

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)
May 10, 2022 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 – J. Thomas

Present:

Jennifer Valentine, CASA	Nancy Hudanich, County Technical Schools
Steve Schuck, Acenda	Maria Hadley, JJC
Donna Groom, CMC DHS	Eric Shenkus, Public Defender
Wesley Parker, JJC	Marianne White, MRSS
Anna Cannella, Coastal Prep	Hillary Brown, Oasis Youth Shelter (CFS)
John Roy, Cape Atlantic INK (CMO)	Peter Belasco, County A/D Director
Shirley Robinson, Family Court	Chris DeSantis, Probation
Joann Thompson, Probation	Adrienne Breitinger, CMC Super. Schools Office
Joe Faldetta, Cape Assist	Chrissy Wingate, Jersey Cape
Jim Hetherington, Jersey Cape	Amos Moore, Cape Atlantic INK (CMO)
Jonathan Price, Special Services School	Richard Jackson, JJC
Courtney Boyle-Wininski, SJLS	Lisa Harczak, Cape Assist
Patty Ackley, Probation	John Thomas, Family Court
Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator	

Additions and Corrections to Minutes – J. Thomas

Minutes from the March 8, 2022 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email. Nancy Hudanich motioned to accept the minutes. Jennifer Valentine seconded. Motion carried.

Coordinator Report

*Program Monitoring: This year’s program monitoring will begin next month. We are looking for a few more YSC members to join the monitoring team.

*YSC Membership: Searching for a representative of the local business community to join the YSC. A representative of Atlantic Cape Community College can also fill the vacancy.

*Planning Update: Evaluation and planning with the YSC and JDAI is ongoing, but there is an increased emphasis this time of year in preparation for 2023 applications. Some activities include: 1) A roundtable meeting was held with representatives of Juvenile Justice which included written input from auxiliary programs. 2) Data collection. 3) The YSC Program Review subcommittee will be meeting in the coming months.

JJC Representative Report – M. Hadley

**Population sheet*: 1 youth detained at Atlantic Youth Center

**JJC new Vision, Mission and Core Value statement (brief overview)*

~Mission Statement – An ongoing reform of the youth justice system to implement and promote policies and practices to improve the outcomes for young people and families involved in the system; advancing race equity and eliminating racial disparities; providing culturally responsive programming, supports and opportunities designed to help youth grow and thrive to become independent productive people.

~Vision Statement – Collaborative efforts to prevent young people from entering into the system; partnering with families and communities to develop rehabilitative services and opportunities; assist youth to achieve successful re-entry back to their community.

~Six Core Values - commitment, diversity, inclusion, compassion, leadership and integrity.

Other JJC Updates:

*Gina Blevins will rejoin Atlantic and Cape May Counties as the Research and Reform Specialist.

*2022 Summer Expansion Award funded programs were released on May 5th. Four programs qualified for funding: 2 in Camden, 1 in Gloucester and 1 in Cape May. Cape Resiliency operated by Cape Assist is adding 10 additional youth to their camp for a total of 30 participants; 5 former campers can apply to be peer leaders.

*Our Detention Monitoring Unit has a new name: "NJ Youth Justice Facility Monitoring Unit". The expanded responsibilities include the monitoring of community-based programs and the oversight of PREA.

*Restorative & Transformative Justice Pilot (4 counties pilot) applications were submitted yesterday and scheduled for review on the 16th.

*JJC Family webpage is being constructed. The information on this web page is targeted for families and youth in JJC programs

JDAI Update – S. Robinson

*CM CJJSI meeting was held on 4/27. The agenda included a report on the State CJJSI meeting and a review of the 2021 JDAI Influence and Leverage Report. The Council also discussed Innovation programming and voted⁺ the following decisions for the 2023 funding: 1) discontinue the Family Court Advocate Program in 2023 based on the data/lack of participating families. The program will end on December 31, 2022; and 2) continue the Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation program at the current level of funding and specifications. ⁺ Current contract holders or potential bidders were not present for the 2023 Innovation discussion and vote.

CMC YSC Vote for the 2023 Innovations funding plan:

~A motion was made by Nancy Hudanich and seconded by Shirley Robinson to discontinue the Family Court Advocate Program in 2023 and end the program on December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

John Thomas -yes; Chris DeSantis – yes; Eric Shenkus – yes; Adrienne Breitinger - yes;
Nancy Hudanich – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Hillary Brown – yes; Richard Jackson – abstain;
Marianne White – yes; Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Wingate – yes; John Roy – yes; Anna Cannella – yes;
Stephen Schuck – yes; Jennifer Valentine – yes; Joe Faldetta – abstain; Shirley Robinson – yes;
Joann Thompson – yes; Maria Hadley – abstain.

~A motion was made by Shirley Robinson and seconded by Jennifer Valentine to continue the Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation program at the current level of funding and specifications. Motion carried.

John Thomas -yes; Chris DeSantis – abstain; Eric Shenkus – yes; Adrienne Breitinger - yes;
Nancy Hudanich – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Hillary Brown – yes; Richard Jackson – abstain;
Marianne White – yes; Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Wingate – yes; John Roy – yes;
Anna Cannella – abstain; Stephen Schuck – yes; Jennifer Valentine – yes; Joe Faldetta – abstain;
Shirley Robinson – yes; Joann Thompson – abstain; Maria Hadley – abstain.

Program Updates

Intensive Supervision (ISP): Steve Schuck reported one youth in program which is a decrease from the beginning of the year.

Station House Adjustment: Joe Faldetta reported that 42 youth completed the program thus far and the program is on track to meet the level of service. The expanded Impact program will be available in the Fall.

Family Court Advocate: No report.

Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation (POPs): Joe Faldetta reported that five youth participated in an activity on May 6th (Get Air in Mays Landing). Additional engagement activities are upcoming (i.e. barbeque, etc.).

Pathways to Employment: Jim Hetherington reported five referrals and one youth in program. The program was able to connect the youth's Career Scope Assessment results with the employment placement.

Old Business

None

New Business

Courtney Boyle-Wininski provided a presentation on South Jersey Legal Services' Education Law Project.

Public Response:

*Anna Cannella reported that Coastal Prep school year will end mid-June. Four youth are scheduled to graduate (1 in county/3 out of county) and seven youth will return in September. The remaining school year will also include field trips (i.e. Tree to Tree, Alpaca Farm, Sculpture Garden, etc.).

*Eric Shenkus reported that families involved with the Juvenile Justice System no longer must complete the 5A paperwork for Public Defender services, the youth will automatically be eligible for services.

*Adrienne Breitinger suggested there be further discussion regarding education options for youth who are in the Juvenile Justice System. John Thomas suggested the discussion be held in a JDAI Subcommittee.

Adjournment: 4:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 3:00pm