

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)

April 13, 2021 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.*

1. Call to Order and Round Table Introductions – P. Devaney

Present:

Robert Schober, ACFSO

Steve Schuck – Acenda

Jim Hetherington – Jersey Cape

Joe Faldetta, Cape Assist

Pat Devaney, CMC DHS

Joe Landis, CMC Prosecutor Office

Anna Cannella, Cape Assist/Coastal Prep

Anne Garrison, Jersey Cape

Jennifer Valentine, CASA

John Thomas, Family Court

Chris Desantis, Probation

Shirley Robinson, Family Court

Maria Hadley, JJC

Justin Caruso, Acenda

Chrissy Wingate, Jersey Cape

Joel Mastrommarino, DCPD

Donna Groome, CMC DHS

Gary Hrynoveski, Light House Church

Pastor Edgar Robinson, Christ Gospel Church

Martina Singleton, CARA

Jennifer Hirsch, DCPD

Connie Price, JJC

Ashley Tartaglia, Center for Family Services

Marylou McAdams Corson, Assistant Prosecutor

Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator

2. Additions and Corrections to Minutes – P. Devaney

Minutes from the February 9, 2021 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email.

J. Thomas motioned to accept the minutes as presented. M. McAdams Corson seconded. Motion carried.

3. Administrator's Report – S. Modzelewski

- o YSC Membership: Per JJC guidelines, membership includes a list for both mandated and non-mandated membership. Both categories are voting members. CMC YSC has openings for non-mandated members. JJC allows 11 slots for non-mandated members. Meeting packet included a list of six nominations for the non-mandated members. Five membership positions remain, and we are looking to increase membership diversity; suggestions are welcome. C. DeSantis motioned to approve the six nominations for the non-mandated members. J. Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

John Thomas - yes; Chris DeSantis – yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Marylou McAdams Corson - yes; Joel Mastrommarino - yes; Donna Groome - yes; Joe Landis - yes; Anne Garrison - yes

- o Probation Pathways: Presented two (2) updates to the Probation Pathways program: 1) Program will accept youth who are under the ‘purview of probation’ rather than solely ‘supervised by probation’. Probation purview includes youth from Family Court, Referee Court, CMO for court involved youth, and FSO for court involved youth. Probation will continue to be the referral source for the program. The number of youth on supervised probation decreased. The average number of youth on probation in 2017 was 60; average number of youth now is 20. 2) In addition to current services, the program will offer a work readiness training that is age-appropriate for teens. Program is self-administered in consultation with staff and staff is available to assist with training questions/review. Cost of the program is \$60 per person. The program’s total budget will not change. There is \$750 in training funds that will be earmarked for the work readiness

training (approx. 12 youth). Sampling of work readiness topics include: Finding a Job, Working with Others, Communication, Money Essentials, Computer Essentials.

It was noted that the program would not group together youth from different areas of court involvement in order to receive services.

J. Landis motioned to approve the Probation Pathways updates. M. McAdams Corson seconded. Motion carried.

John Thomas - yes; Chris DeSantis – yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Marylou McAdams Corson - yes; Joel Mastrommarino - yes; Donna Groome - yes; Joe Landis - yes; Anne Garrison – abstain; Bob Schober – yes; Anna Cannella – yes; Stephen Schuck – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Joe Faldetta – yes; Jennifer Valentine – yes.

- 2021 Comprehensive County Funding and Innovations Funding Award Packages were completed and submitted to the JJC.
- The County’s waiver request for the 2021 Comprehensive County Funding RFPs was approved by JJC. Waiver is for State Community Partnership/Family Court dollars. The RFP planning subcommittee meeting will be scheduled this month pending the office move to Rio Grande. The RFPs will be issued this summer for CY 2022 and 2023 for Intensive Supervision, Station House Adjustment, Probation Pathways.
- State Community Partnership/Family Court Contracts were executed on the county level and sent to the agencies and 2021 JAMS is up and running.

4. JJC Representative Report – C. Price

- The Grant’s Management Unit will release announcements in the coming weeks. Some grants are federal, and some are state.
- 2022 Guidelines for State Community Partnership/Family Court funds and Innovations funds should be released in a few weeks.
- A new Monitoring Tool should be released in April. Training will be available.
- Statewide CJSSI meeting was held on 3/31/21. The next meeting is 6/23/21.
- System Partners from the Atlantic Cape May Vicinage held a very successful webinar on March 10th. Part 2 of the presentation for juveniles and parents will be held June 9th.
- The new Research and Reform Specialist in Miguel Williams.

5. JDAI Update – S. Robinson

- The next JDAI Full Council Meeting will be held on 4/28/21 at 2pm.
- Since the implementation of CDR, about a dozen new complaints were received.
- Working on expungements for juvenile cases that were dismissed. At some point in time, they will receive the juvenile marijuana cases for expungement.
- Marylou reported that the Prosecutor’s Office is working on policy for the Attorney General’s Directive, and honing-in on the importance of Station House Adjustment and keeping youth out of the system.

Joe Landis noted that his office is working on a program for the public to educate them about the new Directive and it will include information about marijuana legislation.

6. Program Updates

Intensive Supervision (ISP): Steve Schuck reported that ISP is the detention alternative program for the county. Program is two prong: GPS Monitoring and Intensive Supervision.

Two youth were admitted to the program in the 1st Quarter. Staff have daily contacts with youth both in-person and by phone. In-person is conducted outside/socially distanced. A non-English speaking youth is in program and the agency uses a service, Language Line, for interpreter assistance.

YSC discussed various aspects of allowing ISP youth to participate in Probation Pathways program. There was concern about the appropriateness of the program for youth, with more serious offenses, to be placed in the work experience component. The work experience relies on relationships with employers to place youth who have a level of behavior conducive to the situation. Discussion indicated the ISP youth could participate in various components of the program (i.e. work readiness program, linkages, etc.) and, if deemed appropriate by all agencies involved, be considered for work experience situation. It was noted that in the future only more serious offenses will go before the Judge, including Probation; and most of the probation cases will be for sexually abusive behaviors. There was a question if the Program Profile would also need to include ‘detention alternatives’ as a program goal. J. Landis made a motion to include ISP youth in the program if it is possible to meet the criteria of grant rules. C. DeSantis seconded the motion.

Probation Pathways: Jim Hetherington reported the program had a couple of referrals. One youth will complete a 10-week employment placement this week.

Station House Adjustment: Joe Faldetta reported 9 referrals in the first quarter which is slower than usual. The agency may look more toward educational institutions as an intervention point due to the new law regarding underage marijuana/alcohol use. *Impact 6* is a six-hour educational program utilizing the Botvin Life Skills’ Transitional program. Agency is also considering a second level of Impact for youth that have more than one incident at school. The level would be educationally based and possibly meet one time per week for several weeks.

Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation: Chris Desantis reported that three youth attended orientations which were held individually due to Covid. Parents also attend orientations. Two enrichment events were held: Vision Board and Black History Month. No formal violations so far this year.

Family Advocate: Rob Schober reported that in the first quarter, 8 referrals (2 Court/6 School) were received, and one family opted for services. Three families are currently on active caseload. Family Court Advocate position is vacant since the end of the quarter. Agency is accepting applications for the position. The advocate job candidate would be a parent of a youth that was involved with the juvenile justice system. Bi-lingual candidates are encouraged to apply.

7. New Business
 - Enhanced Outcome Based Probation – *Presentation postponed due to time constraints.*
 - Youth Mental Health First Aid Training (for adults) is available. Contact YSC Office for information.
 - Webinar on Mental Health Resources for Cape May County Youth will be held at 3pm on May 12th. Flyer will available soon.
8. Public Response: None
9. Adjournment: 4:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: 6/8/2021

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)
April 13, 2021 Meeting Addendum

Meeting Addendum

Email Vote was initiated April 16, 2021 and completed April 21, 2021.

Email vote on the following motion:

J. Landis made a motion to include ISP youth in the program (Probation Pathways) if it is possible to meet the criteria of grant rules. C. DeSantis seconded the motion.

John Thomas - yes; Chris DeSantis – yes; Pat Devaney – yes;
Marylou McAdams Corson - yes; Joel Mastrommarino - abstain; Anne Garrison – abstain;
Bob Schober – yes; Anna Cannella – yes; Stephen Schuck – abstain;
Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Joe Faldetta – yes; Jennifer Valentine – yes;
Donna Groome – yes; Joe Landis - yes.