

**Passaic County Youth Service Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 17, 2019
3:00 pm**

Attendees:

Honorable Judge Rudolph Filo, Presiding Judge, Passaic County Family Court, Chair, YSC

Theodore O. Best Jr., Passaic County Freeholder, Co-Chair, YSC

Francine Vince, MSW, Director, Passaic County Human Services Department

John D. Givens, Administrator, Youth Services High Supervisor/Home Detention

Melanie Nowling, Esq., Family Court Manager

Amanda Compton, JJC Court Liaison

Courtne Thomas, JDAI Specialist

Jason Harding, Passaic County Assistant Prosecutor

Brenda Browne, Mental Health and Addictions Director

La'Quan Hargrove, Case Expediter, PC Dept. Human Services

Jenny Vuksic – Passaic County Mental Health Dept.

Le'Var Starr, Substance Abuse Navigator, PC Dept. of Human Services

Tashai McFarlane, Monitor, PC Dept. Human Services

Oshin Castillo, PC Dept. of Human Services

Duwan Bogert, WDB Director

Dawn Moody, Chief, Probation Division

Myrna Villanueva, Probation

Gino Arevalo, FIS Director

Larry Feather, Director, Circle of Care

Gabriel Montero, CEO/General Manager, M&S Psychotherapy

Donna Glinkin, Director FIS/ CMRSS-FCIU

Humberto Cuadrado, Community, PC County Sherriff's Dept.

Detective/Sgt. Laila Cristobal, Passaic Station House Adjustment

Detective Quaema McElveen, Paterson Station House Adjustment

Detective/Sgt. Kelly Pacelli, Paterson Station House Adjustment

Detective John Lopez - Passaic Station House Adjustment

Carl Phipps, H.O.P.E. for Ex-Offenders

Sondas Abid, Adolescent Counselor, Options Counseling

Rev. Joseph T. Robinson, Options Counseling

Carolyn McCombs, New Destiny

Jennifer Wood, Probation/POP

Cristina Pagan Barnes-Lee, Director, Youth Services Bureau, Disposition for Life Skills/Evening Reporting Center

Attendees Conts.:

Steve Radke, Division of Child Protective & Permanency
Samirah Johnson, Newark YMCA/YES Program
Azariah Clifton, United Passaic Organization
Jaclyn Marcella, CMO, Circle of Care

Individuals who did not attend this meeting:

Linda Chavez, Passaic County Superintendent of Schools/NJ DOE
Ryan Mcnamee, Assistant Family Division Manager

Meeting Called to Order: 3:05 pm

Introductions of Attendees

Previous Minutes dated December 13, 2018

Approval of the minutes: Humberto Cuadrado motioned to move the minutes and it was seconded by Gino Arevalo to approve the minutes dated December 13, 2018. All in favor.

Committee Reports:

- ✓ **Monitoring:** Jenny Vuksic stated that she has not started scheduling the monitoring's yet, and Amanda Compton stated that the monitoring's cannot be scheduled until the Plan Update has been approved and the corrections have not been submitted yet.

Freeholder T.J. Best asked for a motion to nominate two YSC Chair Persons for 2019:

Jenny Vuksic nominated Freeholder Theodore T.J. Best and Humberto Cuadrado and it was seconded by Gino Arevalo. Other members nominated Melanie Nowling, Esq. and Dawn Moody.

Freeholder T.J Best asked for a motion to close the nomination:

Carolyn McCombs moved and it was seconded by Humberto Cuadrado to close the nominations to nominate two YSC Chair Persons for 2019.

Judge Rudolph A. Filko	Freeholder T.J. Best/Melanie Nowling
Freeholder T.J. Best	Freeholder T.J. Best/Cuadrado
Jason Harding	Absent
Lazaro Alvarez	Absent
Melanie Nowling, Esq.	Melanie Nowling/Dawn Moody
Linda Chavez	Absent

Nick Bucci	Absent
D/Sgt. Laila Cristobal	Freeholder T.J. Best/Melanie Nowling
Duwan Bogert	Freeholder T.J. Best/Humberto Cuadrado
Dawn Moody	Melanie Nowling/Dawn Moody
Stephen Radke	Freeholder T.J. Best/Dawn Moody
Jenny Vuksic	Freeholder T. J. Best/Humberto Cuadrado
Le'Var Starr	Absent
Gino Arevalo	Melanie Nowling/Humberto Cuadrado
Humberto Cuadrado	Humberto Cuadrado/Freeholder T.J. Best
Samirah Johnson	Freeholder T.J. Best/Melanie Nowling
Larry Feather	Freeholder T.J. Best/Melanie Nowling
Carolyn McCombs	Freeholder T.J. Best/Humberto Cuadrado

Vote was closed by Freeholder T.J. Best. Francine Vince read the results:

Humberto Cuadrado	Came in with 6 votes
Dawn Moody	Came in with 3 votes
Freeholder T.J. Best	Came in with 10 votes
Melanie Nowling	Came in with 7 votes

The YSC Chairs for 2019 will be Freeholder T.J. Best and Melanie Nowling.

Coordinators Report:

- **JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative):** Melanie Nowling reported that they were granted their award for 2019. They have the new program that will be put up for RFP and the POP and Girls programs that were already approved under JDAI.
- **JJC (Juvenile Justice System):** Amanda Compton reported that corrections have not been submitted yet and the Plan Update has not been approved yet, therefore the monitoring cannot be scheduled until that is completed.
- **High Supervision/Home Detention Program:** Francine Vince stated that she met with Judge Rudolph Filko and Melanie Nowling in regards to the High Supervision and Home Detention Program and we are asking for your permission to make a small change to the program profile of this program. The dollar amount will remain the same and just wanted to add Disposition to the target population and will allow for up to 10 youth to be placed on the electronic monitoring unit while enrolled in a post-disposition program. Judge Rudolph Filko intervened and stated that they did not agree on that, and further stated that they agreed on 45 bracelets to be utilized for all juveniles weather they are on probation or not.

Discussion regarding electronic monitoring bracelets cont.

Freeholder T. J. Best entertained a motion for the proposal as amended, moved by Humberto Cuadrado and seconded by Dawn Moody, all in favor, motion passed to approve the High Supervision/Home Detention profile to add disposition without capping the numbers.

Program Announcements:

- **New Destiny (Afterschool Program):** Carolyn McCombs reported that for the month of December they had a total of (19) juveniles, (0) entered this month, (0) were discharged, and ended the month with (19) juveniles and treated a total of (38). No new referrals and most referrals came from School #6 staff. Activities for December included: basketball training academy, fitness and nutrition, Hip Hop and Modern Jazz class, homework club, mentorship program and painting club.
- **M & S Psychotherapy:** No one was present, all reports were submitted.
- **Newark YMCA:** Samirah Johnson reported that for the month of December they have (2) youth from Passaic County in the program. Activities for December included: Attending a workshop hosted by Planned Parenthood, a coat drive event hosted by Isaiah House, and various holiday parties.
- **Passaic Station House:** Lt. Ralph Danna reported that for the month of December they did not run a Station House Adjustment Program. They had (15) juveniles that graduated in November, and have (14) juveniles awaiting their next upcoming program. D/Sgt. Cristobal also wanted to introduce their new juvenile officer Detective John Lopez to the committee.
- **Paterson Station House:** Detective/Sgt. Kelly Pacelli reported that for the month of December they (9) juveniles the first day of the month, (9) at the end of the month, (36) cumulative juveniles treated, (76) new referrals, (56) are currently under investigation. There were (6) juveniles referred to Family Crisis, (4) were referred to Family Court, and (9) were referred to the Paterson Board of Education for disciplinary actions. They currently have (9) juveniles on the waiting list for their next program.
- **High Supervision/Home Detention:** John D. Givens reported that they started the month with (40), (14) entered the program, (7) of the youth were referred through the Risk Screening Tools, (9) were discharged all positive terminations, and serviced a total of (54) youths.
- **PDAP/Graduated Sanctions/POP Programs: (PDAP)** Jennifer Wood reported that they started the month with (41) juveniles, (5) entered this month, (7) were discharged, (39) the last day of the month and cumulative number of juveniles treated were (46). There were no activities for December. **(POP)** Jennifer Wood reported that they had (22) referrals and only (6) families were able to attend. **(Graduated Sanctions)** Jennifer Wood reported that they started the month with (64) juveniles, they had (59) juveniles the last day of the month, (1) entered, (1) new referral, (6) were discharged all positive. All referrals came from Family Court, and the activities for December included: Life Skills and Girl's Group.

- **Youth Services Bureau (Disposition for Life Skills and Vocation /Evening Reporting Programs): (ERP)** Cristina Pagan Barnes-Lee reported that they started the month with (3) juveniles, (5) entered, (3) were discharged all positive and total serviced were (8). Activities for December included:
 - Participants took part in Positive Peer Culture (PPC) group counseling. PPC identifies and defines twelve (12) problem areas that juveniles encounter throughout their development into adulthood. During groups, participants are given strategies to address those problems.
 - During the month of December, Living Proof, DV org facilitated by Ms. Amy Walton and Jennifer with weekly Arts & Crafts sessions with ERC participants.
 - On 12/12/18, ERC had its monthly “Family Night”.
 - On 12/18/18, ERC went to the Barkley Center to view a basketball game. The New Jersey Nets VS. The LA Lakers. The Nets won the game.
 - On 12/21/18, ERC had a Christmas brunch.
- **Disposition for Life Skills and Vocation Program,** Cristina Pagan reported that they had (8) in the beginning of the month, (3) entered, (3) were discharged, (1) Positive and (2) were negative and serviced (11) total for the quarter. The activities for the month were the same as the ERC Program.
- **FIS: (FCIU, (Family Crisis Intervention Unit) and Parenting Support and Education and Sexting Education Services and Family Enrichment Programs):** (FCIU), Donna Glinkin reported that for the month of December they had (86) new dispatches for youth, (0) shelters, (0) petitions. They currently have (1) staff opening and (1) supervisor opening. **(Parenting Support and Education and Sexting Education Services and Family Enrichment Programs)** Gino Arevalo reported that the programs were all completed for 2018 and are beginning to start the programs back up within 2 weeks and they teamed up with the Family Success Center of Highlands in West Milford to bring the program up-county to be serviced as well.
- **M.D.T. (Multi-Disciplinary Team) and MDT Re-Entry:** La’Quan Hargrove reported that they started the month with (23), (8) entered this month, (4) were discharged, there were (27) the last day of the month, cumulative number treated were (3), and they received (8) new referrals all from MDT/Court Expediter.
- **H.O.P.E. for Ex-Offenders (Re-Entry Community Options):** Carl Phipps reported that they started the month with (4) juveniles, (1) entered, and at the end of the month they had (5). The program took a juvenile and their mother to Maggiano’s for a holiday dinner and provided them with \$150 Shoprite gift card for holiday food.

- **Options Counseling Services (Drug and Alcohol Counseling):** Rev. Rob Robinson reported that they had (4) juveniles the first day of the month, (4) the last day of the month, (1) entered, and (1) was discharged. There were (5) juveniles serviced for the month. Rev. Robinson also wanted to introduce to the committee their new Adolescent Counselor, Sondas Abid.

YES Program

Melanie Nowling stated that they are going to be piloting a new YES Program in Passaic County. The program addresses Human Trafficking and they will be having their introductory meeting on January 31, 2019 @ 1:30 PM in the Family Division. More information will be given at the meeting for all those that are interested in taking part.

Last Quarter Invoices for 2018

Mr. John D. Givens stated that they need all the providers to send in their last quarter invoices for 2018 so that we can get you paid.

Farewell to Old Chair and Welcoming of New Chair

Freeholder T.J. Best wanted to thank our outgoing chair Judge Rudolph Filko for serving the Youth Services commission and Mr. John D. Givens wanted to welcome Melanie Nowling who will be serving as our new chair for the Youth Services Commission 2019.

YMCA Beds

For the record Mr. John D. Givens asked the Family Intervention Services program if they had any issues with beds with the YMCA for budgeting purposes for 2019 and they stated no.

Motion to Adjourn: Freeholder Theodore T.J. Best

Motion: All in favor

Meeting Adjourned: 3:52pm

Next YSC Meeting Date: March 21, 2019