Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127
415 753-7576

Please write "Jack Jacqua Foundation" on your check.