

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)  
January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes  
3 p.m. Virtual Meeting (via Zoom)

This meeting is held in compliance with N.J.A.C. Title 13. Law and Public Safety Chapter 90 New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission 13:90-2.8 (b) and is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10: 4-6 *et seq.*

Call to Order – P. Devaney

Present:

Anna Cannella, Coastal Prep  
Steve Schuck, Acenda  
Donna Groom, CMC DHS  
John Roy, Cape Atlantic INK (CMO)  
Jim Hetherington, Jersey Cape  
Josh Mercado, No Limits Academy  
Joe Faldetta, Cape Assist  
Hillary Brown, Youth Shelter  
Pat Devaney, CMC DHS  
Bernadette Myers, Family Court  
Chris Desantis, Probation  
Jenn Valentine, CASA  
Joel Mastromarino, DCP  
Robert Schober, ACFSO  
Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator

Gary Hrynoveski, Light House Church  
Danita Pierce, JJC  
Terri Bryan, One Stop  
Peter Belasco, County A/D Director  
Shirley Robinson, Family Court  
Jamie Moscony, County Technical Schools  
Adrienne Breitinger, Superintendent of Schools Office  
Anne Garrison, Jersey Cape  
Christina Ennis, CMC DHS  
Maria Hadley, JJC  
George Swoyer, Jersey Cape  
Jennifer Hirsch, DCP  
John Thomas, Family Court  
Tom Halligan, One Stop

Additions and Corrections to Minutes – P. Devaney

Minutes from the November 9, 2022 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email. Anne Garrison motioned to accept the minutes. Rob Schober seconded. Motion carried. John Thomas and Jenn Valentine abstained.

Coordinator Report

\*Correction: County did not yet receive the 2023 award intent letter for Comprehensive County Funding but the letter is anticipated. The award funds the Intensive Supervision Program, Station House Adjustment program, and Strengthening Families program.

Note: In order to receive the letter of intent, the YSC was required to decrease the membership by two participants in the sector representing '*Other interested persons who deal with children*'. A YSC Steering Committee will review the membership list (and bylaws) once the revised JJC regulations are released and make the recommendations to the YSC for approval. The membership list could change again once the new regs are released. We are looking for volunteers to be part of the Steering Committee. Please contact Sharon if you are interested in joining the Steering Committee.

\*YSC is also seeking members to join the *Community Participation* subcommittee. This is a new subcommittee that will develop ideas to facilitate the input and participation of youth, family and community members in the functions of the YSC. Please contact Sharon if you are interested in joining.

\*For the record, the NJ Association of County Youth Services Commission increased annual dues from \$100 to \$200. The additional funds will be transferred from the consumable supplies line item in the Administration budget. Consumable supplies budget was \$240 and will be decreased to \$140.

\*Friendly reminder for members to return the Conflict of Interest/Designee Form at their earliest convenience. The form is required by JJC and the County by-laws.

### JJC Representative Report – D. Pierce

- No new updates on the Monitoring Tool.
- Required number of meetings needs to be verified to make sure the numbers meet the requirements.
- Regulations were up for Public Comments and are now back to AG's office for review and posting. Bylaws will need updating with the new regulations.
- JAMS can look-up the number of intakes by municipality
- Youth Served intakes in JAMS is 6,492
- Jams-Intake questions about updating the form- streamlining the form. Looking for recommendations, what are the YSC's looking to fund? Future incentives?
- JAMS is open to update contracts as soon as the county receives the award letter.
- YSC Refresher Trainings -Safiya Baker of JJC will conduct statewide refreshers. Topics are Completing Budget Modifications, JAMS Reporting, Narrative Reporting, and Detention Alternative Utilization.
- 4th Quarter reports are due at the end of the month.
- JJC is requesting updated Admin list for 2023 of all YSC Administrators

### JDAI Update – J. Thomas

Two committees are continuing, Community Engagement and Case Processing.

A statewide meeting was held in December which included JDAI system connections. Engagement seems to be the big emphasis right now.

### Program Updates

- *Intensive Supervision (ISP)*: Steve Schuck reported the program is going well. Currently 3 youth are in the program (all males - 2 White, 1 Hispanic). In 2022, 15 youth were served in the program; 13 successfully completed the program, 2 carried over into 2023. Breakdown of the 15 youth: 11 males, 4 females (6 White, 9 Mixed/Black/Hispanic race). Eleven new admissions, 4 carried over from previous year. All but one youth was on electronic monitoring. Average length of days was about 91 days. One youth was in the program for 322 days.
- *Station House Adjustment*: Joe Faldetta reported 80 youth successfully completed Impact 6. Agency is continuing to work with school districts to utilize Impact 6 as an alternative to suspension.
- *Pathways to Employment*: Jim Hetherington reported that 8 referrals were received in 2022; 3 were enrolled. Of the 3, one successfully completed the program and 2 were unsuccessful.
- *Family Court Advocate*: Rob Schober reported that 2022 had the least amount of participation in the program's history, 2 families (1 White /1 Hispanic). December 31<sup>st</sup> was the last day of the program. One family successfully completed the program, and one family has on going challenges. The family with challenges was referred to Care Management Organization and ACFSO. Referral families were contacted to complete a survey, but no families responded.
- *Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation (POPs)*: Joe Faldetta reported that a list of incentive trips with budgets was created for 2023. The trips will be used as quarterly incentives to help the youth maintain compliance with probation.

### Old Business

- The Program Review and Planning subcommittee will meet soon to discuss use of the additional 2023 State/Community Partnership funds (\$34,204). Four local law enforcement officers completed a Station House Adjustment survey, and the survey will be part of the discussion. The funding is currently in 'unallocated' status until a recommendation is made.
- County is still pursuing an agreement with Ocean County Detention Center. County is currently using the detention center when needed.
- Shelter RFP will be reissued in the beginning of February.

- Josh Mercado reported on No Limits Boxing Academy located in Rio Grande (behind Mr. Tire). The academy is a boxing and youth development center that serves children in Cape May County. Program is free and youth attend for multiple reasons, such as behavioral intervention, self-image, to be part of a team atmosphere, competition, etc. Through boxing, the organization fills gaps for youth with ACEs and helps them to develop resiliency. All programs are free, and equipment/gear is provided. There is an afterschool program for Cape May Technical High School 3 days per week which serves 30-50 kids. The BAM (body and mind) Program is for Cape May County High school students to work out 2 days a week (daytime) and serves 10-16 kids depending on their behavior. Gym Buddies showcases a variety of events and special guest trainers such as Army National Guard and local law enforcement. The facility can host about 150 youth. There are events for community engagement such as live wrestling and boxing tournaments. The next boxing tournament is Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 4-8pm. The motto is “exhaust the body, relax the mind” as the workouts help to lower the defense mechanisms, so the youth are willing to open up.

### New Business

Representatives from Jersey Cape and One Stop presented information about youth employment related services. Jersey Cape: Anne Garrison and George Swoyer; One Stop: Terri Bryan and Tom Halligan Jersey Cape services help youth gain employment, internships, interview skills, resume building, personal finances, computer skills, and communication skills. Programs include HELLO - Hospitality Education Leading to Local Opportunities – hospitality credential programs for hospitality employment. ODOSY - Opening Doors for Out-of-School Youth offers free assistance to youth who have dropped out of school or have a high school diploma but are unemployed or underemployed. OSYES - Out-of-School Youth Employment Services, help youth who are out-of-school and at-risk to get back on the path of self-sufficiency. Pathways to Employment provides youth with work readiness training and guidance to help them develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to become productive members of society. Pre-Employment Transition Services provides trained counselors to empower youth with disabilities to achieve their highest employment potential. Preparing to Reach Employment Potential is a free, comprehensive educational and employment preparation service. The program also covers fees for GED/ GED Prep classes. See website for more information: [www.jerseycap.org/youthservices](http://www.jerseycap.org/youthservices) The Cape May County Division of Workforce Development One-Stop Center provides an array of career and job training, education and employment services at one location. Specific services target unemployed and dislocated workers, youths, veterans, ex-offenders, age 55-plus, and those who have a physical or mental disability. One Stop is located at the County Commons Complex in Rio Grande. Phone: (609) 224-2020 for more information or to speak with a training counselor.

Public Response: None

Adjournment: 4:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 3:00pm