



## **CCJBH Full Council Meeting Minutes**

Friday, April 25, 2024

2:00-4:30 PM

MS Teams Meeting & In Person

### **I. Welcome & Introductions, Roll Call:**

Councilmembers Present in Person: Secretary Macomber, Christina Edens (on behalf of Stephanie Clendenin), Brian Hanson (on behalf of Michelle Baass), Mack Jenkins, Judge Stephen Manley, Hon. Scott Svonkin (Ret.), Anita Fisher, and Dr. Tony Hobson.

Councilmembers Present Virtually: Dr. Danitza Pantoja.

Staff Members Present: Brenda Grealish, Executive Officer, Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH), Elizabeth Vice, Kamilah Holloway, Emily Mantsch, Cameron Byrd, and Belicia Smith.

Secretary Macomber welcomed Councilmembers and public participants and introduced the agenda and presentation planned for the afternoon.

### **II. Request for Bagley-Keene In-Person Participation Exemption.**

Elizabeth Vice, *Staff Manager II, CCJBH*

Ms. Vice presented Senate Bill (SB) 544 highlights, which stipulate the CCJBH teleconference participation requirements pursuant to Government Code §11123.2. Effective January 1, 2024, and until January 1, 2026, CCJBH may hold meetings by teleconference as described under Section 11123.2. Government Code §11123.2 dictates that a majority of the members of the state body shall be physically present at the same teleconference location (for CCJBH, a minimum of seven members must attend in-person at one location). SB 544 further defines “teleconference location” as a physical location that is accessible to the public and “remote location” as a location being electronically tied to the teleconference but not required to be accessible to the public. The notice and agenda shall not disclose information regarding a remote location.

SB 544 also requires that members participating remotely disclose whether there is anyone over the age of 18 present in the room at the remote location. Ms. Vice asked whether any Councilmembers participating remotely needed to disclose. No Councilmembers indicated a need to disclose.

### **III. Vote: Approve December 2024 Full Council Meeting Minutes.**

Motion to approve the vote: Councilmember Svonkin

Second: Councilmember Manley

**\*No public comment on vote\***

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0



Abstains:

The motion to approve the December 2024 Full Council Meeting Minutes was approved.

#### **IV. CCJBH Business Meeting**

##### **A. Vote: Approval of the CCJBH 2024 Annual Legislative Report**

Motion to approve the vote: Councilmember Svonkin

Second: Councilmember Manley

**\*No public comment on vote\***

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Abstains:

The motion to approve the CCJBH 2024 Annual Report was approved.

##### **B. Vote: Delegate Authority to the CCJBH Executive Officer to Make Updates to the Report during the Final Review Process.**

Motion to approve the vote: Councilmember Svonkin

Second: Councilmember Manley

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

The motion to approve delegation of authority to the CCJBH Executive Officer to make updates to the report during the final review process were approved.

**\*No public comment on vote\***

### C. CCJBH Project Updates

Ms. Grealish provided an update on the Lived Experience Project (LEP) contracts, noting that following last summer's competitive bidding process, CCJBH awarded contracts to four organizations: Third Sector Capital Partners, Transitions Clinic Network, Beyond Us and Them, and Root & Rebound. These partners have been instrumental in ensuring the meaningful integration of lived experience voices in shaping behavioral health and justice system improvements.

She noted that all project deliverables are scheduled for submission by May 30, 2025, and provided a snapshot of each contractor's anticipated contributions:

- Root & Rebound was contracted to provide expertise to inform public comment recommendations and identify hidden network providers—community-based supports often overlooked by traditional systems.
- Beyond Us & Them were contracted to host stakeholder convenings, deliver a five-part trauma-informed webinar series, and support case management and training for individuals with lived experience through a dedicated governance team.
- Third Sector was contracted to engage over 20 Northern California stakeholders and launch a Champions Council to provide training, capacity building, and listening sessions.
- Transitions Clinic Network was contracted to recruit members for a lived experience speaker's bureau, highlighted profiles in newsletters, and offer mentorship to community health workers in Bay Area clinics.

Ms. Grealish continued with updates on two long-standing CCJBH initiatives. First, she shared progress on the Medi-Cal Utilization Project, noting that the Council analyzed data from CDCR releases during calendar years 2021 and 2022. This work continued CCJBH's ongoing efforts to track Medi-Cal enrollment and behavioral health services utilization among formerly incarcerated individuals. This year, the analysis expanded to include emerging data on the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS') California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports, with the goal of establishing a baseline for these newer Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan services. The findings are currently undergoing internal review, with plans to publish the final report in spring 2025. Once complete, it will be archived and posted to the CCJBH website alongside CCJBH's other public reports.

Ms. Grealish then transitioned to the Public Health Meets Public Safety project—an initiative launched in partnership with the Council of State Governments Justice Center and currently being advanced through a collaboration with UC Berkeley's Possibility Lab. She explained that the project's aim is to develop a data visualization framework that identifies how community conditions, treatment systems, and crisis responses influence justice system outcomes. UC Berkeley is finalizing the next phase of work, which includes refining community-level indicators, verifying data sources, and incorporating crisis



domain metrics. A final report is expected by May 2, 2025. Ms. Grealish emphasized the broader goal of aligning this and other CCJBH projects with efforts underway across state agencies to ensure coherence and value beyond the sunset of the Council.

Ms. Grealish emphasized CCJBH's commitment to ensuring that the Council's work continues to support systemwide efforts, even as its formal operations sunset. She shared that CCJBH has been actively sharing work products with key partner agencies—including the Behavioral Health Planning Council, DHCS, California Health & Human Services Agency, and the newly-renamed Commission for Behavioral Health (CBH; formerly the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission). These discussions seek to help agencies align their ongoing initiatives with CCJBH's legacy work, maximizing continuity and reducing duplication of effort.

She highlighted the California Juvenile Justice Toolkit as a prime example of a successful project handoff, noting that the work originated at CCJBH and is now being led by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration. Ms. Grealish noted that this model—where CCJBH seeded an innovative project and passed it to a partner agency for further development—has been replicated across several initiatives.

Ms. Grealish then provided an update on the Council's support of the Words to Deeds initiative. Last year, CCJBH allocated funding to support the 2024 convening, which was hosted in September 2024 in partnership with the CBH. That report is now complete and available on the [Words to Deeds](#) website. For 2025, the convening will be led solely by the Commission, with planning already underway. Ms. Grealish noted that the Commission intends to carry forward CCJBH's identified priorities for the 2025 convening—specifically, workforce development and treatment capacity building for justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs.

Ms. Grealish closed the meeting with a retrospective of CCJBH's two-decade impact, expressing appreciation for the Council's contributions and partnerships. She highlighted the following key accomplishments:

- Legislative Reports: Produced 24 annual legislative reports and 243 formal recommendations since 2002.
- Council and Workgroup Meetings: Held 95 Full Council Meetings, 30 Juvenile Justice Workgroups, and 25 Diversion and Reentry Workgroups—averaging 50–84 participants per session in recent years.
- Lived Experience Contracts: Established 12 contracts since 2019 to uplift the voices of individuals with lived experience, integrating their input into state and local policy development.
- Data and Research: Released four Medi-Cal Utilization Project reports and collaborated on data frameworks like Public Health Meets Public Safety and the California Juvenile Justice Toolkit, the latter now implemented by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration.



- Systemwide Tools: Published 10 report/fact sheets addressing public safety, workforce development, and housing; launched onboarding materials and CalAIM quick-reference guides for justice system stakeholders.
- Enhanced Care Management (ECM): Worked closely with CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations and managed care plan associations to streamline ECM referrals statewide.
- Policy Advocacy: Submitted feedback and recommendations on initiatives including the Behavioral Health Transformation Policy Manual, Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT) Addendum, CalAIM 1115 Waiver, 988 implementation, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) housing access rules, and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness federal strategic plan.
- Outreach and Education: Hosted four annual mental health awareness and suicide prevention webinars; distributed over 1,280 newsletters with 1,000+ recipients per release.

## **V. Councilmember Reflection**

As the Council convened for its final meeting, Councilmember Scott Svonkin and Councilmember Anita Fisher offered personal reflections underscoring the legacy and significance of CCJBH. Councilmember Svonkin expressed deep gratitude to state leadership, staff, and fellow Councilmembers. He emphasized the unmatched dedication of CCJBH staff, particularly acknowledging Brenda Grealish and noted how he came into the role with limited subject-matter knowledge, but left transformed by the expertise and passion surrounding him. Representing law enforcement, he felt honored to have ensured that public safety perspectives were included in Council deliberations. Svonkin concluded with hope for a future iteration of the Council, calling CCJBH's accomplishments a testament to advocacy for those with no voice.

Councilmember Anita Fisher spoke as a family advocate with lived experience. She highlighted the importance of the Council providing a formal platform for those directly impacted by the behavioral health and justice systems. Fisher praised CCJBH's work in both diversion and systemic reform, appreciating the opportunity to help shift focus from incarceration to prevention. Her closing sentiment reflected a deep sense of gratitude for having had the opportunity to elevate lived experience voices in a state-level setting for the first time.

**No public comment on vote**

## **VI. Adjourn**