



**Passaic County Youth Services Commission  
May 16, 2019 Minutes**

**Voting members present:**

1. Freeholder Theodore T.J. Best
2. Ryan Mcnamee designee for Melanie Nowling, Esq.
3. Myrna Villanueva designee for Dawn Moody
4. Lia Travers designee for Brenda Browne
5. Larry Feather
6. La'Quan Hargrove
7. Gino Arevalo
8. D/Sgt. Laila Cristobal
9. D/Sgt. Kelly Pacelli
10. Le'Var Starr
11. Carolyn McCombs
12. Chrystal Cleaves designee for Duwan Bogert
13. Stephen Radke
14. Lakisha Chambers designee for Samirah Johnson
15. Humberto Cuadrado

**Voting members absent:**

1. Hon. Rudolph A. Filko
2. Larry Alvarez
3. Linda Chavez
4. Ray Branco
5. Jason Harding

**Non-Voting members present:**

1. Amanda Compton-Dover
2. Francine Vince

**Others present:**

1. Donna Glinkin
2. Elizabeth Cano
3. Sondas Abid
4. Tashai McFarlane
5. Rev. J.T. Robinson

The meeting was called to order by Melanie Nowling, Esq. at 12:40 PM.

Nowling made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Best and seconded by Wood to open the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Seeing no members of the public, a motion was made by Arevalo and seconded by Best to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Arevalo and seconded by Cleaves to approve the minutes dated March 21, 2019. Motion passed with 1 abstention.

Under Monitoring Committee Reports, McFarlane reported that the monitoring's are in progress and that they have monitored the following programs:

1. HOPE for Ex-Offenders
2. Youth Services Bureau (LSVP and ERC Programs)
3. M&S Psychotherapy and Counseling
4. POP (Probation Orientation Program)

All of the other programs are scheduled to be monitored in the upcoming weeks.

Compton-Dover reported that there has to be a voting member at every monitoring and if the monitoring is done in two phases then a voting member has to be present to view both. Compton-Dover further stated that this year, once the monitoring's are all completed they have to be approved by the YSC and submitted with the Plan Update in August in order to move forward with the award. Vince stated that for those who signed up and cannot make it to a monitoring to please help by finding someone to replace you.

McFarlane gave a summary of the monitoring that was done for HOPE for Ex-Offenders and the program was unsatisfactory based on their findings. For the record, the monitoring team has revised and deemed monitoring unsatisfactory due to following reasons: Physical Plant: section 1.4, Needs improvement: Fire extinguishers were not up to date. Program Goals and Objectives: section 3.1, Needs Improvement: outcome for objective #3 should be changed to 65% of youth enrolled for 6 months in the program who

will not reoffend. Program Services: section 4.1, Standard Not Met: a minimum of 3 youth is required for interviewing, but there was only 1 youth present. Section 4.6, Needs Improvement: plan for non-English speaker more specific. Staff Training and Development: section 5.3, Needs Improvement: Staff was unaware of how additionally training will enhance her daily interaction with youth. Section 5.4, Needs Improvement: Case manager position is vacant.

**Monitoring Team Recommendations:**

Looking for program to comply in the following areas:

- Increase the level of service by outreach and opening cases with recently released.
- Start documenting the services that you are providing. A needs assessment should be in the youth's files. Document linkages and/or attempts to services to meet needs.
- Document linkages to schools, employment services, etc. If youth has a high school diploma and/or GED have it documented.

If recommendations are not met by the date stipulated, the YSC reserves the right to either reallocate the remaining funds or seek another provider for this service.

Date stipulated: June 20, 2019 (see attached).

A motion to accept the report as written was made by Best and seconded by Pacelli.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the recommendations of the report was made by Best and seconded by Cleaves.

Motion passed unanimously.

McFarlane gave a summary of the YSB, Evening Reporting Center Program (see attached).

A motion was made to accept the report as written was made by Pacelli and seconded by Best.

Motion passed unanimously.

McFarlane gave a summary of the YSB, Life Skills Vocational Program (see attached).

A motion was made to accept the report as written by Cleaves and seconded by Vuksic.

Motion passed unanimously.

Under Executive Committee Reports,

A motion was made by Cuadrado and seconded by Filko to reallocate the \$35,000 from the Youth Recovery Coach Program.

Motion passed unanimously.

Under Executive Committee, Nowling reported that the committee met on May 8, 2019 and discussed changes on how they will be doing the YSC meetings. They are going to start having a couple of the providers give a brief presentation/overview about their program at each meeting. Arevalo will be presenting today regarding their FIS (Family Intervention Services) programs.

The following is a list of the programs that will be presenting at each of the remaining meetings:

JULY:

- New Destiny
- City of Passaic Station House Adjustment
- City of Paterson Station House Adjustment

SEPT:

- HSHD
- Options
- MDT and MDT Re-Entry
- HOPE

NOV:

- Probation Life Skills
- Youth Services Bureau
- M & S Psychotherapy

Nowling further reported that they will also hand out a budget at every meeting so that everyone can see where you current budget is and to make sure that everyone is submitting them on a timely basis. All expenditures should be sent in on a monthly basis.

There was a discussion on the YSC sub-committees and Feather dropped out as chair of the Planning & Membership sub-committee and McCombs volunteered to be chair and Moody was recommended to be co-chair of the Planning & Membership sub-committee.

Under Youth Services Commission Reports, Vince had nothing specific to report on since she has reported throughout the agenda.

Under Juvenile Justice Commission Liaison report, Compton-Dover reported that in regards to changes to the monitoring's and the voting on them in the YSC meetings, she wanted the committee to know that this has always had to be done. There is a new team of attorneys at the attorney general's office unit who are becoming very particular.

Under Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Nowling reported that they have just submitted their application for 2020 funding.

Discussion/Update on the Trauma Community Conversations, the meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month at 60 Temple Street, Paterson, NJ 07505. The May conversation will be on Coping Skills/Healing Skills and other types of trauma.

Under Planning Committee, Vince reported that the planning committee dates are as follows:

May 23, 2019 @ 10:00 AM  
June 11, 2019 @ 1:00 PM

All meetings are held @ 401 Grand Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 506, Paterson, NJ 07505.

Under old business, Nowling wanted everyone to be aware of the expenditure report and make sure that everyone knows to send in their expenses on a monthly basis. Compton-Dover announced to the committee that if any program provider has a budget modification they would like to do to submit that information to Vince so that we can present it to the Allocations Committee or if anyone has a request if there is money left over please let Vince know. Vince also reported that a copy of the meeting dates were given to everyone for their information since the times are different.

Under new business, Arevalo gave his presentation on Family Intervention Services.

Under Program Announcements:

New Destiny, McCombs announced that the faith-based committee at the Workforce Development Board is hosting a Recovery Café that focuses on Restoring Your Future and that will be held at 200 Memorial Drive, Paterson, NJ 07505. Information will be emailed to the committee.

Family Intervention Services/Sexting/Cyberbullying Program, Lagattuta announce that they are currently running (2) of the sexting and cyberbullying programs and the parenting group will start in the Fall.

Passaic Police Department/Station House Adjustment Program, Cristobal announce that they started their 1<sup>st</sup> Station House Adjustment program on May 11, 2019, and (14) juveniles were present with their parents and have successfully completed all of the required consents. The graduation will be held on June 24, 2019 and their 2<sup>nd</sup> program will start in September 2019.

Paterson Police Department/Station House Adjustment Program, Pacelli announced that they started their Station House Adjustment Program on May 11, 2019. Out of the (20) juveniles that were scheduled (16) showed up.

County of Passaic, Department of Human Services/High Supervision/Home Detention Programs, Vince reported that they are running at capacity and at the end of last month they had (42) juveniles on bracelets.

Options Counseling Center/Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Abid reported that they have been dealing with mental health and substance abuse and mental health always being their primary, and they were just approved to have substance abuse as their primary. Nowling stated that they have been getting a lot of kids in court with serious mental health problems and St. Josephs has been seeing and releasing them after being there 3 hours and Filko would like to figure out if there is a way or other options to get a youth in a program. Discussion continued.

County of Passaic, Department of Human Services/MDT, Hargrove reported that the MDT has been successful in advising the judge with certain cases and effectively moving the kids out of lock up to treatment. Hargrove further stated that he has been working with the Family Engagement Committee with the community conversation piece. For the MDT Re-Entry he and Compton-Dover have spoken briefly about seeing how they can implement the family engagement component to better service some of the children that are coming back to the community. Hargrove also stated that he is currently working with the community in an organization called “Paterson Men Stand Up” who are trying to stop the gun violence in the city.

Probation/Life Skills Education, Wood reported that the program started on April 10, 2019 and is held in their Passaic branch, every Wednesday with Mr. Cash presenting a different topic there every week.

Probation/Probation Orientation Program, Wood reported that they have families coming to probation and they give them orientation on to what to expect and not expect while on probation. They are also given information on any other services that they may need.

Probation/ Girls Group, Wood reported that the program targets the female population and they provide those services once a month.

City of Paterson, Youth Services Bureau/Disposition Program for Life Skills and Vocation, Pagan Barnes-Lee was not present, all monthly reports were submitted.

City of Paterson, Youth Services Bureau/Evening Reporting Center, Pagan Barnes-Lee was not present, all monthly reports were submitted.

M&S Psychotherapy and Counseling/ Juvenile Sex Offender Program/ Drug and Alcohol Evaluations Program, Elizabeth Cano reported that they are running a teen girls social skills group and will be running more groups in the summer targeting anger management and have openings in outpatient and are fully running in Clifton and in Hawthorne. Flyers will be sent out for people to sign up for future girls skills groups.

HOPE for Ex-Offenders/Re-Entry Community Options Program, Phipps reported that they have (1) juvenile that will be graduating next month.

JDAI/Family Enrichment Program, Padilla reported that with the new contract the program has 3 components: Life Skills, Family Engagement Activities, and Individual Services. They are still working with Probation to access which juveniles are in need of those services. Life skills will be given twice a week and Padilla further explained the program.

Newark YMCA/Shelter Beds Program, Johnson was not present, all monthly reports were submitted.

Hargrove announced that the Detention Center graduation will be on June 21, 2019 @ 10:00 AM.

A motion was made by Starr and seconded by Wood to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Attest:

Marilyn DelValle