



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY  
PREVENTION COMMISSION  
**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

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**REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2009 - 7:00-9:00 P.M.**

**United Indian Health Services  
1600 Weott Way, Arcata, CA 95521**

<b>X Rose Baker</b>	<b>E Peggy Hobbs</b>
<b>X Steve D'Agati</b>	<b>X Maureen Johannsen</b>
<b>E Bill Daniel</b>	<b>X Antoinette Martin</b>
<b>X Nestor Domingo</b>	<b>X Josh Meisel</b>
<b>X Dave Douglas</b>	<b>U Barbara Redner</b>
<b>X Morgan Douglas</b>	

OTHERS PRESENT: Beverly Morgan-Lewis, Jimmy Smith, Doug Rasines, Bryan Balcom, Erica Balcom-Storre, Lynn Langdon, Anne Lesser, Judge Wilson

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Douglas at 7:00 P.M. A quorum was present.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There was not a flag in the room.

1.2 INTRODUCTIONS

Members and guests introduced themselves.

2.0 ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

3.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no correspondences.

4.0 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2008 MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Martin? And seconded by Commissioner Baker? To approve the minutes as corrected per Beverly Morgan-Lewis' request.

## 5.0 COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Domingo proposed the idea of making official ID cards for commissioners. These cards would be used when commissioners have business at certain facilities such as courts or probation departments. He noted that this would be especially useful when commissioners need to travel out of county on business. Since no one was opposed to the idea, Chair Douglas agreed to seek approval from the court to have these cards produced.

## 6.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORTS

### 6.1 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Beverly Morgan-Lewis noted that CWS has formed a partnership with the California Connected by 25 Initiative to help improve foster care services. She also announced that Anne Lesser is now a Deputy Director of Mental Health and will work in the children and Family services unit.

### 6.2 RCAA/YSB

Peter LaVallee reported that YSB has gotten its program in Southern Humboldt County up and running and a coordinator from the local community has been hired. This program will work in cooperation with the Community Resource Center in Redway. The next step is to recruit local families to go through the licensing process to become host families. Peter also mentioned that a remodeling process is under way at the Launch pad facility. He is also applying for a grant to remodel the facility for youth aged 18-21 in order to accommodate more people and comply with ADA requirements.

### 6.3 REGIONAL FACILITY

Commissioner Martin had a request for commissioners. She noted that on occasion, youth in the Regional facility have not yet completed the prescribed program but they have run out of confinement time as prescribed by the court. Normally, youth who complete the program receive a letter of congratulations as well as a gift certificate. Commissioner Martin proposed that those who run out of confinement time but still need to complete the program receive a letter acknowledging the progress they have made thus far and to keep up the good work. Although there was not a formal motion made, all of the commissioners were agreeable to this.

## 7.0 PROBATION

In response to a commissioner's question, Doug Rasines reported that the population of Native Americans in the Juvenile Hall and the Regional Facility is significantly disproportionate to the Native American population in Humboldt County. The Probation department is currently engaged in a process to determine the cause of this situation and the appropriate actions to take in order to remedy it. Doug also mentioned that Probation and Social Services has formed a Transitional Youth Action Team to address the needs of youth who have been involved in the Probation and/or CWS systems. Their focus thus far has been on youth employment. Doug said that this has been quite successful and a number of youth have found employment through this process.

## 8.0 PROGRAM

Lynn Langdon presented on Teen Court. Teen Court is run by the Boys and Girls Club of the Redwoods and serves as an alternative to involvement in the juvenile justice system for first time offenders who have committed relatively minor offenses. Teenaged student volunteers fill all the court staff roles including attorneys, court clerks, judges, and jurors. Judge Wilson oversees the process and the student attorneys are signed to “mentor attorneys” from the local community. The purpose of a Teen Court proceeding is to determine an appropriate sentence for the defendant that will help him/her learn from his/her mistake. All defendants must serve on the Teen Court jury at least twice. Other possible sentences include writing letters of apology, writing other types of essays, and various forms of community service. Defendants who successfully complete these requirements have the offense removed from their record. Teen court has been in operation for several years and offenders who participate in it seldom reoffend or find themselves involved in the juvenile justice system. Lynn brought along several student volunteers who spoke about their experiences with Teen Court. Anyone wishing to hear the entire recording of this program may request an audio CD from Matt Daniel. In addition, anyone who would like copies of the handouts that were circulated during the program may contact Lynn at the Boys and Girls Club.

## 9.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

After some discussion among commissioners, it was decided that the inspections of Juvenile Hall and the Regional Facility would take place Monday, January 26 at 9:30 A.M. Four commissioners volunteered to participate but their names were not mentioned on the recording. Chair Douglas will contact Probation to confirm the inspection date.

## 10.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.