



STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**PREVENTION AND PROMOTION
SYSTEMS GOVERNING COMMITTEE**

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

10:00 AM

VIDEO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (24-4231)

Attachments: [VIDEO LINK](#)

1. Call to Order, and Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgement. (24-3927)

Chair Dr. Jackie Contreras called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. followed by the reading of the LA County Land Acknowledgment. There was a quorum of in person members present. Member Dr. Lisa Wong joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m., and member Cheri Todoroff joined the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Chair Dr. Jackie Contreras welcomed everyone followed by a round of self-introductions of the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC), Prevention and Promotion, Coordination and Implementation Team (PPCIT), and the Systems of Care (SOC) members including, Minsun Meeker, Kevin Anderson (on behalf of Kelly LoBianco), David Carroll, Aubre Martinez, Judge Michael Nash, Guillermo Viera Rosa, and Dr. Priya Batra, Steve Zimmer and other relevant stakeholders. Department and program surrogates were identified and invited to the table such as Sharon Cochen, Nick Ippolito, and Jenny Feria.

Present: Chair Dr. Jackie Contreras, Member Peter Loo, Member Karla Pleitéz Howell, Member Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, Member Cheri Todoroff, and Member Dr. Lisa H. Wong

Absent: Vice Chair Brandon T. Nichols, Member Fesia Davenport, and Member Dr. Barbara Ferrer

2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the PPSGC on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the PPSGC. (24-4033)

There were no in person, virtual or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

3. Approval of the minutes from the August 21, 2024 meeting. (24-3928)

On motion of member Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, seconded by member Dr. Lisa Wong this item was approved with the following roll call vote:

There were no in person, virtual or written public comments.

Ayes: 5 - Chair Dr. Jackie Contreras, Member Peter Loo, Member Karla Pleitéz Howell, Member Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, and Member Dr. Lisa H. Wong

Absent: 4 - Vice Chair Brandon T. Nichols, Member Fesia Davenport, Member Dr. Barbara Ferrer, and Member Cheri Todoroff

Attachments: [AUGUST 21, 2024 DRAFT MINUTES](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

II. DISCUSSION

4. Discussion on the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC) and County System of Care (SOC) Alignment to Address Youth Disconnection. (24-3929)

Commissioner Cristopher Espino, LA County Youth Commission shared factors that led to his meeting personal goals, including sincerity in mentorship and some of the gaps, and youth challenges, such as self-doubt. He urged for services to align with what they identify as needs, rather than what traditional, outdated, rigid systems project, and the misalignment and fragmented systems create barriers for navigation. He then suggested the need for creative and culturally relevant services to better support youth and encouraged the PPSGC and SOC to work toward enhancing coordination across County systems to improve youth outcomes. Chair Dr. Contreras echoed Mr. Espino's sentiments, and emphasized the need to better integrate services, and make authentic connections with youth, and the importance of incorporating their voice and choice in all their work.

Minsun Meeker, Assistant Executive Director of the Office of Child Protection (OCP) provided a background, target population, and the SOC's collective impact. She noted that the SOC is rooted in a state requirement (AB 2083, Chapter 815, Statutes of 2018) that ensures all public programs for children, youth, and families provide services in an integrated, comprehensive, culturally responsive, evidence based/best practice manner, regardless of how they enter our system. She reviewed their composition and explained how a System of Care integrates traditionally disintegrated County services.

She shared that the SOC can/should be expanded to broadly support families and communities. And explained how the SOC is a vehicle that brings members together to design an integrated system with a shared mission and promotes shared responsibility. And that the SOC works on policy, budgets, service approaches among other items. The State promotes through the SOC requirement, a shared practice delivery approach with the voice and

interests of the family at the center. Ms. Meeker then went over the SOC's achievements and priorities, particularly in the development and implementation of the County's comprehensive prevention plan and addressing the needs of child welfare and justice impacted youth. Ms. Meeker reviewed the SOC's three priorities and shared system level alignment between the PPSGC priorities and SOC work domains.

Dr. Tamara Hunter, PPSGC Interim Executive Director reviewed the intent behind the creation of the PPSGC, which includes facilitating better coordination of resources to prevent negative outcomes and promote positive ones that help residents thrive. She went over the required deliverables in the motion and outlined the populations of interest, outcome goals and population level metrics. She reviewed the population of focus for the Behavioral Health domain, which is Youth/Young Adults 11-24, with goals of increasing social, emotional and mental well-being of youth/young adults and reducing associated racial disparities. She went over the population level indicators, which are suspension rates for youth 11-19, rates of disconnection among youth/young adults 16-24 and noted that disconnected youth are not in school, in training, or in the workforce. She then reviewed the overarching priorities which include ensuring racial equity and justice, promoting economic well-being/empowerment/mobility and including the voice of those with lived experience. Dr. Hunter then reviewed the June 25, 2024 motion "Ensuring Generational and Lifelong Success for Transition Age Youth", which includes directives to the SOC, PPSGC, and DCFS, and promotes resource, care and strategy collaboration to promote transitional age youth (TAY) success and ability to thrive. Because the motion is directed at the SOC, PPSGC, and DCFS, it is seen as an opportunity for the County to transform the system for the betterment of the lives with which we are entrusted.

Judge Michael Nash, SOC made a point regarding the motion and associated statistics. And that as of July 2024, there are approximately 21k children in the child welfare system, under DCFS jurisdiction. Thirty-five (35) years ago, it was 60k. Because of work being done now, within a year or two, the number will be below 20k. Of those:

1. Approximately 2500 or 12% who are 18-21 in the system.
2. 2k are ages 16-17
3. >1k are ageing out of the system each year – many make it to school and exit the system.

Judge Nash urged the leads of planning and strategy for this work to ensure that permanency is really part of the plan and not just 'lip service', to reduce the number of kids aging out of the system. He noted that there is not enough transitional housing for the identified need and no matter what, we must move them to succeed, or will never have enough resources to support them. Chair Dr. Contreras emphasized that their work is about where to start the prevention, and that monitoring impact is critical.

Dr. Hunter presented the Current State Analysis led by the PPSGC and that there are caveats to the process, 1) it focuses on adolescence through young adulthood, 2) is limited to County and County adjacent efforts, 3) services information is pending completion of PPCIT efforts, 4) does not explore TAY homelessness in depth. 16–24-year-olds are not attending school, working, or may be homeless, generational poverty cycle, behavioral health issues, and early mortality. Key factors that lead to youth disconnection include fractured connections, a perceived no sense of community, developmental delays, homelessness, or have no opportunities. The County has a false premise that young people raised by the system can care for themselves by 21. And the impact of Covid 19 regressed a decade of progress and had a detrimental effect on the most vulnerable populations.

Dr. Hunter also emphasized that between 2021 and 2024 there were 43 identified youth connection and disconnected youth related motions that have passed to address the basic needs of our youth and many motions that call for cross departmental collaboration. The County needs a culture that measures the effectiveness and interventions of the work. Things that are going in the right direction do so with righteous intent, reshaping County infrastructure with focus on TAY, and root causes, and replicable approaches.

Ms. Meeker spoke on the gaps and barriers and that the need to engage youth and young adults, access resources, opportunities, and share data are critical. And that stakeholders identified funding as an important contributing factor to promote youth connections.

Dr. Hunter expressed that the extent of misalignment, strategically and functionally, came up repeatedly in the evaluation of the Current State, and the need to explore multi-generational models to disrupt generational poverty, maximize access to Medi-Cal and CalAIM, and leverage County

resources and influence to promote young adult workforce connection.

David Caroll, SOC noted there is a difference between opportunity and disconnected youth. He shared that youth participating in after school programs tend to have better grades.

Nick Ippolito, Assistant Director Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) indicated that TAY use different communication modes and that DPSS took part in guaranteed income programming with TAY, which emphasized the need to deepen and leverage relationships with departments that seek the same.

Jessica Kim, SOC expressed the need for innovation and creative thinking and the idea of developing ‘portfolios’ of services in conjunction with viewed experiences and used the example of TAY exiting the juvenile system having different needs than others.

Member Dr. Wong expressed the need to think outside the box and give youth the opportunity to share their lived experiences.

Member Karla Pleitéz Howell recommended the County use a framework that offers neuroscience thinking and echoed David Caroll’s remarks.

Steve Zimmer, SOC asserted that the term “disconnected” when referring to this population it is too gentle, as youth are not voluntarily disconnected. Second point, look differently at graduation rates.

Mr. Caroll stated that withholding education doesn’t work in improving support. There needs to be a pivot away from punishment and move toward healing.

Member Dr. Scorza emphasized that the existence of this meeting is an indicator that we are moving in the right direction, as it gives us the opportunity to strengthen our work and the need to do more alignment on the back end.

Ms. Meeker shared next steps and the plan to establish a TAY Committee with the SOC to serve as a vehicle to coordinate efforts in the promotion of connection and reengage opportunity youth. Step 1) operationalize the aligned aims of the SOC and PPSGC to ensure generational and Life Long Success for TAY, 2) Prioritize achieving greater strategic and functional alignment within/across departments and external partners, 3) leverage the PPCIT and other relevant efforts to maximize efficiency, minimize redundancies, and reduce burdens on operations, lastly 4) develop and implement a change strategy that encompasses the findings of the current state analysis.

Attachments: [AB 2083 System of Care Background Jan 2023](#)
[AB 2083 Toward Effective Children and Youth System of Care 1.](#)
[Ensuring Generational and Life-Long Success for Transition Age Youth](#)
[Building Bright Futures for Youth in Los Angeles Report](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment

5. Opportunity for members of the public to address the PPSGC on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the PPSGC. (24-3930)

The following members of the public provided virtual public comment: Melanie Ferrer Vaughn, Alex Guerrero, and Lauri Collier.

The following members of the public provided in person public comment: Josh, Herbert Diaz, Iziko Calderon, and Kate Teague.

There was no written public comment.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

6. Closing Remarks and Adjournment. (24-3931)

Chair Dr. Jackie Contreras announced that the next PPSGC meeting is October 2, 2024 and that the PPSGC now has a website: ppsgc.lacounty.gov. And thanked the team that worked on it. She then adjourned the meeting of September 18, 2024 at 12:03 p.m.