



# County of San Diego

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January 8, 2025

Maya De La Torre, Chair  
Juvenile Justice Commission  
2851 Meadow Lark Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123

## **A.B. AND JESSIE POLINSKY CHILDREN'S CENTER RESPONSE TO 2023 INSPECTION REPORT**

The A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) serves as a 10-day Temporary Shelter Care Facility under the administration of the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Child and Family Well-Being. PCC provides services to children ages 0 to 17 years old who cannot safely remain with their family of origin due to abuse and/or neglect. The Juvenile Justice Commission conducts yearly comprehensive inspection of the operations of PCC and provides recommendations.

The Commission's thorough inspection of PCC and recommendation is immensely appreciated. The Agency has reviewed the recommendations, and the attached report provides a detailed response.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

KIMBERLY GIARDINA, DSW, MSW  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Health and Human Services Agency

KG/nr

c: Ebony Shelton, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment

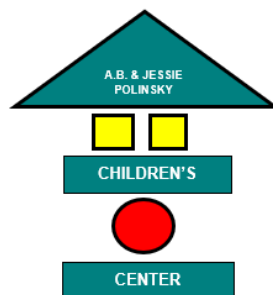
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

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A.B. AND JESSIE POLINSKY CHILDREN'S CENTER

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RESPONSE TO  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
INSPECTION REPORT  
CALENDAR YEAR 2023



## **INTRODUCTION**

The A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Children’s Center (PCC) 2023 Inspection report includes a thorough review of the conditions and operations of PCC focused on 1) Administration/Management, 2) Education/ Support Services 3) Security and Control, 4) Hospitalization, Assault and AWOL History, 5) Facility Background, 6) Training, Personnel, and Management, 7) Grievances, Reporting Incidents, and Staff Misconduct, 8) Classification, 9) Counseling and Casework Services, 10) Programs and Activities, 11) Health Services, 12) Meal Service, and 13) Sanitation. This report provides an in-depth analysis of PCC’s operations along with recommendations for system enhancement.

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) appreciates the continuing efforts of the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) to improve the overall operations and administration of the center. PCC staff strive to implement JJC’s recommendations whenever possible. The JJC’s recommendations from the most recent inspection have been reviewed by HHS staff. The following responses address the JJC’s recommendations.

## **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Recommendation #1**

PCC publish a Spanish version of their newest orientation booklets.

### **Response #1**

PCC created three Resident Orientation booklets tailored for children and youth of various ages as well as a small booklet specifically designed for younger children and those with special needs entering PCC. PCC appreciates the recommendation and will translate the booklets in Spanish.

### **Recommendation #2**

PCC to work with educational partners to create a pathway for students to transfer partial program credits when participating in afterschool programs, such as kitchen and garden work.

### **Response #2**

PCC will collaborate with San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) to explore the feasibility of a pathway for students to earn partial program credits for the participation in various activities at PCC. Having SDUSD onsite can help facilitate direct communication and provide guidance on the process.

### **Recommendation #3**

PCC to work with educational partners to decrease the timeframe for obtaining IEP information.

### **Response #3**

PCC reported that determining whether a child/youth has an Individual Education Plan (IEP)/504 can take up to 5-7 days of the child/youth being enrolled in school. San Diego County Interagency Agreement requires this information to be shared within 2 days. PCC recognizes that delays may occasionally arise due to unforeseen circumstances, such as when a child/youth enters PCC without any documentation or known school of origin. PCC will work collaboratively with San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) and other educational partners to advocate to receive a child/youth's IEP/504 plan in a timely manner and minimize barriers to obtaining documentation. SDUSD is on-site at PCC assisting with conducting assessments aimed to enroll children in an appropriate school setting as quickly as possible.

### **Recommendation #4**

PCC to track all restraint use, separating duplicated and non-duplicated use, beginning January 2025.

### **Response #4**

Restraints are documented via a Special Incident Report (SIR) which are tracked and monitored by Community Care Licensing (CCL). PCC appreciates the recommendation and will explore options to track restraints beginning in 2025.

### **Recommendation #5**

PCC to explore tracking systems to track the reason a student misses a day of school.

### **Response #5**

PCC will carefully evaluate this recommendation to determine the feasibility of tracking reasons for school absences. There are numerous reasons why children may be absent from school and PCC will assess and explore a tracking system to track the reason(s) a student misses a day of school.

### **Recommendation #6**

Recommendation #2 from the previous inspection remains as a recommendation. PCC incorporate a sound system into the remodeling of the infant and toddler cottages for the purpose of bringing music therapy to the children there.

### **Response #6**

PCC is in different phases of renovations and will continue to evaluate incorporating a sound system in the infant and toddler cottages. Portable music options are available to staff to utilize as needed.