

**Marin County Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission
(MCJJDPC)
Strategic Plan Update 2012**

Current Commissioners

- Jennifer Abarca, College Student
- Don Carney, Director, YMCA Youth Court
- Ed Essick, JJDPC Officer-At-Large, Professor Emeritus, College of Marin
- Charlene Fisher, Graduate Student
- Miguel Gavaldón – JJDPC Vice-Chair, Consultant
- Laura Kantorowski – JJDPC Chair, Bay Area Community Resources
- Dana Pepp, Principal, DPP Consulting
- Carolyn Placente (In Process), Staff Consultant, MarinKids
- Karen Robbins, VORP
- Marissa Wertheimer – JJDPC Secretary/Treasurer, Marin County Department of Probation, VORP
- Anicia Williams, MFT
- Rebecca Sudtell, Dependency Attorney

Purpose Statement

The Marin County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission serves as a state mandated, court-appointed authority that inquires into the administration of the juvenile justice system of Marin County. Key functions of the Commission, as specified in the by-laws, include: the annual inspection of any juvenile confinement facility, coordinating and conducting public or closed hearings on matters relevant to Juvenile Justice, and assuring that needed services are identified, developed, and provided for all children and youth of the County, particularly services related to the diversion of youth out of the Juvenile Justice System.

Overarching Principles (Guiding or Governing Principles)

- Reduce Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) for youth in Marin.
- Increase Marin's community education and awareness of the principles and practices of Restorative Justice.
- Support the widespread use of Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) and discourage use of non-evidenced based practices for youth.
- Engage stakeholders in ongoing needs assessment to continually inform countywide Juvenile Services and Justice practices.

Overarching Goals

- Advocate a shift towards an inclusive community that cherishes all youth in Marin regardless of circumstance, context, documentation, etc. and away from “us” vs. “them
- Advocate a shift towards restorative practices and away from punitive practices.
- Decriminalize substance abuse and support proactive treatment for all youth confronting substance abuse issues.
- Strengthen partnerships between the MCJJDPC and the Courts, the Probation Department, Law Enforcement, the Board of Supervisors, H&HS, local government, MCOE & local school administration, the nonprofit sector, and the community at large.

Short Term Programmatic Goals

#1: Raise awareness within Marin of Restorative Justice and support the creation of sustainable community-driven restorative practices throughout the County.

Commission leaders: Marissa, Karen, Dana, Carolyn

#2: Raise awareness within Marin of the scope of Disproportionate Minority Confinement and the severity of the repercussions for the community, while supporting the Probation Department’s efforts to reduce DMC through active participation in the Burns Institute project.

Commission leaders: Miguel, Dana, Anicia, Don

Short Term Operational Goals

#1: Develop a budget policy to guide budget allocations and establish a process for handling budgetary requests from commissioners, community members, and other partners.

Commission leaders: Miguel, Carolyn

#2: Develop an internship program for the MCJJDPC to expand opportunities for TAY and cultivate their sustained involvement in MCJJDPC activities.

Commission leaders: Ed, Dana, Carolyn, Laura

#3: Engage stakeholders in needs assessment in conjunction with Probation Department's survey project.

Commission leaders: Rebecca, Miguel

#4: Educate commissioners and the public at regular meetings of the MCJJDPC.

#5. Sponsor educational programs and forums with the communities in Marin.

Commission leaders: Anicia, Laura, Charlene, Jennifer

#5: Develop relationships and build a media presence for the MCJJDPC to include regular press releases, a readily accessible, informative, and interactive website, social media, etc.

Commission leaders: Marissa, Carolyn, Laura

#6: Continue recruitment efforts to targeted populations (e.g. TAY, system-impacted persons, etc.) and support orientation of new recruits to grow the commission to an active, engaged, and sustained membership of 15.

Commission leaders: Rebecca, Ed