

**From:** Tamar Enoch  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 1, 2020 8:16 AM  
**To:** Joellen Bergamini <[Joellen.Bergamini@cao.cccounty.us](mailto:Joellen.Bergamini@cao.cccounty.us)>  
**Subject:** Keep Byron Boys Ranch Open

Please see the following letter to Supervisor Andersen (Sent in a separate email). Thank you very much.

Dear Supervisor Andersen,

I am writing to urge you to do everything in your power to keep Byron Boy's Ranch open. I am horrified that you are considering eliminating this successful, evidence-based rehabilitation program for the young men in our county.

Byron Ranch offers a humane alternative to incarceration at Juvenile Hall. It gives our young men the support they need to learn to make better choices so they can become prosocial members of their communities after serving their time. According to Arthur Fernandez, probation supervisor at the ranch, "OARYC has helped rehabilitate and exorbitant numbers of youths" throughout its history. Data collected from similar programs in other jurisdictions strongly supports OARYC as an effective model for preventing youth recidivism. The program has strong support of community activists because it treats juvenile offenders like what they are—young men who have made bad choices, but deserve a second chance.

I urge you to listen to experts and community stakeholders as you make this difficult decision. Although I understand the need to look at budgets carefully during this time, closing Byron Ranch would target poor young men of color, who are the majority of the residents of Byron Ranch. This comes at a time when communities color are already bearing the brunt of the health and economic consequences of the COVID19 epidemic. It also comes at a time when people around the world have taken to the streets to demand changes in a criminal justice system that has caused so much trauma to black and brown people.

Please invest in our children, in our community and in a better future. Please act now to keep Byron Ranch open.

Tamar Enoch

[Walnut Creek, CA 94595](#)

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Please invest in our children, in our community and in a better future. Please act now to keep Byron Ranch open.

Tamar Enoch

[Walnut Creek, CA 94595](#)

## June McHuen

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**From:** Team E-mail Service <TeamE@costacounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 1, 2020 7:07 PM  
**To:** Federal Glover; supervisor\_burgess@bos.cccounty.us; John\_Gioia; Supervisor Candace Andersen; supervisormitchof@bos.cccounty.us; Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Help Save the Boys Ranch!

Members of the Board,

My name is Arthur Fernandez. For over twenty years I have worked for the CCC Probation Department. The majority of that time, as a Probation Institutional Supervisor at the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (OAYRF) more commonly known as the Byron Boys Ranch. As a result of my work with youth and the community I received the Juvenile Justice Commission Award in 2011. In 2012, I was appointed to the Oakley Union Elementary School District Board where I served for over 4 years, hiring the first Latina Assistant School Superintendent and creating the Latino youth literacy program, "Leer Para Crecer", (Read to Grow) now in its ninth year. In 2013, I was also awarded the Los Medanos Community College Cesar Chavez Award for exemplary community service.

I inform you of these accomplishments not to brag about my accolades, but to demonstrate that I am not only speaking to you today as an employee of the Byron Boys Ranch, but as a person who has dedicated his adult life as an advocate for youth and for my community. For me working at the OAYRF is not just a job, but my calling. In my long career, I have had opportunities to promote, but have always felt that my work at the Boys Ranch was more important than any financial gain I may have received with a promotion.

By now you have all heard the arguments in favor of keeping the Boys Ranch open. From the open setting, the huge recreation room, the fitness center, the swimming pool, the youth work experience program, the professional staff, the school, the library, the construction class, the auto shop, the outdoor Koi Pond visiting area, our wonderful volunteers, our educational field trips and our evidence based treatment programs. All reasons to keep the OAYRF open. But today I want to appeal to your vision statement, which states, "Contra Costa County is recognized as a world-class service organization where innovation and *partnerships* merge to enable our residents to enjoy a safe, healthy and prosperous life." It is these, "Partnerships" that play a vital role when it comes to Juvenile Justice in our county.

I have never been a Probation employee to speak out against my department. On the contrary, I am proud of the work we have done, especially over the last ten years in rehabilitation and reducing the amount of youth in detention. But there are times in your life, as I'm sure you have experienced, when you have to do the right thing and speak up even when it's in your best interest to keep quiet. Respectfully, due to our new Chief of Probation's relatively short time with our department, I do not feel that she has enough first hand quantifiable experience with the Boys Ranch to make an informed decision about closing us down. Instead, I ask you to consider the views and recommendations of our numerous Juvenile Justice Partners who are much more familiar with our Facility.

Since our impending closure was announced on May 28, there has been an enormous outcry from the community and numerous advocacy groups. After robust conversations, interviews, tours, protests and deliberations the following Juvenile Justice Partners have argued against the closure of the OAYRF and relocation to Juvenile Hall. The Boys Ranch has the support of a broad coalition of OAYRF staff including every Juvenile Institution Officer at the Ranch, the assigned Deputy Probation Officer, Therapists, Cook, Clerk, Storekeeper, Nurse and School Staff. It also has the support of the Public Defender's Office, the head District Attorney Diana Becton, the Juvenile Justice Commission, the Civil Grand Jury,

the Presiding Juvenile Court Judge Barbara Hinton, over 33 Community Based Organizations and probably the most important of all, the overall majority of OAYRF youth. All state we should remain open.

These are the most important stakeholders in the area of Juvenile Justice in the County. If the Board votes to close us down, you will be discounting the recommendations of this entire field of Juvenile Justice Partners and everything your vision statement stands for. We ask that at this time you delay your decision to shutter the OAYRF until a more concrete transitional plan can be created, one that does not include moving our mostly youth of color back to a Maximum-Security Detention Facility. A plan that includes the input of all of our key stakeholders. Please don't let 60 years of youth rehabilitation be overlooked over one bad budgetary year. In closing, I'd like to end with an old Mexican Proverb, "Y aunque la jaula sea de oro no deja de ser prisión." (Though the cage be made of Gold, it is still a Prison.)

Sincerely,

Arthur Fernandez

Sent from [Outlook](#)

## June McHuen

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**From:** Nancy Burke  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 7:19 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Reimagining public safety

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please reimagine public safety. Our sheriff has an unbelievable large budget. Please consider allocating some of that money to help with mental health, homelessness and the many other issues that plague our black and brown communities. Get creative and look at what other communities are doing when they are changing how policing works. I am counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Burke

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

## June McHuen

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**From:** Stephanie Medley  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 7:44 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** Danny Espinoza  
**Subject:** [Public Comment] RYSE Letter Opposing OAYRF Closure  
**Attachments:** Proposed OAYRF Closure\_RYSE Letter of Opposition\_Aug 4-20.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Clerk of the Board:

Please find RYSE's letter of opposition to closing the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility attached to this email. Thank you.

**\* Please note, RYSE will be working remotely until further notice.**

**You can visit our website for a list of virtual programming as well as updated COVID-19 and anti-racist resources \*  
#BLACKLIVESMATTER**



**Stephanie Thibodeaux Medley, JD**

**Director of Education & Justice**

**pronouns: she/her**

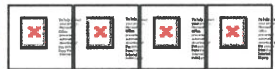
**p: 510.374.3401**

**c: 510.932.9847**

**205 41st Street**

**Richmond, CA 94805**

**[www.rysecenter.org](http://www.rysecenter.org)**





August 3, 2020

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
Contra Costa County  
Board Chambers Room 107, Administration Building  
651 Pine Street  
Martinez, California 94553-1229

**RE: Proposed OAYRF Closure — Opposition**

Dear Supervisors:

The RYSE Center is writing to express our opposition to the proposed closure of the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (OAYRF) in Byron, commonly known as the “Ranch.” We ask that the Board pause efforts to close the facility until a comprehensive discussion and plan, fully informed by input from all stakeholders, is facilitated to contextualize a full reexamination of the County’s youth justice system with an eye towards prioritizing the expansion and creation of alternatives to incarceration, with a presumption that youth remain in the least restrictive environment possible.

Since RYSE opened in 2008, we have been recognized by local, statewide, and national efforts as an emerging model and best practice in the fields of youth leadership, youth violence prevention, and community health. As our work focuses on how to decrease trauma in youths’ lives and the impact of systemic trauma, for years we have witnessed the negative impact that contact with the criminal legal system has on our young people. Trauma-informed approaches should be based on realizing and responding to the impact and causes of traumatic stress across all systems, practices, policies, operations, investments, and relationships. The current proposal to close the Ranch appears to be a pure fiscal decision without consideration for the impact it will have on young lives. How the County handles any costs associated with maintaining the Ranch should be part of a larger conversation which includes all justice stakeholders including youth, parents and guardians.

The Ranch is an important part of the continuum of programs and services that the county offers criminal legal system-involved youth. One cannot “transfer” the Ranch into the Hall. The Hall is a locked, institutional setting where youth live in cells, on cellblocks. While not a community setting, the Ranch is an open, unlocked facility where youth live in a dorm-like atmosphere with fields, a pool, and a large workout and recreational area. Youth have more opportunities for community and family contact through tutoring programs with seniors, competitive sports teams, on-site visits, and vocational training on acres of land.



Current and former Ranch participants have expressed grave concerns about the proposed transfer of the program to Juvenile Hall, noting the severe negative impact time spent in a jail cell had on their physical and mental health, as well as the greater number of peer conflicts, many violent, that arose while on a locked unit with other traumatized peers and few outlets for physical activity. Research supports these lived experiences. A growing body of research shows that custodial punishment may increase recidivism and severely damage the physical and mental health of youth. Time spent in locked facilities compounds existing racial and socioeconomic inequities, disrupts social networks, and stigmatizes the very youth who are most in need of community support. Incarceration negatively alters the developmental trajectories for youth, particularly the youngest teens, a group the Ranch has historically served.

The closure of the Ranch will disproportionately impact youth of color and youth from underserved communities at a time when the County has pledged its commitment to reducing disparities in the treatment of young people in the criminal legal system. Closing the Ranch while keeping open Juvenile Hall, a youth prison, does not dismantle the persistent racial disparities present within the criminal legal system but closes the door for more equitable and just treatment of youth of color.

With the impending closure of the state Division of Juvenile Justice, this is an important time to reimagine this entire continuum of County youth programs in a manner that is evidence-based and consistent with the goal of the juvenile court to treat youth in the least restrictive setting possible. Broad efforts are being made in the Bay Area, throughout California, and across the country, to move away from custodial punishment and to develop more community-based alternatives for youth. Contra Costa County should be at the forefront of these efforts which starts by halting the closure of Ranch.

For all of the reasons stated above, we are strongly oppose the closure of the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Medley".

Stephanie Medley  
Director of Education & Justice  
RYSE Center



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**From:** Lisa Levy <  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 5:22 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Comments for the August 4th BOS meeting

Dear members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and am writing to you to let you know how important I think it is that we rethink both how we fund and the structure of the Sheriff's Department. First, it is imperative that we think toward accountability and abolishing the culture of silence that seems to permeate through many Sheriff's departments. In 2013, Camden, New Jersey dismantled its old and set up a new police department that curbed union power and imposed much stronger accountability for abusive behavior. The result was a decline in police brutality combined with a substantial decline in crime. I think we need to look toward what Camden and other cities and counties have done in order to combat the abusive behavior we are seeing by some members of the police.

Second, we need to rethink the job that Police Officers are now doing that don't fit with their training and skills. I do believe that our police force is a critical part of our society. However, we need to think about what parts of their jobs would be better served by social workers, emergency medical personnel, mental health-care workers and welfare caseworkers. This restructuring of the job will free up funds that can then be better spent on programs to reduce recidivism, social support and education programs to assist at-risk communities, workforce development programs, substance abuse treatment programs, and mental health services to de-criminalize the way in which these individuals are dealt with.

As a tax payer in this county, I urge you to rethink how we structure and fund our Sheriff's Department now. Continuing with the status quo is not good enough.

Thank you-  
Lisa Levy

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**From:** Katherine Walley  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 6:04 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Aug 4, 2020 BOS Meeting: Boys Ranch and Juvenile Hall

Below is my public comment for the BOS Meeting on August 4th, 2020.

Thank you,  
Katherine Walley

Good morning. My name is Katherine Walley and I am a resident, parent and homeowner in Walnut Creek. Approximately twenty years ago I participated in a volunteer tutoring program for youth incarcerated in our county's Juvenile Hall. This experience made it exceedingly clear that detention facilities which incarcerate youth in cells on cell blocks could in no way provide an effective environment for rehabilitation. Reviews of the literature on youth detention confirm the negative outcomes of such facilities. If the goal is to dehumanize, traumatize, increase the chances of recidivism and set up our youth to come out worse than when they enter, Juvenile Hall is the way to do it. However, if our goal is to humanely rehabilitate, educate, and offer a brighter future not only for these youth but for our greater community, we must create environments that support these aims.

One such environment is the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility. I am in strong opposition to its closure and to the relocation of the program to Juvenile Hall. The harsh environment of Juvenile Hall will negatively impact how residents respond to the curriculum and will undermine the goals and effectiveness of the program. I understand that there are budgetary concerns given Covid-19, but it is extraordinarily short sighted to neglect the long-term benefits of the Boy's Ranch as well as the long-term negative outcomes and financial costs our community will incur with its relocation. Additionally, can you explain why the budget for Juvenile Hall has increased over the past five years when the average daily population has decreased? How does one justify keeping Juvenile Hall open and closing the Boys Ranch when the cost per person is much lower at the Boys Ranch?

Rather than transfer this program to Juvenile Hall, I ask that you close Juvenile Hall and invest in facilities such as the Boys Ranch. We should be diverting our funding into the creation of community-based facilities, including secure environments for those youth who need it. In the year 2020, at a time when our nation is facing the call to address racial disparities in incarceration and when we know that most juvenile detainees are victims themselves of trauma and/or have mental health disorders, I ask that you use your position of power to break the cycles of oppression and marginalization of some of our most vulnerable community members within the juvenile justice system.

Thank you for your time.

## June McHuen

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**From:** Ada Zhong · <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:47 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** FY20-21 budget

My name is Ada, and I live in San Ramon. I want to comment on some specific budget expenses that I believe are wasteful, financially irresponsible and detract from an effective public safety and welfare agenda needed in these times. I ask that you consider:

- The immediate closure of **Juvenile Hall** and fully fund the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (aka Byron Boys Ranch)
  - a. Our own district attorney views incarcerating youth as cruel and ineffective and is calling for a deep investment in youth.
  - b. From 2015 to 2020, the annual cost of incarceration per detainee at Juvenile Hall *increased by 177%*, to \$473,417 per year per detainee.
  - c. The Byron Boys Ranch provides a far more cost-effective (\$125,163 per detainee) venue and a humane, program-rich environment to rehabilitate youth without imposing the financial and psychological cost of a locked facility.
- **Close Marsh Creek Detention Facility**, which we understand has no one in it now. This would save **\$5.8 million** in annual operating costs. The County owns this property – explore selling it to generate more funds.
- Save as much as **\$28 million** by **reducing the number of deputies** in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels. The adult facilities staff to detainee ratio has grown from 2.0 staff per 10 detainees in 2015-2018, to 4.5 staff per 10 detainees in 2020.
- **Why are we using federal COVID CARES ACT money** -- which is intended for health care -- to fund 24 additional deputies for detention facilities?
  1. The stated reason these funds are coming from COVID CARES Act is to facilitate “more out of cell time, increased visitation, general programming, and broader provision of *medical and mental health services*.” The pre-COVID rationale for these additional deputies made no mention of supporting mental health services, but was “to augment detention staffing free-time, pill-calls, and intake screenings”.
  2. Once the federal funds are gone in six months, the county's General Fund is on the hook to pay **\$3.92 million** annually to maintain these unneeded positions. It is contrary to standard county budgeting policies to hiring staff with one-time non-county funds that will later need to be paid from the General Fund.
- **Invest** saved funds in housing, healthcare, and mental health services, youth programs, and homelessness programs.
- **Lift the hiring freeze on the Employment and Human Services Department** and ensure that all needed positions are funded and maintained. The CalFresh caseload has grown over 25% since February, due to the economic fallout of the ongoing pandemic.

## June McHuen

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**From:** Vivian Kuang  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:50 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment For 8/4 BOS Meeting (agenda item D2)

Hello Board of Supervisors,

My name is Vivian Kuang and I am a resident of San Ramon. Today, I want to comment on some specific budget items that are fiscally irresponsible and harmful for community safety. Some actions I believe BOS should take include:

1. The immediate closure of Juvenile Hall and prioritization of the Byron Boys Ranch, which is far more humane and tailored towards rehabilitation. Incarcerating youth is immensely ineffective at rehabilitating juvenile offenders. It treats youth as irredeemable by locking them up, and prevents them from getting the support they need to move forward. Even beyond that, the cost of incarceration at Juvenile Hall has increased to over \$470,000 a year per person, which is much more expensive than the Boys Ranch (which only costs about \$125,000 per person).

2. Close Marsh Creek Detention Facility, which would save \$5.8 million in annual operating costs. This would save money and take a step away from our focus on incarceration and punishment.

3. Reduce the number of deputies in detention facilities to previous levels, which would save up to \$28 million. The staff to detainee ratio in the county has grown significantly over the past few years, which is a poor use of funds. Additionally, the county should stop using CARES Act funding (which is intended to alleviate the pandemic) to fund more deputies. The pre-COVID justification for hiring more deputies had no correlation with health, and additionally, it doesn't make sense to hire them given that once the federal funding expires, the county will be paying to maintain these unnecessary staff.

Savings from these actions should be invested instead into the community, such as investing in housing, healthcare, mental health programs, stopping homelessness, and youth programs. The county should also end the hiring freeze on the Employment and Human Services Department, and make sure that they fund any needed positions in this department. Due to the economic downturn, the need for programs like CalFresh are growing and the county must keep up. These are far more effective at resolving the root cause of crime and is infinitely better than locking people up. People who commit crimes deserve to be treated humanely, and incarcerating people will not solve crime — it will only cause it to become cyclical. These budget items are both fiscally sound and will make our community safer.

During this time, I strongly urge the BOS to stop locking our community members up and instead focus on building them up and investing in their well-being. Thank you.

Vivian Kuang

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**From:** Jiggy Athilingam  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 10:21 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza  
**Subject:** Public comment for item d.1 for 8/4/20

Cities and counties all over the country have made commitments to divest from the police and invest in communities: San Francisco announced a \$120 million funding cut to law enforcement that would be redirected to addressing disparities in the Black community ([ABC 7 News](#)). Oakland City Council unanimously agreed to form a task force that will work on a plan to reconstruct public safety in Oakland-- with the goal of reducing the police department budget by 50% over the next two years ([East Bay Times](#)). As of June 9th, AT LEAST 16 cities across the country are making plans to defund law enforcement and invest in communities ([Bloomberg](#)). Cities in Contra Costa county have demanded divestment from law enforcement and investments in communities, including Pittsburg, Richmond, Martinez, Antioch, Walnut Creek, San Ramon and Concord. It's time to make sure our county budget reflects our values.

The Sheriff's office is attempting to use COVID CARES Act money to fund 24 Sheriff deputies did detention facilities. This is unacceptable.

The Sheriff has a deplorable record when it comes to abuse and jail deaths. The answer is NOT to continue to give him money. The answer is to INVEST in communities so that everyone has their basic needs met. Studies have shown that investments in housing, living wages, and youth programs [stabilize communities more effectively than policing](#).

If you, the Board, are as concerned about public safety as you say you are, we ask you to fund services, programs, and interventions that have been proven to end cycles of violence and trauma. Criminalization and incarceration only perpetuate trauma, violence, separates families, and devastates our communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jegath Athilingam  
Resident  
Richmond, CA

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**From:** Elaine Yang <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 9:51 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment on FY20-21 COVID-19 budget changes

I am Elaine Yang, and I live in San Ramon. I would like to bring to your attention some specific, much-needed changes to budget expenses that I believe will effectively and efficiently promote the public safety and welfare of our community this upcoming fiscal year:

Close Juvenile Hall and invest in the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (Byron Boys Ranch) instead. Not only is this more cost-effective, but it is also more humane—upholding our community’s ideals of investing in youth programs.

Close Marsh Creek Detention Facility, to save millions of dollars in annual operating costs. There is nobody there at the moment, so the County can look into selling the property to acquire more funds.

Decrease the number of deputies in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels, saving up to \$28 million. The number of deputies in detention facilities has more than doubled from 2018 to 2020—an unnecessary and costly change that you should consider reversing.

Direct the money from the federal COVID CARES ACT to promoting health care services rather than funding more deputies for detention facilities. This federal funding will not last long, necessitating that the county pay millions more dollars from the General Fund annually to keep these added deputies, when the money can and should be going towards investment in health care, mental health services, housing, homelessness programs, and youth programs—which are the community services that we really should be focusing on, especially in the face of a pandemic.

Finally, end the Employment and Human Services Department’s hiring freeze. Full operation of this department is just what we need right now to help fight the economic ramifications of the coronavirus pandemic impacting local citizens every day.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my input on COVID-19-related budget changes for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

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**From:** Vikram Balasubramanian <  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 10:29 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment

My name is Vikram Balasubramanian, and I live in San Ramon I want to comment on some specific budget expenses that I believe are wasteful, financially irresponsible and detract from an effective public safety and welfare agenda needed in these times. I ask that you consider:

- The immediate closure of **Juvenile Hall** and fully fund the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (aka Byron Boys Ranch)
  - a. Our own district attorney views incarcerating youth as cruel and ineffective and is calling for a deep investment in youth.
  - b. From 2015 to 2020, the annual cost of incarceration per detainee at Juvenile Hall *increased by 177%*, to \$473,417 per year per detainee.
  - c. The Byron Boys Ranch provides a far more cost-effective (\$125,163 per detainee) venue and a humane, program-rich environment to rehabilitate youth without imposing the financial and psychological cost of a locked facility.
- **Close Marsh Creek Detention Facility**, which we understand has no one in it now. This would save **\$5.8 million** in annual operating costs. The County owns this property – explore selling it to generate more funds.
- Save as much as **\$28 million** by **reducing the number of deputies** in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels. The adult facilities staff to detainee ratio has grown from 2.0 staff per 10 detainees in 2015-2018, to 4.5 staff per 10 detainees in 2020.
- **Why are we using federal COVID CARES ACT money** -- which is intended for health care -- to fund 24 additional deputies for detention facilities?
  1. The stated reason these funds are coming from COVID CARES Act is to facilitate “more out of cell time, increased visitation, general programming, and broader provision of *medical and mental health services*.” The pre-COVID rationale for these additional deputies made no mention of supporting mental health services, but was “to augment detention staffing free-time, pill-calls, and intake screenings”.
  2. Once the federal funds are gone in six months, the county's General Fund is on the hook to pay **\$3.92 million** annually to maintain these unneeded positions. It is contrary to standard county budgeting policies to hiring staff with one-time non-county funds that will later need to be paid from the General Fund.
- **Invest** saved funds in housing, healthcare, and mental health services, youth programs, and homelessness programs.
- **Lift the hiring freeze on the Employment and Human Services Department** and ensure that all needed positions are funded and maintained. The CalFresh caseload has grown over 25% since February, due to the economic fallout of the ongoing pandemic.

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Vikram Balasubramanian  
University of Pennsylvania | Class of 2023

My pronouns are he/him





## June McHuen

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**From:** tristan shaughnessy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:08 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors Meeting: 8/4/2020

Dear Contra Costa Board of Supervisors,

My name is Tristan, and I am a student attending Diablo Valley College and a resident of San Ramon. I am sending this email to provide my input on some budgetary issues. After looking at the proposed 2020-2021 expenditures for Contra Costa County, I think there are some better ways to allocate these funds.

First, the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility should remain open and properly supported. The Ranch has proven to be a more cost effective and meaningful way of dealing with youth offenders than juvenile hall or the Marsh Creek Detention Facility. We are not remedying behavioral problems in children by taking them away from their families, and, if such measures must be taken, students should find themselves in a welcoming environment, not a prison cell.

Second, the Sheriff's Office is projected to have expenses totaling more than \$250 million dollars, and I believe there are more prudent ways to realize the goals of our current law enforcement efforts. Additional revenue should not be given to the department to hire more police officers, especially if procured through the CARES Act. Furthermore, lucre used for police patrols and prisons can be used instead in the promotion of affordable housing, Contra Costa's CORE program for homeless persons, and other community based programs. These activities are more preventative in nature than traditional policing, and would avoid the use of prisons all together, which, as institutions, have little value beyond often sequestering constituents in need of support more than punishment. Since the passage of AB-109, Contra Costa has been receiving financial assistance from California at large to complete its realignment policies. Rather than giving these resources to prisons and the sheriff, residents of Contra Costa County would appreciate more community based services (e.g. Neighbourhood Community Courts, the Miles Hall Non-Police Crisis Response Program, and the other strategies mentioned above).

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment, and I hope it helps the Board of Supervisors actualize a vision of Contra Costa County that is reflexive of its citizens' views and best interests.

From,  
Tristan Shaughnessy

## June McHuen

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**From:** Siddharth Nandy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 10:29 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** COVID-19-Related Changes to 2020-21 Fiscal Year Budget

To the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,

My name is Siddharth Nandy, and I am a recently graduated senior from Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon. As a resident of Contra Costa County, I want to voice my opinion on a few specific budget expenses that I believe compromise a proper response for ensuring public safety during these pressing times in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The expenses I want to address are in regards to budget increases for detention facilities in CCC, such as Marsh Creek Detention Facility. Operating costs for these facilities are much higher than they need to be, no thanks to the number of staff working at these facilities. Considering how the staff-to-detainee has more than doubled in the last year, along with the fact that the county is using CARES Act funds to fund more deputies, continued investment in these unneeded bureaucratic positions severely detracts from more necessary measures to aid public health during the COVID-19 crisis. The appointment of more staff at detention facilities is harmful not only to the welfare of the detainees, but also the welfare of the people; such funding would be better allocated to other pressing issues in our county, namely healthcare, housing, homelessness programs, and mental health services.

I hope the Board of Supervisors will address the demands of the community and make appropriate budgetary changes that will improve the county's response to the pandemic, making for a safer community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Siddharth Nandy

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**From:** Lauria Sun < >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:46 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment on BOS August 4th Meeting

Dear Contra Costa Board of Supervisors,

My name is Lauria Sun and I am a resident of San Ramon. I am emailing to comment on an issue related to the budget that will be discussed at the BOS meeting. Specifically, rather than closing the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility, I hope that you consider fully funding the OAYRF and closing Juvenile Hall. OAYRF appears to be more cost-effective (\$125,163 per year per detainee) than Juvenile Hall (\$473,417 per year per detainee). OAYRF is also an open, unlocked facility that provides more opportunities for youth such as vocational training, sports teams, and tutoring programs. The goal should be decarceration of youth, not increasing the population of Juvenile Hall and putting the youth in a more locked, restrictive environment. Additionally, the most recent Grand Jury report recommends considering relocating girls to OAYRF so they have access to the work experience programs provided at the ranch, which would be impossible if OAYRF was closed.

The county should divest from incarceration by closing Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek Detention Facility, and invest more in programs like OAYRF and community-based mental health services which will benefit the youth more.

Thank you,  
Lauria Sun

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**From:** Riya Bindlish  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 1:09 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment on COVID-19 related changes to the FY20-21 budget

To whom it may concern,

My name is Riya Bindlish, and I live in San Ramon, California. I believe that there are some budget expenses that are extremely wasteful, financially irresponsible and detract from an effective public safety and welfare agenda needed in these times. Youth incarceration has always been a controversial issue from a social and moral point, but if that isn't reason enough, the financial tradeoffs should be. I ask that you consider the immediate closure of Juvenile Hall and fully fund the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (aka Byron Boys Ranch). This is for a couple of reasons:

1. Our own district attorney views incarcerating youth as cruel and ineffective and is calling for a deep investment in youth.
2. From 2015 to 2020, the annual cost of incarceration per detainee at Juvenile Hall increased by 177%, to \$473,417 per year per detainee.
3. The Byron Boys Ranch provides a far more cost-effective (\$125,163 per detainee) venue and a humane, program-rich environment to rehabilitate youth without imposing the financial and psychological cost of a locked facility.
4. Why are we using federal COVID CARES ACT money -- which is intended for health care -- to fund 24 additional deputies for detention facilities. The stated reason these funds are coming from COVID CARES Act is to facilitate "more out of cell time, increased visitation, general programming, and broader provision of medical and mental health services." The pre-COVID rationale for these additional deputies made no mention of supporting mental health services, but was "to augment detention staffing free-time, pill-calls, and intake screenings". Once the federal funds are gone in six months, the county's General Fund is on the hook to pay \$3.92 million annually to maintain these unneeded positions. It is contrary to standard county budgeting policies to hiring staff with one-time non-county funds that will later need to be paid from the General Fund.

Invest saved funds in housing, healthcare, and mental health services, youth programs, and homelessness programs.

I respectfully but strongly urge you to make the budget changes as listed above.

Sincerely,

Riya Bindlish

## June McHuen

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**From:** David Jung <r  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 1:14 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment - BoS Meeting 8/4

Hello Contra Costa Supervisors,

My name is David Jung, and I live in San Ramon, California. I would appreciate it deeply if the Supervisors can hear my concerns and do their best to act on them.

I would like to issue a public comment on certain budget considerations that I believe are counterproductive and not conducive to a better Contra Costa community. These are some of the points that I request the Board to consider:

- Please establish a structured plan to close **Juvenile Hall** and instead redirect funding to the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (AKA Byron Boys Ranch)
  - a. **Precedent** - Our own DA views incarcerating youth as cruel and ineffective and is calling for a deep investment in youth. We can start that process now.
  - b. **Financial Detriment** - From 2015 to 2020, the annual cost of incarceration per detainee at Juvenile Hall *increased by 177%*, to \$473,417 per year per detainee.
  - c. **More Effective Methods** - The Byron Boys Ranch provides a far more cost-effective (\$125,163 per detainee) venue and a humane, program-rich environment to rehabilitate youth without imposing the financial and psychological cost of a locked facility. This would save **the county nearly \$350,000 per detainee per year** while practicing **more effective** restorative justice methods.
- Please **close the Marsh Creek Detention Facility**, which is currently unfilled at the present time. This would save taxpayers **\$5.8 million** in annual operating costs which could be put to better use through community investment.
- Save as much as **\$28 million** by **reducing the number of deputies** in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels. The adult facilities staff to detainee ratio has grown by ~2.5 staff per 10 detainees between 2015 and 2020.
- **Redirect funds** from the federal COVID CARES Act currently being used to fund additional (and unnecessary) deputies towards housing, healthcare, mental services, youth education, and homelessness programs.
- **Lift the hiring freeze on the Employment and Human Services Department** and ensure that all needed positions are funded and maintained. The CalFresh caseload has grown over 25% since February, due to the economic fallout of the ongoing pandemic. Protect critical workers during this important time.
- 

Thank you very much for your consideration. I look forward to a thoughtful decision.

Sincerely,  
David Jung

## June McHuen

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**From:** Kavin Kumaravel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 1:15 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Public Comment on FY2020-2021 Budget

To the Board,

We need to reimagine public safety. The sheriff's department has received excess funding for too many years, funds that can be diverted to truly benefit our community.

**1. CLOSE Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek, and FUND the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility**

-the Byron Boys Ranch is cheaper and provides more rehabilitative services without the psychological harm that a locked facility creates

**2. DIVEST from the Sheriff, and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development, and substance abuse treatment.**

-the Sheriff's department already has ample funding and staff to carry out its duties

-funding blocks like AB109 need to shift away from jails and towards reentry services

-DO NOT CUT COMMUNITY SERVICES (any budget cuts should be from the Sheriff Department's part of the budget that comes from the county's general fund)

**3. DO NOT FUND additional staff for the Sheriff's Office. They have more than enough staff to provide required services to individuals in the Sheriff's custody. NO sworn deputies in our jails. Using jailers is an option other counties use & more cost-effective.**

-\$28 million can be saved by reducing the number of deputies in jails. Previously levels were at 2 staff per 10 detainees. Now they are at 4.5 staff per 10 detainees. Reducing the number of deputies in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels would be beneficial.

Thank You,

Kavin Kumaravel

## June McHuen

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**From:** Srisai Nachuri <...>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:02 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Board of Supervisors Meeting

Hello Contra Costa County Supervisors,

My name is Srisai Nachuri, and I live in San Ramon, CA. Based on the agenda for the August 4th meeting of the Board of Supervisors, I would like to comment on some specific budgetary expenses.

1. I would ask you to consider a closure of Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek Detention Facility, and to fund the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility (Byron Boys Ranch). Incarcerating youth is cruel and ineffective as even noted by our own district attorney, and the costs of incarceration per detainee are very high. From 2015 to 2020, the annual cost at Juvenile hall increased 177% per detainee. Similarly, Marsh Creek has about \$5.8 million in annual operating costs, and it is understood that right now the facility is unfilled.

As a replacement for Juvenile Hall, the Byron Boys Ranch is more cost-effective and is a more humane way to rehabilitate youth. In addition to saving nearly \$350,000 per detainee, rehabilitation should be the goal for youth as opposed to incarceration, which also comes at a psychological cost and serves no benefit.

2. Divest money away from the Sheriff. We can save up to \$28 million by reducing the number of deputies in detention facilities to 2015-2018 levels, and there are more than enough staff needed for the required services for those in custody. Instead, invest in healthcare, housing, mental health services, and other forms of support and rehabilitation.

3. Redirect funds from the COVID CARES Act being used to fund additional deputies, which as noted above are unnecessary. Instead, services previously mentioned such as healthcare, housing, mental health services, and homelessness programs should be the recipients.

4. Lift the hiring freeze on the Employment and Human Services Department and ensure that all needed positions are funded and maintained. The CalFresh caseload has grown over 25% since February due to the economic fallout of the current pandemic. We need to prioritize protecting critical workers at this time.

Thank you for your time, and I hope these concerns are considered for the upcoming budgetary decisions.

Sincerely,  
Srisai Nachuri



## June McHuen

---

**From:** Nakenya Allen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:08 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Input for public comment

To whom ever this may concern,

My name is Nakenya A. and I've been resident of Martinez, for the past 12yrs, and a constituent of Federal Glover. I'm a budding activist in this city, and recently became very involved in what I can do to help the marginalized communities in contra costa county and take bold actions to advocate and use my voice to speak for them. Where ever I can.

The Contra Costa Sheriff's department is the largest law enforcement agency in Contra Costa with over 1,100 officers and staff. The sheriff currently oversees a budget of \$260 million. I am submitting this public comment, in solidarity with the organizations, groups and individuals who have been voicing their concern for the growing budget of the sheriff and the lack of funding for housing, healthcare and mental health services, youth programs, and divestment and homelessness programs.

Together, we invite you to reimagine public safety with us by divesting from incarceration and policing, systems that have always disproportionately harmed Black communities and other marginalized communities, and to make deep investments in life-affirming programs and services, like youth programs, mental health services, housing, workforce development, and substance abuse treatment. Specifically, we demand:

1. The County CLOSE Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek, and FUND the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility
2. The County DIVEST from the Sheriff and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development and substance abuse treatment.
3. NO cuts to programs + services for Black communities. ANY budget cuts the county makes should be made to the Sheriff's budget (from the portion of the Sheriff's budget that comes from the county's general fund).
4. NO jail expansion. Defund jail expansion, and refund Black communities.
5. NO sworn deputies in our jails. Using jailers is an other counties use & more cost-effective.

Thank you for your time.

Nakenya Allen  
Sent from my iPhone



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**From:** Maria Alegria <[redacted]@st.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 7:28 AM  
**To:** Jami Napier; Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** John Gioia; District5; Candace Andersen; SupervisorMitchoff; Diane Burgis  
**Subject:** CCC BOS: 8.4.20 Agenda Item: D.2  
**Attachments:** 7.31.20 BOS ltr BLM and reso.pdf

**Importance:** High

Dear Clerk of the Board,

I'm re-sending since I never received confirmation that the correspondence was received. Please confirm receipt.

*done*

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
María Alegría  
510-366-6511

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**From:** Maria Alegria <[redacted]@st.net>  
**Date:** Friday, July 31, 2020 at 1:02 PM  
**To:** BOS Clerk of the Board 2020 <[clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us](mailto:clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us)>  
**Cc:** Nadine Peyrucain <[ngp125@mac.com](mailto:ngp125@mac.com)>, Brodie Hilp <[btilford@pacbell.net](mailto:btilford@pacbell.net)>, John-LAM Dems <[jdhall@mac.com](mailto:jdhall@mac.com)>, Katie Ricklefs <[ktricklefs@gmail.com](mailto:ktricklefs@gmail.com)>, "Sue Hamill @ dems gmail" <[sue4dems@gmail.com](mailto:sue4dems@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** CCC BOS: 8.4.20 Agenda Item: D.2

Dear Contra Costa County Clerk of the Board:

Attached please find a letter to be distributed to the Board of Supervisors and submitted into the public record for their August 4, 2020 meeting:

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**D.2 HEARING on the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Recommended County and Special District Budgets. (David Twa, County Administrator).**

I would appreciate acknowledgment and receipt of email.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
María Alegría, Chair  
Democratic Party of CCC  
510-366-6511  
[www.contracostadems.com](http://www.contracostadems.com)

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**From:** Maria Alegria <[mlalegria@comcast.net](mailto:mlalegria@comcast.net)>  
**Date:** Friday, July 31, 2020 at 1:02 PM  
**To:** BOS Clerk of the Board 2020 <[clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us](mailto:clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us)>  
**Cc:** Nadine Peyrucain <[ngp125@mac.com](mailto:ngp125@mac.com)>, Brodie Hilp <[btilford@pacbell.net](mailto:btilford@pacbell.net)>, John-LAM Dems <[jdhall@mac.com](mailto:jdhall@mac.com)>, Katie Ricklefs <[ktricklefs@gmail.com](mailto:ktricklefs@gmail.com)>, "Sue Hamill @ dems gmail" <[sue4dems@gmail.com](mailto:sue4dems@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** CCC BOS: 8.4.20 Agenda Item: D.2

Dear Contra Costa County Clerk of the Board:

Attached please find a letter to be distributed to the Board of Supervisors and submitted into the public record for their August 4, 2020 meeting:

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

D.2 HEARING on the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Recommended County and Special District Budgets. (David Twa, County Administrator).

I would appreciate acknowledgment and receipt of email.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
María Alegría, Chair  
Democratic Party of CCC  
510-366-6511  
[www.contracostadems.com](http://www.contracostadems.com)

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This electronic message (and any attachments) is intended to be for the use only of the named recipient, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, blind copying, distribution or use of the contents of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error or are not the named recipient, please notify us immediately by contacting the sender at the electronic mail address noted above, and delete and destroy all copies of this message (and any attachments). Thank you.**Sincerely,**

<7.31.20 BOS ltr BLM and reso.pdf>



*We are the Party for and by the People*  
[www.contracostadems.org](http://www.contracostadems.org)

July 31, 2020

**Via email: attn: clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us**

Dear Madame Chair and Board of County Supervisors:

**Subject: August 4, 2020; Agenda Item: D2**

On behalf of the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, we join with other community and racial justice organizations, to speak out in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

As you know, Black Lives Matter has made us all aware of bias and systemic racism in our society, and especially in our law enforcement and criminal justice system. Part of the bias is due to the history of the institution of slavery in the 1700's, a focus on chasing down runaway slaves and shutting down slave revolts, grew into a weapon to disrupt labor uprisings in the 1800s, and matured in the 1900s to be used as the single most effective tool in repressing the civil rights movement. This bias can be seen in the seeming lack of accountability for deaths at the hands of law enforcement in Contra Costa County, including the mounting deaths at our county jails. These actions have permanently damaged the lives of thousands of accused people, and devastated family members, and Black communities at large.

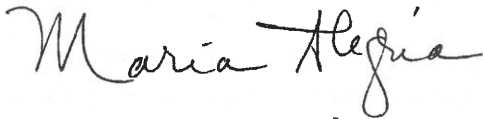
The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the permanent damage caused by policing, incarceration, and collaboration with ICE as Black and Brown communities across the country have suffered the highest rates of COVID-19 cases and related deaths. Moreover, as the virus spreads rampantly in our county's jails and prisons, Black and Brown people who disproportionately fill our jails and prisons, are devastated by the pandemic at much higher rates.

What is needed is an unprecedented and urgent redirection of funds from law enforcement, which has historically harmed Black and Brown communities, to a deep investment in life-affirming programs and services for black, Indigenous and People of Color. It is crucial to reallocate funds from police and sheriff departments to allocate public resources in a deep investment in life-affirming programs and services for the benefit of Black communities that aim to promote economic stability, living wages, stable housing and youth programs.

We need programs that would engage school-aged children, support street outreach workers, reclaim public spaces, and promote job preparation and job growth. We are asking you as Supervisors to redirect funding from the failed and oftentimes racist systems of policing, criminalization, and incarceration that have kept our communities from feeling safe. Instead, invest funding in public services that will not be administered by law enforcement but will provide life-affirming and promote community health and safety equitably across the County, especially in Black and Brown communities most impacted by violence and incarceration.

Additionally, we also adopted on July 16, 2020, the attached Resolution **"Reimagining Our Communities: Shift Funding from Police and Sheriff Departments to Community Services"** for your consideration as you discuss your budgetary priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "María Alegría". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a distinct "A".

María Alegría  
Chair, Democratic Party of CCC

cc: Chair Candace Anderson, Vice Chair Diane Burgis, Boardmembers John Gioia, Federal Glover, Karen Mitchoff

**Reimagining Our Communities:  
Shift Funding from Police and Sheriff Departments to Community Services**

Whereas, police officers have been “primed” for combatant confrontations with criminals, have been trained to use painful deterrents such as pepper spray, tasers, batons, and have fatally shot approximately 1,000 people in the United States in 2018, and of those fatally shot, 25% were mentally ill, police officers equipped to deter criminals are, thus, not the best public servants to respond to crisis interventions, interactions with people who are mentally ill, homeless, a domestic dispute, or are in non-rational-states of mind or circumstances; and,

Whereas, police often have not been held accountable because of “qualified immunity” that shields officers from lawsuits alleging recklessness and civil rights violations, and because there is no government database of those police officers who have been ousted from their police department, police officers are able to move from department to department after being dismissed for misconduct; and

Therefore be it resolved that, we, the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, encourage city councils to decrease police department funding and that County Boards of Supervisors decrease Sheriff Department funding, and instead shift these funds to increased crisis intervention community services, including specialized services to intervene appropriately in whether it be domestic disputes, to address homelessness, and to serve those with mental illness or altered states of mind; and

Finally be it further resolved that we, the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, encourage the Board of Supervisors to establish a transparent oversight board to monitor the reports from citizens of reckless or brutal behavior by peace officers, and establish a database of police officers who are dismissed from the police department because of misconduct, so that the public is protected from dismissed police officers being hired by other police department.

Approved: July 16, 2020  
Democratic Party of Contra Costa County

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**From:** GWYNNE GILSON  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board; SupervisorMitchoff  
**Subject:** County Budget

Dear Board of Supervisors,

In this time of budget crisis and a pandemic that is fraying the mental health of Americans, I support shifting money away from the sheriff's department towards resources that truly serve the community. As protests have made more and more clear this year, law enforcement targets the most marginalized in our society, specifically, black and brown people, with disproportionate rates of arrest, incarceration, and brutality.

It is time to give back to the communities who have suffered the most from these practices for centuries, resulting in toxic stress that is revealing itself through the disproportionate rates of illness and death from COVID-19 in these communities.

My asks are as follows:

1. CLOSE Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek, and FUND the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility
2. DIVEST from the Sheriff, and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development and substance abuse treatment for Black residents and disenfranchised communities.

I wish I could attend the meeting to speak in person, but I have to work (and am lucky to have a job).

Sincerely,

Gwynne Gilson  
Concord, CA

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**From:** Candace Andersen <Candace.Andersen@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 7:44 AM  
**To:** Maria Alejria  
**Cc:** Jami Spier; Clerk of the Board; John Gioia; District5; Supervisor Mitchoff; Diane Burgis  
**Subject:** Re: CC BOS: 8.4.20 Agenda Item: D.2

**Importance:** High

Maria,

It was received and distributed to all of us on the Board.

Best regards,  
Candace

Candace J. Kay Andersen  
Chair, Contra Costa County  
Board of Supervisors  
District 2

San Ramon Valley Office  
309 Diablo Road  
Danville, CA. 94526

Lamorinda Office  
3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette, CA. 94549

[candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us)  
Tel. 925-957-8860

On Aug 4, 2020, at 7:27 AM, Maria Alejria <[mlalegria@comcast.net](mailto:mlalegria@comcast.net)> wrote:

Dear Clerk of the Board,

I'm re-sending since I never received confirmation that the correspondence was received. Please confirm receipt.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
María Alejria  
510-366-6511



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**From:** Kanza Ihsan [mailto:kanza@ghm.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 7:52 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Summary of Demands

My name is Nadi Iz and I am from Frederick, Maryland.

*As an activist and somebody who has heard the story of Miles Hall, we demand change.*

- 1.
2. 1. CLOSE Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek, and FUND the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility
3. 2. DIVEST from the Sheriff, and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development and substance abuse treatment for Black residents and disenfranchised communities.
  1. DO NOT FUND additional staff for the Sheriff's Office. They have more than enough staff to provide required services to individuals in the Sheriff's custody.
2. 3. Fund the "[Miles Hall Non-Police Crisis Response Program](#)": a skilled response to mental health crises that is specific to the needs of each individual and ensures fair and equitable outcomes, based on compassion, respect and dignity.
3. 4. NO jail expansion. Defund jail expansion, and refund Black communities.
4. 5. NO sworn deputies in our jails. Using jailers is an option other counties use & more cost-effective.
- 4.
5. Thank you, Nadi Iz
  - 1.

## June McHuen

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**From:** Sraavya Sambara ·  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:16 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** 8/4 Public Comment

Hello,

My name is Sraavya Sambara and I live in San Ramon, CA. Upon review, I believe that there should be an immediate shift in the fiscal responsibilities of the county budget.

- 1) Juvenile Hall should be closed and the appropriate funds should be diverted to the Byron Boys Ranch. Incarceration has been proven effective repeatedly, and youth would fare much better being rehabilitated in a nurturing environment instead of being retributively punished. Additionally, Byron Boys Ranch is far more cost effective.
- 2) The Marsh Creek Detention Facility should be closed and the funds generated from its possible sale should be invested into the community through social service programs.
- 3) Reduce the number of deputies in detention facilities — this will save valuable money that would be better spent in social service programs.
- 4) COVID Cares money should not be used to raise deputy numbers and should instead be used to bolster essential health services, as originally intended.
- 5) Saved funds should be invested in housing, healthcare, mental health services, youth programs, and homelessness programs.
- 6) The Employment and Human Services Department Hiring Freeze should be lifted because those services are especially crucial in this time.

These demands are incredibly important to me as a constituent, and I would like to see them enacted.

Best,  
Sraavya Sambara

**June McHuen**

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**From:** Jan Warren <[jan.warren@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:jan.warren@sanjoseca.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 1:01 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** comment on item D2, hearing on 2020/21 fiscal year budgets

Dear Chair and Board of Supervisors,

Mental health is the public health responsibility of the county. I encourage the county to create a mental health professional team to respond to 911 mental health calls and appropriately reduce sheriff deputy positions to help pay for the positions. Ideally a new call in # could be established specifically for a mental health response. I also encourage you to partner with the cities in the County, similar to the success of the CORE homeless outreach teams.

During 2015-18 the Deputies with the Sheriff's department had a ratio of 2 deputies per 10 detainees. That number has increased to 4.5 deputies to 10 detainees. We need to restore the 2015-18 ratio and divert the funds to provide youth programs in their neighborhoods.

I would have appreciated a better breakdown from the Sheriff's presentation on the number of corresponding employees to the different job classifications, similar to some of the other presentations. A total number of employees in a department is not very helpful. I also would have appreciated an expenditure pie chart similar to the revenue one for the Sheriff's department.

I support restorative justice, especially for youth. It makes moral and economic sense for us to give them the support and services they need to

turn their lives around, rather than throw them in a jail that is tramaticing, demeaning, and often causes them to give up and end up right back in jail.

I support the closing of Marsh Creek detention facility. I support keeping Orin Allen Youth Rehab in Byron open. I was on a call in which community members spoke about the benefits of the "Ranch" versus the jail nature of Juvenile Hall. Just looking at the rooms with no view of the outside world with a bed, sink and toilet was depressing. We need to remember these are still kids. Most males in our society aren't mature until they reach 25-30 years old. For youth who have been exposed to trauma, and all black and brown bodies are exposed to trauma, they deserve love, care, and support.

As to Juvenile Hall, I support us being open to another solution.

Jan Warren  
3202 Primrose Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
925-818-6530



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## June McHuen

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**From:** Sherry Drobner :  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:05 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Sheriff's Department Budget and Juvenile Hall

Dear members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are living in a time of great need. BUt the need is not for more Sheriff employees. The need is for humane and just treatment for our youth. Locking youth up on hopeless environments like the juvenile hall and March Creek will not solve the problem. When we have a facility like the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility, why on earth would you opt out- do you not believe in rehabilitation? If you want to address the social problems of our time, if you consider that black lives matter, make some data driven decisions that will help save black lives. DIVEST from the Sheriff, and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development and substance abuse treatment for Black residents and disenfranchised communities.

Please, do not even consider increasing the size of the Sheriff's budget. When you have recently laid off library workers, how can you turn around and add more to this budget. Several years ago you voted to build a new facility, rather than invest in mental health. That was a mistake then, and further investment in the Sheriff's Department is a mistake now.

Finally, as a resident of El Cerrito I am told that the County is responsible fo rour mental health services. We need more support not less. We do not want police with guns taking on mental health calls. We all know now how that ends. Fund the "[Miles Hall Non-Police Crisis Response Program](#)": a skilled response to mental health crises that is specific to the needs of each individual and ensures fair and equitable outcomes, based on compassion, respect and dignity.

Sincerely,  
Sherry Drobner  
El Cerrito Resident

**June McHuen**

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**From:** Anne Winterich  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** despinoza@liftupcoco.org  
**Subject:** Divest from Sheriff's Office Funding

I am a concerned and active citizen and I support the following demands:

## Summary of Demands

1. CLOSE Juvenile Hall and Marsh Creek, and FUND the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility
2. DIVEST from the Sheriff, and INVEST in health care, housing, mental health services, workforce development and substance abuse treatment for Black residents and disenfranchised communities.
  - a. DO NOT FUND additional staff for the Sheriff's Office. They have more than enough staff to provide required services to individuals in the Sheriff's custody.
3. Fund the "[Miles Hall Non-Police Crisis Response Program](#)": a skilled response to mental health crises that is specific to the needs of each individual and ensures fair and equitable outcomes, based on compassion, respect and dignity.



Creating the changes needed to protect mentally ill loved ones.  
We seek Justice For Miles Hall who was killed by...

clerk

4. NO jail expansion. Defund jail expansion, and refund Black communities.
5. NO sworn deputies in our jails. Using jailers is an option other counties use & more cost-effective.