

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)

March 14, 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:

Judge Perry-Thompson, Family Court

Steve Schuck, Acenda

Donna Groom, CMC DHS

John Roy, Cape Atlantic INK (CMO)

Jim Hetherington, Jersey Cape

Joe Faldetta, Cape Assist

Anne Garrison, Jersey Cape

Zachary Gorecke, Prosecutor Office

Bernadette Myers, Family Court

Robert Schober, ACFSO

Joe Landis, Prosecutor Office

Christina Ennis, CMC DHS

Gary Hrynoveski, Light House Church

Danita Pierce, JJC

John Thomas, Family Court

Peter Belasco, County A/D Director

Shirley Robinson, Family Court

Chris DeSantis, Probation

Pat Devaney, CMC DHS

Maria Hadley, JJC

Patty Ackley, Probation

Marianne White, MRSS

Lisa Harczak, Cape Assist

Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator

Additions and Corrections to Minutes – P. Devaney

Minutes from the January 10, 2023 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email.

Joe Landis motioned to accept the minutes. John Roy seconded. Motion carried.

Coordinator Report

County received the 2023 award intent letter for Comprehensive County Funding. The award funds the Intensive Supervision Program, Station House Adjustment program, and Strengthening Families program. Award documents are being processed by the county and will be returned to the State to be executed. Other activities will be reported under Old Business and New Business

JJC Representative Report – D. Pierce & M. Hadley

**Cape May County Statistics*

Commitments: 2021 – 0; 2022 – 0

Waivers: 2021 – 0; 2022 – 0

Probation Intakes (Residential) 2021 – 0; 2022 – 1

~Year to Year Comparison (3 years)

Commitments: 2020 – 3; 2021 – 0; 2022 – 0

Waivers: 2020 – 0; 2021 -0; 2022- 0

Probation Intake (Residential): 2020 – 0; 2021 – 0; 2022 -1

Combined Total: 2020 – 3; 2021 – 0; 2022 -1

**YSC Refresher Trainings* -Safiya Baker of JJC will conduct statewide refreshers. Topics are Completing Budget Modifications, JAMS Reporting, Narrative Reporting, and Detention Alternative Utilization.

**Free Grant Writing Technical Assistance Training* will be held on 3/22 at 3pm (virtual). The training is sponsored by NJ Partners in Action Advocacy Coalition. Flyer was emailed to YSC.

JDAI Update

CJP Committee discussed an Atlantic County referral policy and procedure that is utilized with youth on electronic monitoring when there is an intake override. The policy suggestion will be reviewed at the next full JDAI meeting.

Program Updates

- *Intensive Supervision (ISP)*: Steve Schuck reported that six youth are in program (5 youth are on electronic monitoring and supervision; 1 youth is supervision only). Since the last meeting report, there were five intakes and two youth successfully completed program.
- *Station House Adjustment*: Joe Faldetta reported the program is considering a location change for approximately three Middle School sessions per year. The program would rent space from No Limits Academy (NLA) for the sessions. The new location would give youth an opportunity to explore the facility, learn about the activities, and obtain sign-up information if interested in the program. The new location would be a way to connect youth to a positive community activity and keep intact the NLA identity that youth attend because they want to attend.
- *Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation (POPs)*: Chris DeSantis reported that an incentive activity will be held on 3/25 to Cape May to visit the Harriet Tubman Museum and lunch. Two youth will participate. The program is planning an April fun day, a summer baseball game, and Morey's Pier tickets. Youth continue to receive incentive gift cards. It was noted that there are not a lot of youth on probation, the biggest issue is enrollment. There are approximately 11 youth assigned to Probation which includes 6 JDD youth (deferred disposition). JDD youth are not eligible for POPS. Also, youth who are on Probation but live in another county are transferred to their home county to complete probation. Joe Landis indicated that youth, in grades 6th through 8th, can be referred to the Prosecutor Summer Camp.

Old Business

- The Program Review and Planning subcommittee met a few times to discuss use of the additional 2023 State/Community Partnership funds (\$34,204). The funding is currently in 'unallocated' status. John Roy presented the recommendation of the subcommittee to expand the Station House Adjustment program. A motion to approve the subcommittee recommendation to allocate \$15,000 in State/Community Partnership funds for a Station House Adjustment expansion was made by John Roy and seconded by Rob Schober. Motion Carried.
John Thomas - yes; Chris DeSantis – yes; Zachary Gorecke – yes; Donna Groome – yes;
Joe Landis - yes; Peter Belasco – yes; Anne Garrison – yes; Rob Schober – yes;
John Roy – yes; Steve Schuck – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Patty Ackley – yes; Pat Devaney -yes;
Danita Pierce – abstain; Maria Hadley – abstain.
- Guide to *CMC Behavioral Health & Court Services for Youth & Families* was updated. A copy of the guide was attached to the meeting email and is also posted on the YSC webpage. The guide lists resources for Court involved youth and families or at risk of involvement.

New Business

- Community Participation Subcommittee: Ann Garrison provide the subcommittee report. YSC brochure and flyer was provided in the meeting packet. YSC members are encouraged to help recruit youth, family, and community members to share information about their lived experiences by contacting the YSC or participating in YSC meetings. Members are also encouraged to provide suggestions to increase community participation and are welcome to join the subcommittee.
- Confirmation: Youth in a placement (i.e. detention, youth shelter, etc.) will still have virtual hearings.
- Flyer distributed for the CMC Health Community Day scheduled for Saturday, 4/1, at the Wildwoods Convention Center. YSC brochures will be available at the event.

Public Response: None

Adjournment: 3:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 3:00pm