

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)

July 11, 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:

Steve Schuck, Acenda	Danita Pierce, JJC
Shirley Robinson, Family Court	Hillary Brown, Oasis
Jenn Valentine, CASA	Maria Hadley, JJC
John Thomas, Family Court	Donna Groom, CMC DHS
Pat Devaney, CMC DHS	Jonathan Price, Special Services Schools
Chrissy Casiello, NLA	Bob Schober, AC FSO
Marianne White, MRSS	Gary Hrynoveski, Lighthouse Church
Christina Ennis, CMC DHS	Peter Belasco, CMC DHS
John Roy, CMO	Gloria Rivera, Latino Family Connections
Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator	

Additions and Corrections to Minutes – P. Devaney

Minutes from the May 9, 2023 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email. Shirley Robinson motioned to accept the minutes. Jenn Valentine seconded. Motion carried. John Thomas abstained.

Coordinator Report

- The Word version of the new JJC Regulations (N.J.A.C. 13:90) should be released shortly and all the county YSC's will revise the by-laws to remain compliant with the regulations. A steering committee will be established to review the by-laws and make revision recommendations to the YSC. YSC members who wish to volunteer for the Steering Committee can contact the YSC office.
- The Monitoring Team has completed 3 program monitors, another monitor is scheduled in July, one in August, and one in September. A thank you was extended to the volunteers who participate in the monitors and the agencies for their preparation work. A report of the monitor scores will be provided with the YSC plan.
- The 2024-26 plan/application forms will be distributed to the counties during the last week of July; the forms were expected the first week of April. The due date for the completed plan/application was extended one month. Originally, the plan/application was to be presented at the September YSC Meeting and therefore, the YSC may need to adjust the timetable. YSC members will be notified as soon as possible of any changes to the meeting schedule. The county is collecting data for the plan, which includes an Emerging Needs Roundtable that was held in June.
- Other coordinator activities will be reported under Old Business

JJC Representative Report – D. Pierce

- Dr. Jennifer LeBaron was confirmed as Executive Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission.
- Lisa Macaluso was hired as the Deputy Executive Director of Policy Planning and Research at JJC. Ms. Macaluso has a history of working with the JJC and some members may remember her.
- New JJC Facilities will open in 2024 in the central (Ewing) and south (grounds of Ancora Hospital) locations. A north location has not yet been determined.
- The deadline for the YSC plan/application documents has been extended one month.
- Innovation application is due 8/4. Innovation Outcome reports were due 6/30.

## JDAI Update – S. Robinson

- Reminder that the County Council on Juvenile Justice System Improvement decided not to apply for 2024 Innovations funding and the Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation Program (POPS) will conclude at the end of 2023 due to a low number of youths on Probation and a low number of youths participating in the program.
- POPS monitor was completed. POPS is a solid program, and it is sad that the program is ending.

## Program Updates

- *Intensive Supervision (ISP)*: Steve Schuck reported that four youth are currently in the program. Information regarding the first 2 quarters: 7 intakes in the first quarter; 3 intakes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter; 5 successful completions.
- *Station House Adjustment*: 35 youth completed the program year to date. The program distributed new forms to the referral sources including information about the expansion component.
- *Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation (POPs)*: Summer bags are planned for youth in the program, an AOC college and career event will be held in August, a plan for back-to-school bags, and a paint night is planned for the fall. Two youth consistently participate in the trip activities.
- *Strengthening Families Program (SFP)*: Two programs were completed, one in the Woodbine community and one in the Wildwood community. Three additional trainings will be scheduled.
- *CSOC Partners*
  - CMO reported that 1200 youth are in program in Atlantic and Cape May counties. More providers are needed for in-person services and more care managers are needed.
  - MRSS reported that referrals decreased once school ended which is break from the hectic pace and allows more time for staff training for 2 new state-wide initiatives (suicide prevention and zero to 5). Some parents/caregivers are also decreasing some of the youth counseling time so that youth can take a break and enjoy the summer.
  - FSO reported that they are managing the new mandate from the state to decrease the family/worker ratios. Family support meetings are held monthly in Villas and the FSO will increase community awareness about the program. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program will be expanded to include additional caregivers. There is a need for Youth Coaches for the Youth Partnership Program (YP). The YP schedules a number of fun activities throughout the year including a camping trip at Fairview Lake. The YP also has \$500 scholarships for youth in program.

## Old Business

- John Roy presented the Program Review and Planning Subcommittee recommendations regarding 2024 programming and budgets.  
Motion was made by John Roy and seconded by Shirley Robinson to approve the Program Review and Planning Subcommittee's 2024 recommendations for programs and budgets. Motion carried. Voting was conducted for each program and budget.  
Approve Strengthening Families Program at \$48,652  
John Thomas - yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Marianne White– yes;  
Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Casiello – yes; Bob Schober – yes; Steve Schuck – abstain;  
Jen Valentine – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Shirley Robinson – yes; Danita Pierce – abstain;  
Maria Hadley – abstain.  
Approve Life Skills Program at \$18,000  
John Thomas - yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Marianne White– yes;  
Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Casiello – yes; Bob Schober – yes; Steve Schuck – abstain;  
Jen Valentine – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Shirley Robinson – yes; Danita Pierce – abstain;  
Maria Hadley – abstain.  
Approve Intensive Supervision Program at \$161,757  
John Thomas - yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Marianne White– yes;

Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Casiello – yes; Bob Schober – yes; Steve Schuck – abstain;  
Jen Valentine – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Shirley Robinson – yes; Danita Pierce – abstain;  
Maria Hadley – abstain.

Approve Station House Adjustment Program at \$54,080

John Thomas - yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Marianne White– yes;  
Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Casiello – yes; Bob Schober – yes; Steve Schuck – abstain;  
Jen Valentine – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Shirley Robinson – yes; Danita Pierce – abstain;  
Maria Hadley – abstain.

Approve Bracelet Electronic Monitoring at \$10,700

John Thomas - yes; Pat Devaney – yes; Donna Groome – yes; Marianne White– yes;  
Peter Belasco – yes; Chrissy Casiello – yes; Bob Schober – yes; Steve Schuck – abstain;  
Jen Valentine – yes; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Shirley Robinson – yes; Danita Pierce – abstain;  
Maria Hadley – abstain.

#### New Business

Commission agreed that a NJ4S presentation should be scheduled for a future YSC meeting.

#### Public Response:

None

Adjournment: 3:41 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 3:00pm