



## Arcata Police Department

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October 5, 2020

Humboldt County Administrative Office  
825 Fifth Street, Rm 112  
Eureka, CA 95501

### **Re: City of Arcata Measure Z Quarterly Report**

#### **Measure Z 1st Quarterly Narrative Fiscal Year 2020-21**

- 1. Please describe the Measure Z activities completed and/or total numbers served or reached.*

As of September 30, 2020, the Juvenile Diversion Counselors (JDC's) provided services to 308 K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students and families in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial District and the western portion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District (west of Berry Summit), with direct services and case management. Our two Juvenile Diversion Counselors and a School Resource Officer continue to serve the Northern Humboldt area, including McKinleyville, Arcata, Blue Lake, Trinidad and Samoa areas. The program was referred 151 cases via law enforcement (e.g., APD, HCSO, EPD, Juvenile Probation), and 157 school (Student Attendance Review Board) referred cases.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and Shelter-in-Place orders, Diversion received an increase of informal school referrals in the 1st quarter. At the request of school officials, Diversion counselors and the School Resource Officer (SRO) conducted welfare checks on local families who had children who were not attending virtual school. The SRO also takes calls from various school administrators on a weekly basis to answer questions or address concerns regarding families. Diversion Counselors continued to provide support to families participating in the program via telephone, Zoom, and in-person when conditions would allow. Diversion assisted with case management duties, such as assisting families with accessing free meals. Our Juvenile Diversion counselors work with other service providers in the area to enable youth and families to gain access to community resources, activities and services during these trying times. Continued support and structure for families has been our top priority.

Our 11-Week Parent Project Series began on July 16, 2020 with 28 registered families, representing 56 children. We collaborated with HCOE and the Marshall Family Resource Center and held it via Zoom. Ten parents successfully completed the program. Diversion plans to host both another Parent Project series and a Loving Solutions Series concurrently in the second quarter of this fiscal year. Parent Project will be co-hosted with the Humboldt County Probation Department and Loving Solutions will be co-hosted with the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Healthy Communities Division. Our Juvenile Diversion Counselors recognized an increased need in the community for parent and youth support as families continue to spend more time together.

The Juvenile Diversion Program has also used the last quarter as an opportunity to explore program development, strengthen existing community support, and participate in trainings. Both Diversion counselors worked with First 5 Humboldt to teach 4 sessions of the Community Resiliency Model (CRM) to Redwood Coast Regional Center. CRM was created by the Trauma Resource Institute and seeks to train community members to understand the effects of trauma on the brain and to recognize biological responses to stress and trauma. It also teaches skills for coping with trauma and building resiliency.

Juvenile Diversion is currently working with McKinleyville Middle School to host Women's Groups for Jr. High students. The groups focus on resiliency, mental, and emotional health as well as mentorship for young women. Juvenile Diversion is also working with Humboldt County Transitional Age Youth Services and Sunrise Rotary of Arcata. The three agencies have worked together and were recently awarded a grant that will fund seven paid internships to homeless and foster youth. The grant supports youth who face additional barriers to employment and helps strengthen at-risk youth and community relations.

2. *What difference did Measure Z funding make in our community and for the population you are serving? Please discuss evidence of effect (e.g., community indicators, outcomes, etc.).*

As the Covid-19 Pandemic has affected the local economy, we have also seen direct impacts on families. Families are struggling with supporting their children in academics and food and housing security. Case management and parenting classes have been some of the most effective strategies. Case management allows Diversion to provide referrals, support and follow-up with local resources for struggling families and youth. During this time, we have seen an increased need and requests for our Parent Project and Loving Solutions classes. Parents who have completed the program have all reported positive changes in their homes such as, decreased arguing and conflict in the home and increased school attendance. Beginning in November Diversion is again hosting 2 parenting classes; our 10- Week Parent Project Classes for parents of strong-willed teens and our 10-Week Loving Solutions for parents of children between the ages of 5 and 10.

Diversion has been referred 308 cases since October 2016, averaging approximately 100 formal cases a year. As stated previously, in the most recent quarter referrals came from school administrators concerned about truancy. Truancy accounted for 50% of our referrals this quarter. Running away, vandalism and mental health concerns accounted for the remaining 50%. Youth referred to our program experience an average of six ACEs. ACEs are known to affect physical and mental health outcomes throughout one's life. The relation of ACEs to involvement in the criminal justice system are being explored. Our records have shown 93% successful completion rate of youth in the program. Success is measured by completion of counseling, increased school attendance, and absence of further offenses. Three percent of youth due to the seriousness of their crime or criminogenic needs did not qualify for Diversion services. Seven percent of our youth with Law Enforcement citations or Suspension to Expulsion contracts failed to fulfill their Diversion agreements. Failure is measured by not completing community service, continuing to

violate the law, no improvement in school attendance, and failure to show up to several Diversion meetings.

The JDC's continue to be active community partners with the following multi-agency teams and participate in monthly-quarterly meetings to better serve our community: Multi-Agency Crisis Intervention Team (collaboration with local law enforcement departments, DHHS, and other community partners to serve local homeless/houseless and mentally ill populations), Child Abuse Services Team, SARB, Arcata and McKinleyville High Schools, Humboldt Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention, Juvenile Justice Delinquency & Prevention Commission, and Suicide Prevention Network. These working relationships enable Diversion to use best practices in supporting youth and families in our community.

3. *Describe any unanticipated impacts of receiving Measure Z funding, positive or negative, not already described above.*

At this time, we have not experienced any unanticipated impacts of receiving Measure Z funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Ahearn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Ahearn  
Chief of Police