



Gloucester County Youth Services Commission
October 15, 2025
“Draft of Meeting Minutes”
115 Budd Blvd., West Deptford NJ 08096

Call to Order / Open Public Records Act – Kathy called the meeting to order at 3:09 PM and read the Open Public Meetings Act.

Attendance: Lisa Cerny, Christine Graves, Ellyse Peterson, James Sampson, Kathy Seibert, Bessie Williams, Sierra Parks, Gerald Hodges, Darlene Keith-Battle, Natasha McRae, Linda Bizzelle, Chelsea Brown, Linne Elmore, Rich Nichols, Alisha Laws, **Staff:** Rudolph Aikens **State:** Jessica Froba.

Adoption of Agenda/Previous Meeting Minutes Approval - Lisa moved, Ellyse seconded and the agenda for today's meeting and August minutes were both approved.

Administrator's Report – YSC Admin reported JAMS is due on 10/20/25 and billing can be submitted at any time with proper back up documentation. 2026 Innovations and Community State Partnership funding applications have both been submitted. We await feedback for both applications and will work with the YJC to ensure all necessary corrections are completed to move the applications forward. We will be seeking to renew all 2025 contracts that were in place in 2026 moving forward. Toys for Tots boxes were distributed to 16 County buildings until December 17th and all items collected will be delivered to the Marine Toys for Toys location in Clarksboro, NJ. We will email registration dates for families and agencies to participate on behalf of families after this meeting by email. The 2026 Comprehensive funding application and programs were approved by the YSC on (9/8) and by the GC Commissioner Board on (9/17). The YSC Monitoring team was successful in monitoring Paulsboro AEP (9/17), Woodbury Elementary Schools GALS and Blues Brother Program (10/8) and Glassboro Middle School (10/9).

Administrator Report Cont. WOW Outreach – please be aware that our divisional Wellness on Wheels (WOW) van is available for events. We participate as part of our community outreach. For more information, please reach out to ctrifiletti2@co.gloucester.nj.us to inquire about scheduling.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative –YSC Administrator reported the Council for Juvenile Justice System Improvement will be meeting on 10/31 and our Case Processing Committee will be meeting week prior to the CJJSI, on 10/23.

Youth Justice Commission State Report – Agency reported that 30 kids from YJC received their high school diplomas during a recent graduation ceremony.

PROVIDER PROGRAMMING REPORTS

Acenda – Agency reported 13 youth currently participating, with 5 on Home Detention and 8 on Electronic Monitoring. Agency also reports that the Youth Scholarship Recreation Program has met the set out initial goal (60 total scholarships) for participation. Agency did report there is additional funding remaining, after meeting the target level of service, which may be used in the targeted areas.

FCIU Mobile Response – Agency reported servicing 175 total youth among the Vicinage and 98 within Gloucester County. One court petition was filed for possible emergency shelter placement since the last YSC meeting.

Boys & Girls Club – Agency reported a successful summer program and using all 25-summer scholarship slots that were County contracted. Agency also reported servicing 40 youth, currently, in the safe space programming. Agency reported being thankful to the YSC for the ongoing support and stressed the importance of the funding to accomplish the goal set out by their organization for the youth and families of Gloucester County.

Center for Family Services – Agency reported for PASO the contracted amount of 9 counseling slot and 9 slots for evaluations. Agency reports using 8 evaluations slots leaving one left for the year of 2025 and having 3 remaining counseling slots. All discharges are reported as positive. Agency is still offering tele-health and in-person services. Agency reports that ACE is currently contract to service 24 youth for coaching service, however, states that they have received any current referrals for this service. They have serviced 5 youth for transportation and 11 youth for incentives, with no super incentive requested from GC Probation. Agency reported the difference between incentives and super incentives and let the Commission

know the importance of incentivizing compliance. Agency also explained coaching services and was able to get clearance from the YSC to accept referral directly from Family Court, as needed for coaching. Finally, agency reports the contracted amount for slots for Stationhouse Adjustments being 48 with 4 active cases and 37 slots remaining. Agency reports referrals have been slow but referral sources have been extremely helpful with providing necessary information for the cases to have success. They also continue to use both telehealth and in-person as needed.

CGS FSO – Agency reports a contracted level of service being 25 but servicing 36 total youth with 11 currently active. Agency reports that the youth have been completing cooking classes once a month in September. They made chicken and rice soup during their last meeting. They recently had Ms. Alisha, an Art Therapist, come and spend time with the group. They have hired a new youth coordinator and look forward to an upcoming trip to Creamy Acres Night of Terror. They will also be participating in the Trunk or Treat, in Woodbury, with PTAH Initiative at the end of October. In November, they have Success 1st coming in to do a Family game night with the youth and caregivers. They also reported having their Fall Feast Dinner coming up to celebrate families and youth. The agency is rebuilding group attendance and with their new coordinator, they are looking to increase their participation.

Girl Scouts of Central & Southern New Jersey – Agency reports the Girl Scout Troop 68115 is their Daisy/Brownie Troop for Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd graders at Billingsport. They had their first Girl Scout Troop meeting this past week with our next one on Wednesday, 10/22 from 2:45-3:45pm. Girl Scout Troop 67420 is their Brownie/Junior Troop for 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th graders at Loudenslager. They had their first Girl Scout Troop meeting this past week with our next one on Tuesday, 10/21 from 3-4pm. The girls have been invited to attend the Service Unit's Halloween/Juliette Gordon Low Party at the Jeffrey Clark School on 10/24 from 7-8pm. They will have a table there for the girls to make swaps and have a fun evening with their Girl Scout Troop and Sister Girl Scouts. They are currently starting Girl Scout Troop 68117 for our Cadette Girls grades 7th & 8th. They are also in the process of securing their meeting location, day & time at the Gill Memorial Library. Details will be coming soon. Lastly, they are currently starting a Girl Scout Troop in Clayton at the Ed Bell Rec Center for 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th graders. Details will for this will also be coming soon.

Probation – Parent Orientation – We received no report from Gloucester County probation.

All In Therapy-Agency reports offering therapeutic workshops for all ages but for the purpose of the County grant funding, ages 6-21. Agency has offered 7 workshops thus far, in County, and has a few additional workshops scheduled in the coming months before the conclusion of 2025. Agency reported that recent surveys have provided positive feedback from youth participating. Agency is always looking to expand services throughout the County.

PTAH – Agency reports having 2 programs up and running at the Woodbury Pines YMCA. Programming runs on Monday and Tuesday and consist of after school homework help on Monday and a mid-day recreation program for youth that are homeschooled on Tuesday. Agency continues to do pop up recreation programs as requested within the County and will soon be working with Glassboro Middle School Special Education Department with groups and recreation within the school on a consistent basis.

SCHOOLS

Clayton-Agency currently has a contract to service 12 youth and they have 8 active. Programming just got back underway from the summer. Program is currently working with 3 staff. Just a reminder, the YSC is working with their Alternative School to support students that do not attend the traditional day school. We were able to go out for a site visit in October but will return in November to give additional time to get back up and running since school restarted in September.

Glassboro – Agency is contracted to service up to 20 students and is currently servicing 8-10 consistently. As school gets going, the numbers are expected to increase. Last school year, in May 2025, just before the conclusion of school, programming was servicing over 20 students consistently. Program assist students with credit recovery, homework assistance and provides a safe space for students during after school hours. Transportation is also provided, if necessary, with a late activity bus.

Paulsboro – Agency has a contracted level of service of up to 50 youth annually in there Alternative Program and is currently serving 6. The school has implemented a new code of conduct so they anticipate an increase in referrals. 3 of the 6 students are seniors and will look to graduate after this school year, so they have tested and are working to remain on track to be successful with getting there diploma. Attendance and behavior has been good thus far in the program, but it is something that the school continues to work on with students participating in the

program. YSC and School may, in the future, discuss incentives for students to reach academic, attendance and behavior goals but the discussion was tabled for a later date.

Woodbury - GALS / Blues Brothers – Agency reports all 3 programs at each elementary school are up and running. The program started this week and kids are getting re-adjusted to school. The YSC did a monitoring last week with good results. The YSC Administrator was able to attend in person and spend time with both groups participating at West End Elementary School. Programming has become so popular that they have developed a waiting list. The program services over 90 youth overall and 30 in each elementary school.

Success First Youth & Family Engagement Programming – Agency reported the start of there after school weekly program at Woodbury HS. On November 22, 2025 they are hosting a family gratitude art activity at the Woodbury YMCA of the Pines and the event is open to the public. The YSC Administrator will send out the flyer, for the event, to the group.

United Advocacy Group – Agency reports going through some recent staff changes. For the FAHSP, agency reports a contracted level of service of 20 and currently servicing 19 with 12 active. There has been 6 discharges and one rejected referral because of location /residence. 2 youth were stepped down to a lower court sanction, 2 youth received jobs and 2 youth were able to get back into their school district while being serviced by the agency. For Education and Employment, the agency reports a contract level of service of 20 and current level of service of 23, which exceed the contracted level of service. 15 are currently active with 5 discharges. They have developed a short waitlist for service and family advocates continue to work with youth and families on school and employment issues such as gaining and successfully maintaining employment as well as attending school meetings (IEP/504). Lastly, the FC Intervention Program has a contract level of service of 15 with 13 serviced and 3 currently active. The 3 cases are reported as new intakes, so the agency is just being to work with these youth and families.

Viola's Place – Agency reports that all 12 scholarships slots were filled for the youth summer program. Agency reports serving 25 students in total but initially struggling with getting boys to the program. Agency is working with Williamstown School District to try to implement an afterschool program in the school to mentor students. Agency is currently hosting an afterschool program once a month of Fridays for youth at their facility. They currently are servicing youth ages 12-18.

YMCA – Agency reports continuing to offer scholarships to youth in 9th grade for the remainder of 2025, however in 2026 this will be expanded to 9th - 11th grade, with the goal of keep teenage youth occupied and in a safe space during non-school hours. Current they have offered over 50 scholarships and continue to advertise this to youth in the County of Gloucester.

Maryville – No report from Maryville but during a recent discussion, the agency reported some struggles with getting referral to the program. We will be going to monitor the program on 11/12 to have a more in-depth discussion about some of the challenges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DHSS – DHSS Director reported a NARCAN Training on October 27, 2025 at RCSJ Living Proof Recovery Center and a corn hole tournament on October 25, 2025 there as well. The corn hole event will feature prizes for the winner and a food truck for those that attend.

United Advocacy Group- Agency reports a networking event on October 21, 2025 at the headquarter on 40 E. Commerce Street, Bridgeton, NJ. The event will also feature lunch and a keynote speaker but be an opportunity to agencies to come together and share resources.

YSC Dialogue-A dialogue was had in regards to the price of registration fees for sports municipal recreation within the County and potential efforts to lower fees to assist youth and families with multiple kids that are looking to participate. A discussion was also had regarding how the fees vary for each municipality and their being no real consistency in what will be charged and received from the registration fee. Some municipality offer equipment with registration and some do not.

Adjourn – Gerald moved, Ellyse seconded, and the YSC meeting adjourned at 4:07 PM.

Future meeting Dates

2025 Tentative: Dec 17.

2026 Tentative: Feb 18 April 22 June 24 Aug 26 Oct 21 Dec 16