



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – County of Santa Cruz**  
**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**JULY 15, 2021 ♦ 3:00 PM-5:00 PM**

**HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY**

**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**

**THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN THE MEETING BY CALLING (916) 318-9542, CONFERENCE ID 555 141 204#**

Xaloc Cabanes  
Chair / 1<sup>st</sup> District

Erika Miranda-Bartlett  
Co-Chair / 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Serg Kagno  
Secretary / 4<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Greg Caput  
Board of Supervisor Member

Catherine Willis  
Member / 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Valerie Webb  
Member / 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Hugh McCormick  
Member / 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Antonio Rivas  
Member / 4<sup>th</sup> District

Jennifer Wells Kaupp  
Member / 5<sup>th</sup> District

Erik G. Riera, Behavioral Health Director

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE**  
**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

The public may attend the meeting at the Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz. All individuals attending the meeting at the Health Services Agency will be required to always maintain a distance of at least 6-feet from others. The use of face coverings is also required. Individuals interested in joining virtually may click on this link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) or may participate by telephone by calling (916) 318-9542, Conference ID 555 141 204#. All participants are muted upon entry to prevent echoing and minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds.

If you are a person with a special need, or if interpreting services (English/Spanish or sign language) are needed, please call 454-4611 (Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY: 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format.

Si usted es una persona con una discapacidad o necesita servicios de interpretación (inglés/español o Lenguaje de señas), por favor llame al (831) 454-4611 (Personas con Discapacidad Auditiva TDD/TTY: 711) con 72 horas de anticipación a la junta para hacer arreglos. Personas con discapacidades pueden pedir una copia de la agenda en una forma alternativa.

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## AGENDA

### 3:00 Regular Business

- a. Roll Call / Introductions
- b. Public Comment  
**(No action or discussion will be undertaken today on any item raised during this Public Comment period except that Mental Health Board Members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Limited to 3 minutes each)**
- c. Board Member Announcements
- d. Approval of June 17, 2021 minutes
- e. Secretary's Report

### 3:15 Standing Reports

- a. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Erik Riera, Behavioral Health Director
- b. Committees
  1. MHSA Advisory Committee
  2. Site Visit Committee
  3. SUDC/MHAB Merger Committee
  4. Budget Committee
  5. Community Engagement Committee
  6. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Committee
- c. Patient's Rights Reports – George Carvalho

### 4:00 Presentation

Youth Presentation: Equal Resources and Opportunities for Underrepresented Youth, Kalia Vasquez and Thania Mata

### 4:30 New Business / Future Agenda Items

- a. Retreat

### 5:00 Adjourn

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**NEXT REGULAR MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS ON:**  
**AUGUST 19, 2021**  
**HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY**  
**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**  
**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**  
**TELEPHONE CALL-IN NUMBER (916) 318-9542; CONFERENCE ID # - TO BE ANNOUNCED**

## MINUTES - DRAFT

### MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

June 17, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Present:** Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Absent:** Catherine Willis

1. Public Comments

- Ludmila Boiko – daughter evicted because she has mental health issues. Requesting to schedule meeting to talk about information.

2. Approved meeting minutes for May 20, 2021.

Motion by Antonio Rivas to approve May 20, 2021 MHAB minutes. Second by Serg Kagno.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Catherine Willis

3. Secretary's Report

- Reminder – each board member needs to complete 4 hours training/year. All completed trainings should be reported to Secretary and Recorder for tracking purposes.
- CALBHB/C training next Friday on peer provider certification process.

4. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) Report, Supervisor Greg Caput

- Funding for the homeless living in the Veterans Buildings good until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Working on the details for future plans.
- Purchased West Marine building in Watsonville for \$16 million, about 91,000 square feet of office space, 30,000 square feet warehouse space. 491 parking spaces already built. Plan is to move services in Watsonville – Planning, Public Works, other County departments.
- Markers on the levee - the levee is marked every quarter mile. The goal is to add exercise equipment (pull up bars, sit up bench, etc.) in the future.
- Purchased 38 acres located by Fairgrounds – about 20 acres in flood plain will remain protected. Everything done on the property will be kept in ag zoning which includes grass soccer fields, gravel/dirt parking - no asphalt.
- Status of passenger rail from Aptos to Watsonville - Mid-county against it, Scotts Valley against it, Santa Cruz for it. Failed because of 6-6 vote of the Regional Transportation Commission. Biggest argument is over the money.

5. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Erik G. Riera, Behavioral Health Director
- The BH Director's Briefing includes the following topics: BH Budget, Jail Behavioral Health Services, Legislative Advocacy, Assisted Outpatient Treatment, and Proposed Crisis Diversion Program. [Click here to view the Director's Briefing.](#)
  - Shelter at the Red Roof Inn in Watsonville - Behavioral Health does not provide any oversight or services at the shelters. Shelters fall under Dr. Robert Ratner in the Human Services Department.
  - AB451 – County opposes this legislation because it would take away capacity from the County. The 16-bed psychiatric health facility is staffed to serve our local community, and our most at-risk residents who have Medi-cal. If we were required to serve people with commercial insurance in that program, we would potentially lose all capacity in our local program for our local residents and have to send people away out of County at our own expense. We have made it clear to our legislative delegation that if they want to build capacity to serve additional people on a local level, there needs to be funding not only to construct additional capacity, but also to staff capacity.

Motion to write a letter of support agreeing with the Behavioral Health Director to oppose AB 451 made by Erika Miranda-Bartlett. Second by Antonio Rivas.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Catherine Willis

6. Standing Reports
- a. MHSА Advisory Committee (Members: Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Antonio Rivas)
    - No report.
  - b. Site Visit Committee – (Members: Serg Kagno, Hugh McCormick, Valerie Webb)
    - No report.
  - c. SUDSC/MHAB Merger Committee (Members: Xaloc Cabanes, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
    - The wording of the proposed bylaws is missing information that is required by the State. Need to edit to include what is mandated by the State.
  - d. Community Engagement Committee – (Members: Valerie Webb, Catherine Willis)
    - No report.
    - Annual calendar – highlight special dates/events.
  - e. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Committee (Members: Hugh McCormick, Serg Kagno, Catherine Willis, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
    - Jail guide done – includes visitation, commissary information, forms available to inmates in jail, community resources. Breaks down the jail experience for friends and family members of incarcerated individuals.
    - South County CAHOOTS-type working group doing better than North County. Will continue efforts to speak to Andy Mills.

7. Patients' Rights Reports – by George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate
  - View the May Report below.
  
8. Presentation: Mental Health – Youth Perspective by Marlize Velasco
  - Why this is important – reality is that educators are not medical professionals. Small communities, clubs and organizations are needed.
  - Personal experience – involved in leadership programs and non-profit organizations. Currently a part of Salud Y Carino.
  - Salud Y Carino Program Outcomes for the first five years: 1) 62.5% report an increase in positive body image; 2) 75% report an increase in self-efficacy; 3) 100% report they were not engaging in self-harm.
  - Homeless Youth Data – 95% of the 569 youth ages 15-24 reported being unsheltered in 2019. 1/3 of all homeless individuals reported having mental and emotional needs, drug and alcohol use and PTSD.
  - [Click here to view the presentation.](#)
  - [Click here to view the article written by Marlize Velasco.](#)
  
9. New Business
  - a. Laura's Law – reviewed during Behavioral Health Director's presentation.
  - b. BH Objectives for the Operational Plan – will be presented at budget hearings. The Board will have an opportunity to provide comments or recommendations at the public hearings.
  - c. MHSA Report Feedback – Health Services Agency submits a high-level budget narrative for changes in the budget. A line-by-line description of changes is not provided.
  - d. San Andreas Regional Center – concerns include problems due to lack of communication and leadership within the regional center. Clarification from BH Director that the County does not provide any funding or oversight of the San Andreas Regional Center. They are a separate service system and funded through the State. County relationship with them is limited to referrals they may make for their clients who may have a mental health need such as psychiatry services or have a serious mental illness on top of a developmental disability. The center provides services for people with developmental disabilities.
  - e. Herrera Health Group received grant for toxic stress - received clarification that they are not one of the County's providers and does not receive funding from Behavioral Health.
  
10. Future Agenda Items
  - a. Retreat – Board members to complete survey regarding availability for all day retreat.
  - b. Kalia Vasquez – youth presenting at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Antonio Rivas. Second by Jennifer Wells Kaupp. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE PROGRAM  
May 2021  
Fourth Quarter

1. Total number of unduplicated clients served this month : 17

2. Community based: 5

Facility based: 12

Number of clients represented at hearings: 41

3. Number of complaints addressed: 11

Right to Due Process

Right to prompt medical treatment-Unfounded

3 request to be released from designated 5150 facility-Resolved

Right to be treated with dignity (4 separate issues)-unfounded

Right to be free from harm (adequate hydration)-unfounded

Tenant Landlord issues -unfounded

Local Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting:

This Advocate attended the Local mental Health advisory meeting due to the re-start of in-person facility monitoring

Number of Abuse Reports: 6

5 reports were generated by the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility. Resident to resident abuse .

1 Resident report was generated by Opal Cliffs Residential

6) No in-services provided during the month of May, 2021

7) The following facilities were monitored during the month of May, 2021

George monitored by phone contact:

Telecare PHF  
Telecare CSP  
Willowbrook  
Wheelock Residential  
Telos

In person – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility  
Opal Cliffs Residential

MAA count for the Month of May 20-21

*MAA Count for May 2021-George*

*Monday, May 3rd 2021 –2 Person*  
*Tuesday, May 4th 2021 –5 persons*  
*Wednesday, May 5th – 3 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 6th – 2 Persons*  
*Friday, May 7th --1 person*  
*Monday, May 10th –Personal Time off*  
*Tuesday, May 11th –6 persons*  
*Wednesday May 12th 2 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 13th –2 persons*  
*Friday, May 14th –1 person*  
*Monday, May 17th – 0 persons*  
*Tuesday, May 18th – 7 Persons*

*Wednesday, May 19th – 3 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 20th – 1 Person*  
*Friday, May 21st – 2 Persons*  
*Monday May 24th ---2 Persons*  
*Tuesday May 25th –7Persons*  
*Wednesday May 26th –2 persons*  
*Thursday May 27th – 2 persons*  
*Friday May 28th – Personal Time Off*  
*May 31st – Holiday*

*MAA count for May 2021 –Davi*

*May 3<sup>rd</sup> -1 person*  
*May 4<sup>th</sup> – 3 persons*  
*May 5<sup>th</sup> 0 persons*  
*May 6<sup>th</sup> – 4 persons*  
*May 7<sup>h</sup> – 6 persons*  
*May 10<sup>th</sup> – 3 persons*  
*May 11<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 12<sup>th</sup> – 1 person*  
*May 13<sup>th</sup> - 2 persons*  
*May 14<sup>th</sup> – 5 persons*  
*May 17<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 18<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 19<sup>th</sup> - 1 person*  
*May 20<sup>th</sup> 4 persons*  
*May 21<sup>st</sup> 4 persons*  
*May 22<sup>nd</sup> PTO*  
*May 25<sup>th</sup> = 2 persons*  
*May 26<sup>th</sup> – 1 Person*  
*May 27<sup>th</sup> 3 persons*  
*May 28<sup>th</sup> 5 persons*  
*May 31<sup>st</sup> - Holiday*



ADVOCACY INC.  
TELECARE CLIENT CERTIFICATION AND REISE HEARING/PATIENTS' RIGHTS  
REPORT

May 2021  
Third Quarter

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	31
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	31
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	20
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	11
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	5
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	0
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	0
8. WRITS	0
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	15
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	N/A

Ombudsman Program & Patient Advocate Program shared 0 clients in this month (shared = skilled nursing resident (dementia) sent to behavioral health unit or mental health client placed in skilled nursing facility)

*\*The usual scheduled hearing days are Tuesdays and Fridays. Due to the pandemic and the shortage of bed availability throughout the state of California hearings can be scheduled throughout the week to accommodate legal requirements that hearings must occur no later than one week of hospitalization.*

The following is an account of activity May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021 associated with providing representation to clients held at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility) who are facing Reise Hearings.

Total number of Reise petitions filed: 10  
Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 10  
Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 10  
Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0  
Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0  
Hours spent on Reise Hearings Conducted: 20  
Hours spent on all Reise Hearings: 20  
Cross Over clients: 0 (Clients in common with the Long Term Ombudsman program)

- Note of explanation: before the Covid pandemic hearing days were set for Tuesday and Friday every week however, this has changed in that the Certification review hearings have breached the confines of the set days. Now, the Patients' Rights Advocacy program can be called upon, generally with a 24 hour notice to provide hearing representation when called upon by the Telecare staff.

## PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE PROGRAM

JUNE 2021

1. Total number of unduplicated clients served this month : 13

Community based: 4

Facility based: 9

Number of clients represented at hearings: 25

1. Number of complaints addressed: 10

Access to medical services- Resolved

Tenant land lord dispute-ongoing

Request for change of psychiatrist –resolved

Access to psychiatric medications – resolved

Lack of protein and food variety-unresolved

Right to contact local law enforcement in the context of resident to resident altercation – resolved

Right to be treated with dignity and respect –unsubstantiated

Right to access to funds – resolved.

Request to be released from designated 5150 facility- resolve

Local Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting:

This Advocate attended the Local mental Health advisory meeting due to the re-start of in-person facility monitoring

Number of Abuse Reports: 4

3 reports were generated by the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility. Resident to resident abuse .

1 Resident report was generated by Willowbrook RCFE

6) No in-services provided during the month of June 2021.

7) The following facilities were monitored during the month of June, 2021

George monitored by phone contact:

(Phone contact only)

Telecare PHF

Telecare CSP

(in person contact)

Willowbrook

Wheelock Residential

Telos

Wheelock

Front Street Residential

Opal Cliffs

Casa Pacifica

MAA count for the Month of June 2021: Not Applicable

ADVOCACY INC.  
TELECARE CLIENT CERTIFICATION AND REISE HEARING/PATIENTS' RIGHTS  
REPORT

June, 2021

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	21
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	21
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	12
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	9
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	4
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	0
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	0
8. WRITS	0
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	8
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	0

Ombudsman Program & Patient Advocate Program shared 0 clients in this month  
(shared = skilled nursing resident (dementia) sent to behavioral health unit or mental  
health client placed in skilled nursing facility)

*\*The usual scheduled hearing days are Tuesdays and Fridays. Due to the pandemic and the shortage of bed availability throughout the state of California hearings can be scheduled throughout the week to accommodate legal requirements that hearings must occur no later than one week of hospitalization.*

The following is an account of activity June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 associated with providing representation to clients held at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility) who are facing Reise Hearings.

Total number of Reise petitions filed: 4

Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 4

Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 4

Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0

Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0

Hours spent on Reise Hearings Conducted: 8

Hours spent on all Reise Hearings: 8

Cross Over clients: 0 (Clients in common with the Long Term Ombudsman program)

- Note of explanation: before the Covid pandemic hearing days were set for Tuesday and Friday every week however, this has changed in that the Certification review hearings have breached the confines of the set days. Now, the Patients' Rights Advocacy program can be called upon, generally with a 24 hour notice to provide hearing representation when called upon by the Telecare staff.

The background features a complex, abstract pattern of white lines on a black field. The lines are wavy and organic, creating a sense of movement and depth. Some areas are filled with a fine halftone dot pattern, while others are solid black or white. The overall effect is reminiscent of a topographical map or a stylized, high-contrast illustration.

# **Equal resources & opportunities for underrepresented youth**

**By: Kalia Vasquez and Thania Mata**

# Personal Motivation

*The reason for my personal motivation towards this specific problem consists of the environment I grew up in. I grew up in a mostly minoritized community. The schools I went to were around 90% POC. The environment was composed of a system that purposely sent youth at a young age to juvenile hall. In fact, mostly all of these youth being incarcerated were culturally minoritized and that is when I started to recognize the issue. This opened my eyes to the problem in our justice system. Knowing that there was such a big issue in our system that specifically targeted my community gave me inspiration to advocate for change. Not only for my future but also for future generations, for those who wish for the breakage of this system, for those who don't have the power to advocate for themselves and for those who were a victim of this system.*

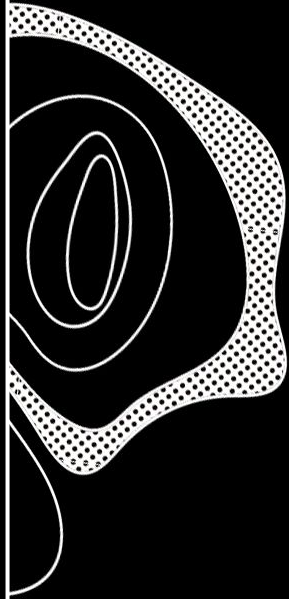
*-Thania Mata*



# Personal Motivation

*It was hard for all of us living in the community of Beach Flats, living in a community where gangs, poverty took away our innocence and converted our loving friends into gang members. At the age of thirteen, all I knew was what others told me or I had seen. Our local community was raided with cops day and night, constantly questioning my friends who looked “suspicious”. Living with my mother at the time was hard, she couldn’t leave her abusive husband, and so I spent my days wandering off into the night, hanging out with friends who introduced me to drugs and the gang lifestyle others are wanting to achieve so badly. Violence between rival gangs caused my loving friends to commit a crime that left them incarcerated at the age of 15. Although my friends were incarcerated, I continued on their path despite knowing what that path led them to. It wasn’t until my mother called the cops on me and I was put in the back of a police car and left at the juvenile hall where I began thinking “why am I here?”. Although I didn’t stay long in juvenile hall, I had realized that I had now begun my criminal record with multiple offenses. My father encouraged me to change but everything that he said came out the other ear. It wasn’t until I was referred to a restorative program where I met someone who would change my life so greatly. He motivated and believed that I was someone worth fighting for; he did this by starting with my education, and by getting to know me by who I truly was behind what the eyes could see. He also helped me see by having knowledge with my experiences and beliefs, I can help change and shape injustices we see today - Kalia Vasquez Reyes*

# Problem Statement



There is lack of youth engagement within the decision making process that impact incarcerated minors. We need youth voices to uplift other youth struggling with internal and external challenges. There isn't currently any youth representatives on the Mental Health Advisory board or the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission.



**Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission**

**District List**

**District 1: Shandara Gill  
(Koenig) Kayla Kumar**

**District 2: Denise Elerick  
(Friend) Heather Rogers**

**District 3: Cynthia Druley  
(Coonerty) Ben Rice**

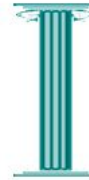
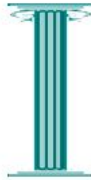
**District 4: Sandra Romero  
(Caput) Elias Gonzales**

**District 5: Beverly Brook  
(McPherson) David Lucio**

**Commissioners  
At Large: VACANT – Youth Representative  
VACANT – Youth Representative  
Jaime Marquez  
John Armstrong  
VACANT – Adult Representative**

**Ex-Officio: Judge Denine J. Guy, Juvenile  
Court  
Sara B. Ryan, Superintendent  
Juvenile Hall**

**Staff: Christine Bennett**



### Advisory Board Members



Xaloc Cabanes  
Chair/1st District



Greg Caput  
Board of Sup. Member



Serg Kagno  
Secretary/4th District



Hugh McCormick  
3rd District



Erika Miranda-Bartlett  
Co-chair/3rd District



Antonio Rivas  
4th District



Valerie Webb  
2nd District



Catherine Willis  
2nd District

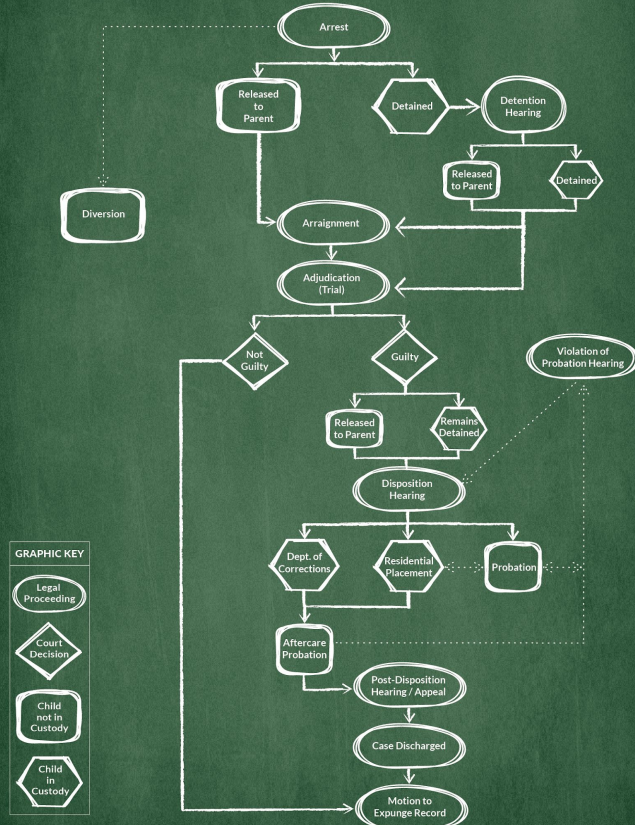
The image features a central text block on a black background. On either side of the text are stylized, white line-art depictions of human faces in profile, facing each other. The faces are composed of thick, flowing white outlines. Some areas, particularly around the eyes and hair, are filled with a fine white stippled pattern. The overall aesthetic is graphic and high-contrast.

# Societal Conditions that lead to incarceration

- Poverty
- Racial Inequities
- Mental Illness and lack of access
- Generational Trauma
- Inequalities in education
- Family Dynamics
- Community Wellness
- Substance Abuse

# Juvenile Court Process

IMAGINE BEING A CHILD  
AND HAVING TO NAVIGATE THIS SYSTEM  
WITHOUT A LAWYER





# Recommendations



- Have a mental health clinician on site 24/7
- Get a Mental health clinician within Juvenile Hall to help youth in healing centered engagement
- Have a youth representative on the Mental Health Advisory Board within the next 6 months
- Have a youth representative on the Delinquency Prevention Commission within the next 6 months
- Get a youth preventive service established in Watsonville and provide it for the community
- Get a third party to review complaints
- Have youth incorporated in community meetings surrounding changes or improvements within juvenile hall
- Have access to mental health services to all youth in Santa Cruz County - particularly those that are uninsured or underinsured
- Track average youth on medication.
- Providing free virtual visitations and transportations.