

Cape May County Youth Services Commission (YSC)  
November 9, 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 – P. Devaney

Present:

Anna Cannella, Coastal Prep

Steve Schuck, Acenda

Donna Groom, CMC DHS

John Roy, Cape Atlantic INK (CMO)

Lisa Harczak, Cape Assist

Josh Mercado, No Limits Academy

Joe Faldetta, Cape Assist

Hillary Brown, Youth Shelter

Joe Landis, Prosecutor Office

Gina Blevins, JJC

Pat Devaney, CMC DHS

Gary Hrynoveski, Light House Church

Danita Pierce, JJC

Shirley Robinson, Family Court

Peter Belasco, County A/D Director

Jim Hetherington, Jersey Cape

Jamie Moscony, County Technical Schools

Adrienne Breitinger, Superintendent of Schools Office

Anne Garrison, Jersey Cape

Patty Ackley, Family Court

Gloria Riveria, Latino Family Connections

Sharon Modzelewski, YSC Coordinator

Additions and Corrections to Minutes – P. Devaney

Minutes from the September 13, 2022 YSC meeting were provided with the meeting notice via email.

Shirley Robinson motioned to accept the minutes. Steve Schuck seconded. Motion carried.

Coordinator Report

\*The NJ Juvenile Justice Commission Regulations (N.J.A.C. 13:90) are scheduled for mandatory review which included revisions to the current regulations. The Regulations were open to public comment and the Association of County YSC Administrators compiled comments and submitted them to the State. The final revised regulations will be available end of the year or early 2023. The YSC will need to 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 for vote.

\*2023 Meeting Schedule was distributed. Meetings will be held virtually at this time to better accommodate members' time and travel circumstances. Additional meetings will be added to the schedule as needed; and if required by JJC, in-person meetings will be held.

JJC Representative Report – D. Pierce

\*Danita Pierce was introduced as the JJC Regional Family Court Liaison Supervisor. Welcome Danita!

\*YSC's 2023 plan and application were reviewed by JJC, and the members were acknowledged for their efforts.

JDAI Update – S. Robinson

The next full council meeting will be held on 11/15. Suggestions for agenda items are welcome. The Statewide meeting will be held in December.

The county received the 2023 award letter for \$40,000 for the Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation program. The award documents were processed and submitted to JJC.

Program Updates

- o *Intensive Supervision (ISP)*: Steve Schuck reported the program is going well. Five youth are in program (all males, 2 biracial, 2 white, 1 Hispanic). Recently, one youth completed the program, and

one youth was added.

- *Station House Adjustment*: Joe Faldetta reported that 70 youth completed the program thus far and the program is on pace to meet the contract deliverables. Most of the referrals are high school age. The volume of participants at this time has hindered the expansion to the four-week version. More funding may be required to increase program capacity. The agency is also investigating ideas to develop a virtual training recording that can be watched by youth individually during in-school detention sessions. Sharon noted that the YSC Program Review and Planning subcommittee will meet with law enforcement officers on December 13 to discuss if the various Station House Adjustment programs currently used in the community are meeting the need. The discussion is part of the planning process for use of the additional State/Community Partnership funds.
- *Pathways to Employment*: No report at this time.
- *Family Court Advocate*: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter report information is as follows: 10 referrals, 1 intake and 1 needs assessment completed (other referrals either declined services or did not respond to contact).
- *Probation Enrichment, Incentive, and Orientation (POPs)*: Joe Faldetta reported that two youth are currently engaged in the program. A November event was held, and a December holiday activity will be held.

### Old Business

Shirly Robinson reported on the Proposal Review subcommittee meeting regarding Family Management Program. The subcommittee unanimously agreed to recommend implementation of the Strengthening Family program (youth ages 10-14) facilitated by Cape Assist for the 2023 grant.

A motion was made by Joe Landis and seconded by John Roy to recommend Cape Assist receive previously approved \$54,948 funding for 5 – seven segment Strengthening Families (youth ages 10-14) programs and booster sessions. Motion Carried.

Adrienne Breitinger - yes; Jamie Moscony - yes; Donna Groome – yes; Hillary Brown – yes; Joe Landis – yes; Peter Belasco – yes; Anne Garrison – yes; Josh Mercado – yes; John Roy – yes; Steve Schuck – yes; Anna Cannella – abstain; Gary Hrynoveski – yes; Joe Faldetta – abstain; Shirly Robinson – yes; Pat Devaney -yes; Danita Pierce – abstain; Gina Blevins - abstain

### New Business

Josh Mercado presented a summary of the *No Limits Boxing Academy* (NLBA) located in Rio Grande. NLBA is a boxing and youth development program to help youth become the best versions of themselves through boxing, fitness, academics, etc. Guest speakers are also involved, CARA recently gave a presentation about social media. The facility is a safe space for all youth, especially for youth whose home life is challenged. Youth start arriving after school and can stay until 9 pm. NLBA partners with Cape May County Tech to bring 45 youth to the center 3 days a week. In addition to the boxing area, the facility includes a learning center, basketball court, game room, etc. NLBA uses a unique funding stream through the rental of space at market value. NLBA raised \$350,000 in 2023 (no grants). YSC members were invited to tour the facility.

### Public Response:

Anna Cannella reported the Coastal Prep school has 13 students (10 male and 3 female). Two youth are from out of county and the remaining students are county youth. As a community service, the students assisted in making Thanksgiving Baskets for people in the community. The Greg DiAntonio Memorial provided funding for Thanksgiving items for the students and their families.

Adjournment: 3:43 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 3:00pm