



BERGEN *County* **NEW JERSEY**

Youth Services Commission

Membership Meeting Minutes

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BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

January 4, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Liana Dinallo; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Christine Hill (designee for Sue Debiak); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Silvia Pascarella; Christopher Perry (designee for April Petersen); Linda Spiegel; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Adiyah Washington; Danielle Osenbruck; Kleidon Ndreu; Laura Simoldoni, Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio)

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi; Laurie Bianchi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams

Resource: John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, and Kaetlynn Ayala, Children’s Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Sharon Barth, CASA; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Dean Pastras and Shelisa Foster, Bergen’s Promise; Jessica Nunez, Case Expeditor; Tasia Milicevic, Valery Sanchez, Albania Martinez-Bojos, TMR; Marisa Heluk, BC Alternatives to Domestic Violence; Quahim Muhammad, Benjamin Franklin Middle School (Teaneck); Laura Washington

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. Liana Dinallo presented the 2022 Slate of Officers: Harry Lisa, Chair and Christopher Perry, Co-Chair. A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the 2022 Slate of officers, was carried.* A motion by Christine Hill, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to approve the BCYSC November 3, 2021 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – No report

Superior Court of NJ– Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported offenses have picked up slightly. The Court is now remote whenever possible.

BC Prosecutor’s Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz also reported offenses have picked up, but most offenses have been low level. There was a decrease in sexual assaults. They were busy in regards to the TikTok challenge. The office is hybrid this week.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Christopher Perry agreed and mentioned youth being in school fights.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2021 programs have concluded and the last quarterly reports are being reported. The 2022 Standing Committees were presented and discussed.

The 2022 Plan Update is complete and awaiting executed documentation.

The 2022 meeting schedule was presented. A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by Liana Dinallo, *to approve 2022 meeting schedule was carried.*

The Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) site visit report was presented and discussed. A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCDFG RSAP site visit report was carried.*
The 2023 Plan Update timeline was presented and discussed. A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Christopher Perry, *to approve the 2023 Plan update timeline was carried.*

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – slightly lower referrals; program running as planned

BCDFG Positive Strides – two referrals

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – one referral in December.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 23 referrals in December

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – three referrals in December.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 2 on bracelet electronic monitoring, 21 youth on the program. One youth on a probation bracelet. Smart link is being utilized (case management feature, facial recognition, status update, etc.)

Juvenile Detention Center – 9 residents, 4 from Bergen County

BCDFG – Visions – 7 juveniles

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 3 residents: all male. Shelter plus - total of 8 (all in person visits for residential programs are suspended remote visits and access are available only)

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services – LST completed classes on December 22, 2021. It is starting back today at Ben Franklin school. The program is prepared to go remote if needed. EPIC – Lodi Sticker Shock Event was successful. On December 10, 2021, there was a community event/movie night, 27 Bergen County youth attended.

Probation – The youth who mastered the “tie the tie” life skill received a dress shirt. In November there was a small group discussion on unconscious bias. In December there was an incentive event: a video game truck was provided for youth and adults. It was a positive way for the youth and adults to interact.

Case Expeditor – no report

Big Brothers Big Sisters – 21 Bergen County matches, the program is seeking mentors, and there are 12 youth on the waiting list

TMR Mental Health Care – The year ended year well. On January 22, 2022, a completion event will take place to reflect on what they learned and reinforce coping skills.

START Institute – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported on the new restorative justice grant, which is available to Paterson, Trenton, Camden, and Union. Also there is one person in programming from Bergen County.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
Membership Meeting (Virtual)
March 1, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Peter Melchionne); Marcia Hartkopp (designee for Liana Dinallo); Shelby Klein; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Silvia Pascarella; Christopher Perry (designee for April Petersen); Russell Read; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Adiyah Washington; Danielle Osenbruck; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio)

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi; Laurie Bianchi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams

Resource: Christine Hill, Division of Addiction Services/OADD; John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Dean Pastras and Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Jessica Nunez, Case Expeditor; Valery Sanchez and Albania Martinez-Bojos and Hiba Rahman, TMR; Laura Washington, NJ Early Intervention

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Russell Reed, seconded by Anne Giacobbe, *to approve the BCYSC January 4, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported there was an uptick in the caseload. Out of home placements are up. In-person hearings have resumed for VOPs and dispositions.

Superior Court of NJ– Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo announced Marcia Hartkopp will be supervising the Juvenile Unit.

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported diversions are also increasing. They are seeing a lot of issues in school such as volatile behavior in youth, organized fights, etc.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Christopher Perry reported as of May 1st all youth will be eligible for the public defender's services. Stationhouse adjustments are keeping the numbers down.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the 2021 program results report. The report was reviewed and discussed at the last planning meeting. *A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Shelby Klein, to include the 2021 Program results report in the 2023 Plan Update data was carried.*

The 2021 BC Offenses Map and Summary was presented. *A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Shelby Klein, to include the 2021 BC Offenses Map and Summary in the 2023 Plan Update data was carried.*

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – the number of boys are increasing, but the girls’ numbers are low. Bipas is up and running, but the PAVE numbers are low.

BCDFG Positive Strides – ten referrals in February.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – six referrals in February (2 community and 2 police).

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 39 referrals in February

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – five referrals in February (1 detention and 4 police).

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 19 youth in the program 6 on bracelet electronic monitoring

Juvenile Detention Center – 6 residents, 2 from Bergen County

BCDFG – Visions – 4 juveniles

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 1 male resident. Shelter plus - total of 5

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services – setting up intro meeting for Rochelle Park. They are collaborating with the SRO. LST is in the third marking period for the existing classes. Robin Wanner announced the second Seeds of Change conference will be on 10/21/22 location tbd. She also reported on the various events and trainings for the EPIC program.

Probation – Pop scheduled for 3/15. It will be hybrid (in-person and virtual). There has been a big struggle with engagement, buy in, and trust.

Case Expeditor – no report

Big Brothers Big Sisters – 31 Bergen County matches, 23 in the site based program. Two new matches last month. The program is trying to transition back to in person.

TMR Mental Health Care – 8 youth current with a wait list.

START Institute – the program has not received any referrals and will not be funded moving forward.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported they are working in person fully, but meetings are still virtual. Staff needs to be fully vaccinated by 3/31. There is one Bergen County youth in a JJC program.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

April 5, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Peter Melchionne); Marcia Hartkopp (designee for Liana Dinallo); Shelby Klein; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Silvia Pascarella; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Adiyah Washington; Danielle Osenbruck; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Melissa DeBartolo

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Christine Hill, Bergen County Division of Addiction Services/OADD; John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner and Sarah Lauber, Children’s Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Dean Pastras and Shelisa Foster, Bergen’s Promise; Jessica Nunez, Case Expeditor; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Sharon Barth, CASA

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. He gave a special thanks to Christopher Perry for all his help with the BCYSC and wished him luck in the future. A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to approve the BCYSC March 1, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried. Melissa DeBartolo and Rosemarie Lobretto abstained.* Jamie Ziegelhofer announced the approved minutes will now be available on the County website.

Superior Court of NJ – No report

Superior Court of NJ– Family (Juvenile) – No report

BC Prosecutor’s Office/Juvenile – No report

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

The 2023 Plan Update and the updated 2022 monitoring tool has not been released yet. Jamie Ziegelhofer reported in Adiyah Washington’s absence.

The BCYSC Allocation subcommittee met on Wednesday, March 16th to review the following proposals.

The Subcommittee recommends the following reductions:

The START Institute – The program did not receive any referrals and will no longer be funded	-\$15,210
M & S Psychiatric Evaluations – Reduce LOS by 5	-\$5,000
BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – Reduce LOS by 5	-\$4,750

Total reductions	-\$24,960
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The Subcommittee recommends the following increases:

Center for Modern Dance Education Moving into Knowledge – To enhance programming through expansion of an African Dance & Drum Company for youth at-risk; and to fund a new seasonal Co-Coordinator staff position to help manage the existing Summer Camp programs for youth at-risk.	\$14,000
Bergen County Division of Family Guidance Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program – To fund a training for law enforcement and school personnel	\$8,087
Bergen County Division of Family Guidance Adolescent Substance Abuse Program – To fund an increase in the food budget	\$2,873
Total increases	\$24,960

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Linda Spiegel, to approve and move forward with the BCYSC Allocations Subcommittee report and recommendations was carried.

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – unable to vote due to technical difficulties; Judge Magali Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Marcia Hartkapp – yes; Danielle Osenbruck – abstain; Silvia Pascarella – abstain; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes (8 yes, 6 abstain, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties).

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – referrals are up, 12 youth currently in the program (9 male and 3 female)

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 15 youth, 6 on the bracelet

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 24 referrals in March from 12 different municipalities. Five new municipalities utilized the program in March.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 6 new referrals in March. The program will be creating its first group.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 5 evaluations in March

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – will email an update

Juvenile Detention Center – 10 youth in total, 8 out of county and 2 Bergen County (9 male, 1 female)

BCDFG – Visions – total 5 youth (all male)

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 2 youth (1 male, 1 female)

Shelter Plus – 5 youth

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – e-mailed a video (shared)

Children’s Aid and Family Services – The new town, Rochelle Park, has received Board approval and will start next week. The remaining towns are in the fourth marking period. EPIC is continuing with their meetings and training. The Youth conference is tentatively scheduled for October 21, 2022. They are waiting on the venue.

Probation – The first POP (Parent Orientation Program) session was a success. 8 parents/guardians representing 7 youth with 3 in person and 5 via Zoom.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – in person will resume soon

TMR Mental Health Care – 10 youth and families are being served some in person and some virtual.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported the monitoring tool was modified and we should receive it next week. There are no Bergen County youth in JJC programs currently.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – Shelby Klein reported that CIACC (Children’s Interagency Coordinating Council) is looking to bolster youth and family engagement. Mental health services are at a record high. Melissa DeBartolo reported the Family Fun Festival will be in person this year with a date to be determined in May.

A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Melissa DeBartolo, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

May 3, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Peter Melchionne); Liana Dinallo; Shelby Klein; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Tammy Molinelli; Silvia Pascarella; Linda Spiegel; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Adiyah Washington; Danielle Osenbruck; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Melissa DeBartolo; Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Laura Simoldoni; Gerald Powers (designee for Russell Read)

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Christine Hill, Bergen County Division of Addiction Services/OADD; John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Dean Pastras and Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Jessica Nunez, Case Expeditor; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Sharon Barth, CASA; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Marisa Heluk, ADV; Tina Kelter; Ana Richards

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCYSC April 5, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried. Liana Dinallo abstained.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported that Juvenile Court is busy; issues remain with long-term residential placement. The Court is seeing offenses that are more serious and there are not a lot of options for alternatives to detention for more serious offenders. Fields programs are a good option but the juveniles need to follow the rules or they cannot stay in the program, which is a huge obstacle. Judge Francois also noted the need to have all proceedings be in-person. Virtual is helpful, but it lacks formality. Fifteen new volunteers were sworn in to the Juvenile Conference Committees.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo echoed the Judges' comments, in regard to in-person proceedings. Out of home placement is a statewide issue. The Court is working hard to complete backlog cases over 90 days by June 30, 2022, if possible. No date for phase two of the Court House construction.

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported they are very busy and are down a prosecutor. Rich Nunez has replaced Chris Perry, which led to a transition period. The need for the formality of in-person proceedings was also reiterated.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Rich Nunez introduced himself and is looking forward to working with everyone.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

The 2023 Plan Update and the updated 2022 monitoring tool was released. We are continuing to meet and move forward with our planning process in order to complete the plan update. Program reviews are beginning. Jamie Ziegelhofer gave a brief overview of the new monitoring tool and regulations. The agencies are now required to have a brief presentation at the time of the monitoring. The schedule and

signup sheet was shared. Two qualified voting members need to be present for a formal monitoring. All were encouraged to sign up. The JDAI research and reform specialist, Julie Boc, has resigned, and Erica Hein is filling in until the position is filled. The JDAI application was released, but we are unsure if Bergen will be applying for funds this year or continuing to use next year as a planning year.

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – Average male group attendance is 6 male, and female group attendance is 3 female

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) –17 youth in program, 6 youth on bracelet and three phone monitoring

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – April had 21 referrals serving 35 different municipalities. Three new municipalities utilized the program in April (Fairview, Saddle Brook, and Washington Township). A training will be held targeting law enforcement and educators.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 6 new referrals in April. The first group will tentatively start this month.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – One in detention and one in community evaluations

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – Two referrals by police

Juvenile Detention Center – 14 youth in total, 8 out of county and 6 Bergen County (13 male, 1 female)

BCDFG – Visions – total 5 youth (3 male, 2 trans)

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 7 youth (5 male, 2 female)

Shelter Plus – 6 youth (2 female, 4 male)

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag reported the Botvin Life Skills program has expanded into Rochelle Park’s 7th grade and it has just begun. The seven habits of highly effected teens expansion this summer is working the Zone to run the program. Empowering Peers Inspiring Change group is moving along. EPIC Englewood ran a sticker shock for an alcohol awareness event in collaboration with the Englewood Health Department. Lodi EPIC has moved in person at the library. Seeds of Change conference is scheduled for Friday, October 21, 2022, in collaboration with the County Executive’s Office. The theme is diversity, equity, and inclusion focusing on LGBTQ+.

Probation – Janice Conti reported the planting event is being planned for this month. They are preparing for parent orientation and painting with a purpose in June. They are looking for speakers for two topics: burn out prevention and detoxing the work environment, and how to engage and unlock the team’s creativity and the next generation leadership.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – In person has resumed and everything is going well.

TMR Mental Health Care – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported that on April 22nd the Attorney General visited Jamesburg and is planning to visit other correctional facilities and the fields programs. The monitoring tool has been updated and there are no Bergen County youth in JJC facilities at this time.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – Shelby Klein announced that May is Mental Health Month there are a variety of activities and trainings such as youth mental health first aid training, suicide prevention training, and a narcan training. Email for more information. A sticker contest was held and an event will take place soon. CIACC (Children's Interagency Coordinating Council) is working on a resource guide for youth and families.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

July 6, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Howard Lerner); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); John Stallone (designee for Liana Dinallo); Karen Gwynn (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Linda Spiegel; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Adiyah Washington; Danielle Osenbruck; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Melissa DeBartolo; Kleidon Ndreu; Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Laura Simoldoni; Gerald Powers (designee for Russell Read); Jorge Sandoval

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams

Resource: John Cutitto and Kimberly Malone Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Lisa Cieplechowicz, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Tasia Milicevic, Valery Sanchez, and Albania Bojos, TMR; Sharon Barth, CASA; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Marisa Heluk, ADV; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Tina Kelter; Allegro Addeo

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by John Stallone, *to approve the BCYSC May 3, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – no report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) –

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Domestic Violence among youth seem to be on the rise and they are working with Alternatives to Domestic Violence.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Program reviews are almost done. There are two more left: TMR on Monday, July 11th at 11:00AM and BBBS on Thursday, July 14th at 10:00AM. We are continuing to meet and move forward with our planning process in order to complete the plan update. The BCYSC Allocations/Program Review subcommittee met on Wednesday, June 29th to approve three site visit reports and discuss scoring. The total applicable points in a category will be 3 times the number of questions. If a program scores a four it will be considered extra credit. Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the BBBS One to one mentoring program, BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program, and CMDE Moving into Knowledge site visit reports.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the BBBS One to one mentoring program site visit report, was carried*

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program site visit report, was carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Jorge Sandoval, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

A motion by Kleidon Ndreu, seconded by John Stallone, *to approve the CMDE Moving into Knowledge site visit report, was carried.*

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – Four Male and three Female, PAVE is up and running this week, BIPAS is having another cycle this week and the program continues providing assessments.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) –20 youth in program, the numbers are high this year, 9 youth on bracelet and three phone monitoring, and eight non bracelet/phone monitoring.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 16 referrals in June with 11 new municipalities, 40 in total.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 3 new referrals in June.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 6 evaluations in June.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – Two referrals in June.

Juvenile Detention Center – 6 youth all Bergen County males. A discussion was held regarding the difficulty of finding placements when disposed.

BCDFG – Visions – 6 male

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 3 youth

Shelter Plus – not provided

Teaneck Public Schools – Harry Lisa requested the administrator to contact them to report in the next month.

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag reported the Botvin Life Skills program completed the fourth marking period in all schools. They are collaborating with Bergen Family Center to provide the Seven Habit program this summer to approximately 30-35 youth and is set to start today. Robin Wanner reported the EPIC program is also collaborating with the Bergen Family Center Youth leadership summer program. The Youth Conference will be on October 21st and the theme is LGBTQ+.

Probation – Janice Conti reported they provided the planting project in May and POP and painting with a purpose were completed.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Lisa reported the school year is complete and they are currently recruiting for those programs. The one on one mentoring continues and they are looking for mentors.

TMR Mental Health Care – 123 sessions have been completed and they are on par to complete their goal of 212 sessions. There were four positive terminations.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported 16 youth completed classes at Middlesex College. There are currently no Bergen County youth in JJC facilities.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Jorge Sandoval, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

August 2, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Howard Lerner); Nicole Jaccoi; John Stallone (designee for Judge Francois); Marcia Hartkopp (designee for Liana Dinallo); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Linda Spiegel; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Melissa DeBartolo; Kleidon Ndreu; Gerald Powers (designee for Russell Read); Shelby Klein; Silva Pascarella
Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams

Resource: John Cutitto and Kimberly Malone, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Lisa Cieplechowicz, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Kristine Gifford, CASA; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Allegro Addeo; Elissa Machlin-Lockwood, CMDE

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Kleidon Ndreu, seconded by Linda Spiegel, *to approve the BCYSC July 6, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – no report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – no report

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – no report

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Program reviews are done. Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Alternatives to Detention (ATD), Positive Strides, and Superior Court Probation Programs site visit reports and the following program reviews: BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), Teaneck Public Schools (TPS), MS Integrated Psychotherapy and Counseling (M&S), BCDFG Positive Strides, and Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE).

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to approve the BCDFG ATD program site visit report, was carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Jorge Sandoval, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the BCDFG Positive Strides Program site visit report and program review, was carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Silvia Pascarella, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the Superior Court Probation program site visit report, was carried.* Nicole Jaccoi abstained.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Linda Spiegel, *to approve the BCDFG ASAP program review, was carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Silvia Pascarella, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the Teaneck Public Schools program review, was carried.*

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the M&S program review, was carried.*

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the Center for Modern Dance Education program review, was carried.*

The BCYSC Allocations/Program Review subcommittee met on Friday, July 29, 2022, to approve the remaining site visits and the program reviews that were voted on today. They also reviewed the 2023 ATD budget increase request for the one-third set aside. Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the updated budget showing the increase of \$3,421.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Mitchell Badiner, *to approve the 2023 ATD Budget for the one-third set aside, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Nicole Jaccoi – yes; Mitchell Badiner – yes; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; John Stallone – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Marcia Hartkapp – yes; Silvia Pascarella – abstain; Gerald Powers – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes; (12 yes, 3 abstain).

We are continuing to meet and move forward with our planning process in order to complete the plan update. There will be at least one more planning subcommittee meeting and two allocation/program review subcommittee meetings. A discussion was held regarding the BCYSC meeting scheduled for October 4, 2022. The meeting occurs the day after the plan update is due. It was agreed the October meeting would be moved to Wednesday, September 28, 2022, in order to finalize any necessary items for the 2023 plan update.

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – five male and three female, the program continues to provide court ordered assessments.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 18 youth in program, 4 youth on bracelet and three phone monitoring, and 11 non-bracelet/phone monitoring.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – Three referrals in July

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 7 evaluations in July.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 6 new referrals in June.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 27 referrals in July with five new municipalities, 46 in total.

Juvenile Detention Center – 7 youth, all Bergen County males.

BCDFG – Visions – 6 male

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 2 male, 2 female

Shelter Plus – 5 male, 2 female

Teaneck Public Schools – 14 students, 8 middle school and 6 high school will be back in September. There were 21 youth served in the last cycle. The program has returned to more of its pre-covid curriculum with field trips and speakers.

Center for Modern Dance Education – Boys camp is currently taking place. The girls camp finished Friday. There will also be a co-ed camp for youth 8 to 14 with volunteers age 15 to 17. There was 23 new students from various towns in Bergen County in the in-studio classes. There has been a lot of family participation. They also reported on the capital improvement grant received.

Children’s Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag reported the seven habits pilot program is happening this summer collaborating with Bergen Family Center. There were 20 high school youth and 8 eighth grade youth. The LifeSkills staff is preparing for September. Robin Wanner reported the Seeds of Change conference has an outlined agenda. The Youth Conference will be on October 21, 2022, and the theme is LGBTQ+.

Probation – Nicole Jaccoi reported the Parent Orientation Program (POP) and Painting with a Purpose took place in June and the programming will start again in the fall.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Lisa Cieplechowicz reported the program is continuing to match. There are also recruiting mentors for the school year and develop the curriculum.

TMR Mental Health Care – 12 youth enrolled, they are planning to hire another clinician.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported he will be working remotely Monday and Fridays, but will be available as usual. There are currently no Bergen County youth in JJC facilities.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Announcements – Shelby Klein announced the launch of 988 in July, which is a suicide prevention lifeline. It is a national number, but 262-HELP and Perform Care is still available as well. They are doing a substance abuse needs assessment and will be talking to key informants. The Black Poster Project will take place October 12-13, 2022.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
Membership Meeting (Virtual)
September 7, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Liana Dinallo; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Linda Spiegel; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Melissa DeBartolo; Russell Read; Shelby Klein; Silva Pascarella; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Jorge Sandoval; Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus NJ; Albania Martinez-Bojos, Valery Sanchez, and Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Sharon Barth, CASA; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Marisa Heluk, ADV; Sara D'Eletto, BCDFG RSAP; Cynthia Castaneda, Bergen's Promise

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Detective Russell Read, *to approve the BCYSC August 2, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.* Liana Dinallo and Janice Conti *abstained*

Superior Court of NJ – no report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported the covid restrictions have ceased. Trials, disposition and sentencing remain in person. Some things will remain virtual such as case management.

A motion by Liana Dinallo, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to nominate Rosemarie Lobretto as the co-chair for the remainder of 2022, was carried.*

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported they are busy again.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer announced an increase in funding for 2023 from \$830,965 to \$1,125,145. An email was sent to the existing programs for possible program expansions and/or one-time expenditures for 2023. There will be at least one more planning subcommittee meeting and two allocation subcommittee meetings in order to complete the 2023 Plan Update and application. It will be presented for approval at the next meeting. The 2022 six month program results report was presented.

The following program reviews were presented and approved:

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE), Using Technology Responsibly (UTR), Regional Station House Adjustment (RSAP), CAFS LST and EPIC program, and TMR treat me right program.

A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCDFG PE, UTR, RSAP program reviews, were carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Jorge Sandoval, Silva Pascarella, Shelby Klein and

Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the CAFS LST and EPIC program and TMR treat me right program reviews, was carried.*

Presentation – Sara D’Eletto presented on the Regional Statin House Adjustment program statistics. She reviewed the municipalities utilizing the program, offense types and program referrals.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to include the data in the 2023 Plan update, was carried.* Kristen Ambrosio, Jorge Sandoval, Silva Pascarella, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) –

10 youth, 3 male and 3 female in group, 3 in BIPAS, 1 in PAVE, 10 assessments this quarter for ASAP

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) –21 youth in program, 6 youth on bracelet (5 male 1 female) and 3 phone monitoring (2 male 1 female) and 12 non-bracelet/phone monitoring (9 male 3 female)

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – Four referrals in August

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 5 evaluations in August

BCDFG Positive Strides – 1 new referrals in August

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 10 referrals in August by five municipalities, 47 in total (Englewood is new)

Juvenile Detention Center – eight Bergen County male youth.

BCDFG – Visions – 8 male

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 2 male, 3 female

Shelter Plus – 5 male, 2 female

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag announced Hackensack and Teaneck have new administration and have not scheduled dates currently. They are working to secure dates. LST is starting in Englewood. Robin Wanner reviewed the agenda for the youth conference on October 21, 2022

Probation – Parent orientation program is scheduled for Sept 20th

Big Brothers Big Sisters – they are having a back to school drive and in the process recruiting youth for the school programs.

TMR Mental Health Care – 12 youth enrolled

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – One Bergen County juvenile is in a JJC secure facility

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported she would be attending the NJ Association of County Youth Service Commission Administrators Retreat in Bordentown on Sept 8th and 9th.

Announcements

Melissa DeBartolo announced the Bergen County Multicultural Family Fun Fest is scheduled for September 24th with a rain date of October 1st. The BC Sherriff Office along with ICNA Relief is hosting a Backpack and School Supply Give–Away tonight at 2 Bergen County Plaza from 5-8 PM. Bergen County Human Relation Commission is hosting a sticker design event for grades K to 8 Courageous Conversation Working Together Toward Peace and Healing using the phrase "Unity in Bergen County"

Shelby Klein announced September is Recovery and Suicide Prevention Month; Black Poster Project will be in October; NJAC Workshop scheduled for September 14th

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

September 28, 2022

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Tracey Kurtzmann (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Liana Dinallo; Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Linda Spiegel; Natalie Cureton (designee for Melissa DeBartolo); Melissa DeBartolo (arrived later); Shelby Klein; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Jorge Sandoval; Adiyah Washington; Kleidon Ndreu; Laura Simoldoni

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Sharon Barth, CASA; Cynthia Castaneda, Bergen's Promise; Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCYSC September 7, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – no report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported Judge Remsen effective November 1st is moving over to criminal and they are down judges countywide. Criminal is taking priority now.

BC Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported they are busy still and complaints are trending up. There has been an increase in the number of out of county cases of youth committing motor vehicle burglaries.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the Superior Court of NJ Probation Youth and Family Engagement Program and Big Brother Big Sister One to One Mentoring Program reviews.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the Superior Court of NJ Probation Youth and Family Engagement Program and Big Brother Big Sisters One to One Mentoring Program reviews, were carried. Tracey Kurtzmann abstained.*

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the 2023 Plan Update and application.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the 2023 Plan Update and application, was carried.*

Adiyah Washington presented the 2023 Allocation Report reflecting the recommendations of the allocation subcommittee.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu *to approve the 2023 Allocation Report, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Natalie Cureton – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Tracey Kurtzmann – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (9 yes, 4 abstain).

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to approve 2022 CAFS budget modification, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Natalie Cureton – yes; Shelby Klein – yes; Tracey Kurtzmann – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; Jorge Sandoval – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (12 yes, 1 abstain).

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve 2022 BCDFG ASAP budget modification, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Natalie Cureton – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Tracey Kurtzmann – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (9 yes, 4 abstain).

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Laura Simoldoni, *to approve BCDFG ATD budget modification, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Tracey Kurtzmann – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes; Laura Simoldoni – yes (10 yes, 4 abstain).

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – Average attendance at the boys and girls treatment groups is three. Pave and bypass groups are in progress and on the assessment side, there are eight assessments for the month of September.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – There is 19 youth that are currently participating in the program, 3 that are on bracelet monitoring, three on the new phone monitoring and 13 are not being electronically monitored.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – Two for the month of September.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – Five in the month of September.

BCDFG Positive Strides – Three for the month of September.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – no report

Juvenile Detention Center – Currently holding nine male juveniles, all from Bergen.

BCDFG – Visions –Currently housing six.

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 3, 2 males and 1 female.

Shelter Plus – no report

Teaneck Public Schools – Back at school for about 3 weeks and currently doing intakes. Plan to be at 24 Youth 12 in the middle school, 12 high school to start the programs and groups.

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report, building improvements tentatively scheduled to be completed next month.

Children’s Aid and Family Services –

We are starting back in Hackensack this week and Teaneck. Ben Franklin is starting and hoping to get back in to TJ Middle School. Registration is open for the Seeds of Change Conference it has a focus on the LGBTQ plus and Ally Community, at Bergen Community College on October 21st.

Probation –Parent orientation program took place on the 20th. It was successful. There were approximately eight or nine parents in attendance. There were four in person and the rest of the attendees were virtual. There is another pop scheduled for October 18th.

Big Brothers Big Sisters –Site based programs are starting in the beginning of November. Currently working on recruiting. There are currently 14 mentees for the Bigs in Blue program and eight for BMW. Community based is going well. One match was made this month.

TMR Mental Health Care – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – One Bergen County juvenile is in a JJC secure facility.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Announcements

Shelby Klein announced the Black poster project will be at One Bergen County Plaza the week of Columbus Day. The public can come and view the posters in the building on the 12th and the 13th. Youth mental health first aid for adults who assist youth is being offered on October 9th and 19th. It is a full day event. There will be a regular mental health first aid course on October 26th. October is recovery month and September Suicide Prevention month.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

November 1, 2022

Members: John Cutitto (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Liana Dinallo; Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Rosemarie Lobretto; Linda Spiegel; Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Martha Grant (designee for Mark Musella); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Howard Lerner); Judge Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Matt Stanislao (designee for Russell Reed); Jorge Sandoval; Silvia Pascarella; Kleidon Ndreu

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi; Laurie Bianchi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams; Tatiana Hewitt

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Sharon Barth, CASA; Dean Patras, Bergen's Promise; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBHCare

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Liana Dinallo, seconded by Linda Spiegel, *to approve the BCYSC September 28, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes as amended, was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported the juvenile calendar is growing and there are many violent offenses. There was a discussion regarding youth behavior and lack of respect/trust for the police and court. There was also a discussion regarding long wait times for residential and specialized programs.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported that an October 27th order from the Supreme Court, indicating that not just the dispositions and the trials have to be in court for juvenile matters, but all juvenile matters have to return to in person. Trial Court Administrator (TCA) Laura Simoldoni is out on leave taking care of family and will be retiring. Carolyn Walsh is the acting TCA.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – no report

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented a budget modification request for the Bergen County Division of Family Guidance's (BCDFG) Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program, which is funded with the one-third set aside. The program is requesting to move \$500 from the misc. line to the consultant line in order to continue to provide music and martial arts for the remainder of 2022.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to approve BCDFG ATD budget modification request, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Martha Grant – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Mitchell Badiner – yes; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Silvia Pascarella – abstain; Matt Stanislao – abstain; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (10 yes, 7 abstain).

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented a budget modification to increase BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) by \$9,500 (additional 10 evaluations) because it is on track to exceed the allotted evaluations and to decrease BCDFG Positive Strides (PS) by \$9,500 due to a vacant employee position.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Linda Spiegel, *to increase BCDFG PE \$9,500 and decrease BCDFG PS \$9,500, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Martha Grant – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Mitchell Badiner – yes; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Silvia Pascarella – abstain; Matt Stanislaw – abstain; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (10 yes, 7 abstain).

A discussion was held regarding the proposed updated regulations. A motion was made by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to send the reviewed comments regarding the regulations, was carried. Jorge Sandoval opposed.*

Jamie Ziegelhofer asked for anyone who is interested in the planning of the first BCYSC Conference to send an email to her so you can be added to the subcommittee.

The 2023 Plan Update and Application was reviewed and will be returned with minimal corrections. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is out and proposals are due November 18, 2022.

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – average attendance for the month of October was 3 youth in each group and three assessments.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 17 youth in the program, 2 BEM (Bilateral Electronic Monitoring), 2 Phone monitoring

BCDFG Positive Strides – 5 youth in October

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 3 evaluations in October

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 18 in the month of October

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – no intakes in October, some pending.

BCDFG – Visions – Currently housing six total, 4 male and 2 trans.

Juvenile Detention Center – Currently holding nine male juveniles, all from Bergen County.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 3, male.

Shelter Plus – 7 total, 5 male and 2 female

The BCDFG reported the Basic Center Grant was awarded to the division and the transitional living grant was awarded. RSAP will be holding their annual conference on November 30, 2022.

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services – LifeSkills finished the first marking period and started the second marking period. The Seeds of Change Conference was held on October 21st and was a success with 149 engaged fully engaged youth participating. The focus was LGBTQ plus topics that really focused on advocacy and action planning. There were 25 high schools represented throughout the county, so there was a good cross section. EPIC has eight new members in Lodi. Both Lodi and Englewood participated in Red Ribbon week.

Probation – wrapping up the 2022 year. The Parent Orientation Program (POP) had eight parents attend representing 6 youth. There is a speaker session on November 7th on Mindfulness. The youth will receive a gratitude journal and pen set. November 15th will be the last paint session for the year. The program purchased incentives for the youth such as bike locks, phone chargers, etc.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – There were a couple of community-based matches last month. The BMW program began last month. There are 14 mentees currently and a few pending. They met on October 25th and did some icebreaker activities so that they could get to know each other. The Bigs in Blue program starts this in mid-November.

TMR Mental Health Care – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – One Bergen County juvenile is in a JJC secure facility.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Announcements – Shelby Klein announced the Bergen County Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services continues to offer mental health first aid, youth mental health first aid, consultation for teen mental health first aid, talk saves lives suicide prevention training, and question, persuade and refer suicide prevention training to any community or stakeholder for free at this point in time. Feel free to reach out to the office if there is interest.

Robin Wanner announced the 9th Annual Tree of Addiction Conference.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

December 6, 2022

Members: Nick Montello; Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Liana Dinallo; Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Linda Spiegel; Melissa DeBartolo; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Howard Lerner); Matt Stanislao (designee for Russell Reed); Silvia Pascarella; Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi, Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Patty Rafferty, CASA; Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus; Martha Grant, Bergen County Prosecutor's Office, Valery Sanchez, TMR; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Haley Contino, Bergen County Health Department; Ryan Pruitt, Dwight Morrow High School

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by Linda Spiegel, *to approve the BCYSC November 1, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes, was carried. Nick Montello abstained.*

Superior Court of NJ – no report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported all cases are now in person.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz spoke about how the impact of in person should be positive for the youth and their families.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – no report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2023 Plan Update and application corrections were submitted and we are awaiting approval. The proposed 2023 meeting schedule was presented. A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Liana Dinallo, *to approve the proposed 2023 meeting schedule, was carried.*

A discussion was held regarding the 2023 BCYSC youth and stakeholder surveys. Feedback was requested. The updated regulations are still pending.

Adiyah Washington presented the 2023 Allocations report. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for Priority Services identified in the 2021-2023 Bergen County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan. A total of approximately \$177,000 is available for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Two (2) agencies submitted two (2) proposals totaling \$35,128.00

The YSC Allocations Committee, all of whom were devoid of conflict of interest, met on November 29, 2022 and December 2, 2022. They thoroughly reviewed and scored the proposals based on the weighted criteria included in the RFP.

The recommended allocation plan includes:

- Two (2) proposals scored an average of 95.

- The following proposals are recommended for funding for the requested amounts:
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters / One to One Youth Mentoring - \$25,000 (This is in addition to the previously approved amount of \$30,000. Total funding: \$55,000)
 - Teaneck Public School / PASS Partnership - \$62,376 (This is in lieu of the previously approved amount of \$52,248)

A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued for the remaining approximately \$142,000.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the 2023 allocation report and recommendations, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Silvia Pascarella – yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes (8 yes, 3 abstain).

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 18 evaluations, 6 male and 3 female. The parent groups are running. PAVE – 3 youth and BIPAS – 4 youth.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 16 youth in the program, 3 BEM (Bilateral Electronic Monitoring)

BCDFG Positive Strides – 1 intake

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 4 evaluations

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – The conference held at 2 Bergen County Plaza was a success. 15 intakes this month.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 4 intakes

BCDFG – Visions – 6 male and 1 female.

Juvenile Detention Center – Currently holding 6 male juveniles, all from Bergen County.

Bergen’s Place Youth Shelter – 3 male.

Shelter Plus – 7 total, 5 male and 2 female.

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services – LifeSkills finishing the second marking period; Hackensack, Rochelle Park, and Teaneck.

Probation – The programs are done for 2022. The program purchased incentives for the youth such as bike locks, phone chargers, etc.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – The programs are going well. Bigs in Blue met twice and the program held at BMW's office building is going well.

TMR Mental Health Care – 12 youth and the program is finishing strong.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – there was a celebration for 20 youth who graduated high school. 4 youth completed a carpentry class through Mercer County School, 4 youth completed a fork lift class. There is currently one youth from Bergen County in a secure facility.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Announcements – none

The next BCYSC meeting will be Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

February 7, 2023

Members: Kristen Ambrosio (designee for Nick Montello); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Liana Dinallo; Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Linda Spiegel; Melissa DeBartolo; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Silvia Pascarella; Adiyah Washington; Haley Contino (designee for Shelby Klein); Rosemarie Lobretto; Jorge Sandoval; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Kleidon Ndreu

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi, Robert Sibi, Venus Nelson

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Williams

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Shelisa Foster, Bergen's Promise; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Madeleine Doubet, YWCA; Stephanie Santiago, Zineniac; Darshell Dubose-Stone, D.S. Education Alliance, LLC

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Janice Conti, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to approve the BCYSC December 6, 2022, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported a rise in gun charges and gun possessions among Bergen County youth as well as an increase in female offenders and some issues with school. The charges are getting more serious. Parents are struggling to help and control their child's behavior.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported the number of cases are on the rise and reiterated what the Judge reported.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported 62 formal complaints submitted 39 went to the formal calendar, 9 went out of county and 14 went to ISC or informal. The cases coming in are serious and/or repeat offenders. The uptick in gun offenses are also happening in the adult court as well. There has been a large number of school threats. The number of female offenders has increased and the crimes are violent.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No Report

A made a motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Janice Conti, *to approve 2023 slate of officers, was carried.*

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Adiyah Washington presented the updated 2023 Allocations report.

A Second Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for Priority Services identified in the 2021-2023 Bergen County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan. A total of approximately \$150,000 is available for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. One (1) agencies submitted one (1) proposal totaling \$35,000.00

The YSC Allocations Committee, all of whom were devoid of conflict of interest, met on January 4, 2023 and January 13, 2023. They thoroughly reviewed and scored the proposal based on the weighted criteria included in the RFP.

The recommended allocation plan includes:

- One (1) proposals scored an average of 91.5
 - The following proposal is recommend for funding for the requested amount:
 - YWCA Northern New Jersey/Junior Jump Start for Bergen County Youth - \$35,000

A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued for the remaining approximately \$107,000.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the 2023 allocation report and recommendations, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – yes; Haley Contino – yes; Janice Conti –abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; Silvia Pascarella – yes; Jorge Sandoval – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; Kleidon Ndreu – yes (14 yes, 1 abstain).

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2023 Plan Update was approved by the State. All approved program contracts are in JAMS. The second RFP was just approved by the BCYSC and will be submitted to the State for approval. The third RFP is due February 14, 2023. The purchase order for survey monkey was approved. Once the account is upgraded the survey will be entered and we will start distributing it accordingly. The 2024-2026 Plan timeline was presented. A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Jorge Sandoval, *to approve the 2024-2026 Plan timeline, was carried.*

The 2022 Program Results report was reviewed. A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to approve 2022 Program Results report to include in the data used for the 2024-2026 Comprehensive Plan, was carried.*

The 2023 standing subcommittees have not changed. It was announced to contact Jamie Ziegelhofer if anybody would like to change and/or be added to a subcommittee. A subcommittee to plan the first BCYSC Conference needs to be formed. Kristen Ambrosio, Melissa DeBartolo, and Robin Wanner volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Any interested members can email Jamie Ziegelhofer to be added. A meeting will be set to soon to begin the planning process.

Program Updates:

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) - 16 assessments, 4 female, 3 male in treatment program

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 22 youth, 6 BEM, 1 Phone monitoring, 15 non BEM or phone

Kristen Ambrosio discussed the increased amount of truancy and the complex reasons such as school avoidance and mental health concerns. This topic can be further explored in the workgroups.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 4 youth in January

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 8 referrals in January. They are seeing a rise in need for evaluations.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 12 referrals in January and February is busy as well. 50 municipalities to date with seven municipalities utilizing the program this month. Harrington Park utilized the program for the first time.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 5 referrals in January

BCDFG – Visions – 7 youth

Juvenile Detention Center – 10 youth, all male, 8 from Bergen County and 2 from Hudson County

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 8 youth

Shelter Plus – 8 youth

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services – LST is continuing in the third marking period in Hackensack, Rochelle Park, and Teaneck. Epic currently has 11 youth in Lodi. Englewood is struggling a little bit. They will increase their presence and activities in the High School.

Probation – Parent orientation program is being held on February 28, 2023. The next life skills topic are vision boards and the program is currently in need of old magazines for the project.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Bigs in blue met yesterday and held a self- defense class. BMW had a mindfulness day this week and a career day the week before including mock interviews and resumes.

TMR Mental Health Care – 5 youth in the program

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – 1 youth from Bergen County

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Announcements – Kristen Ambrosio announced a new program funded by Bergen's Promise and the State. It is a no cost grief and loss program for 7- 17-year-olds through AFT and there is currently no wait. More information will be sent out when available.

Stephanie Santiago introduced herself as the owner of ZINEniac, a STEAM after school enrichment program. More information will be sent out when available.

Harry Lisa reminded everybody program reviews will be starting in the next few months. He said it was a great way to learn about the funded programs. He also thanked everybody for allowing him to continue as Chair.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

A motion by Adiyah Washington motion, seconded by Melissa DeBartolo, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Submitted by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

March 7, 2023

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Dr. Howard Lerner); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Liana Dinallo; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Adiyah Washington; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio)

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi, Robert Sibi, Venus Nelson

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Robin Wanner and Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Cynthia Castenda, Bergen's Promise; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Madeleine Doubet, YWCA; Sharon Barth, CASA; Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court of NJ; Marisa Heluk, ADV; Jillian Carbine, CAFS intern

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to approve the BCYSC February 7, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported she met with Jamie Ziegelhofer, Kyle Sheehan, and Jo Ponticello, who provided the court with information on bed availability and programming. She also reported a rise in juvenile cases especially gun charges and repeat offenders. The caseloads have doubled since last year. The courts are struggling because they are down Judges from 11 to 5 Juvenile cases, domestic violence, and child abuse and neglect cases are the priority.

Harry Lisa asked if the court was seeing a new drug called Trank. Judge Francois said no. Jo Ponticello said it was an animal tranquilizer. Shelby Klein said the name is xylazine and it causes skin ulcers and other medical concerns. A big concern is when mixed with other substances Narcan is not effective. It is slowly starting to appear in Camden.

A discussion was held regarding youth live streaming and recording crimes for social media. The Juvenile officers, probation as well as the Judge are seeing this trend.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported the number of cases is on the rise, currently no new appointments for Bergen County and reiterated what the Judge reported. She also reported, there was a case processing subcommittee meeting on February 16th, 2023, and requested participation from the public defender's office for the next meeting on May 11, 2023, at 2:30pm.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported a sharp uptick in cases, which was discussed in the case processing subcommittee meeting. There were approximately 60 cases with 30 ending up on the formal calendar in January. In February 16 cases made it to the formal calendar. A lot of the new complaints are repeat offenders with youth picking up new charges while other charges are pending. She would like to see more of the less serious cases resolved and is hoping to work with the public defender to do so. There was also a discussion regarding the perception that marijuana usage is not an issue among youth and also in inappropriate places such as probation and the court. She also discussed the social media issues and would like to see advocacy to hold the social

media platforms responsible to posting these types of videos and challenges that are crimes and lead to crimes.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes echoed the same sentiments as the Judge, Liana Dinallo, and Meredith Kunz. In the year he has been in juvenile he sees a trend of increased number of cases and an increase in the seriousness of offenses. He stated he agrees with the need for residential beds of all different types. He reminded everybody he is the only Juvenile Public Defender for Bergen County. He would like to work to link more youth with services predisposition. He stated in regards to moving cases forward, he will continue the cooperation between the public defender’s office and the prosecutor’s office to make that happen.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the second RFP from the 2023 Plan Update was approved by the State, the resolution is pending with county commissioners. Four proposals came in on February 14th for the third RFP.

Adiyah Washington presented the 2023 allocation report for approval.

A Third Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for Priority Services identified in the 2021-2023 Bergen County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan. A total of \$106,754 was available for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Four (4) agencies submitted four (4) proposal totaling \$315,487.00

The YSC Allocations Committee, all of whom were devoid of conflict of interest, met on February 16, 2023, February 23, 2023, February 27, 2023, and March 2, 2023. They thoroughly reviewed and scored the proposal based on the weighted criteria included in the RFP.

The recommended allocation plan includes:

- Two (2) proposals scored above 90.
 - The following two (2) proposals are recommended for funding as follows:
 - TMR Mental Health Care PC, Mindset for success – learning to work program \$79,847
 - County of Bergen Division of Family Guidance, Culinary Arts for Teens program \$26,907
- Two (2) proposals scored below 90 and are not recommended for funding at this time:
 - YWCA Northern NJ - Summer/After School Program for Bergen Youth
 - D. S. Education Alliance, LLC

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the 2023 allocation report and recommendations as presented, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunes – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein- yes; Janice Conti –abstain; Mitchell Badiner – not present for the vote; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Francois – not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; Matt Stanislao – abstain; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; (9 yes, 4 abstain, 3 not present for the vote).

Adiyah Washington presented a budget modification for BCDFG ASAP. The BCYSC Allocation Subcommittee met on 2/16 and is recommending the following budget modification for approval:

Budget Category: Personnel

- Reduce the salary dollars allocated to the currently vacant staff position by \$8,347. Reallocate this amount to the three active grant funded staff. The reallocated amount would cover some of the cost of the 2023 contractual salary increases.

Budget Categories: Specific Assistance to Clients and Miscellaneous:

- Reallocate \$400 from Specific Assistance to Miscellaneous to offset the rising cost of supplying a meal to the ASAP clients participating in group programming.

The above reallocations do not impact the total ASAP approved budget of \$167,353.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCDFG ASAP Budget Modifications, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunes – abstain; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Shelby Klein- yes; Janice Conti –abstain; Mitchell Badiner – not present for the vote; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Francois – not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Marie LaTesta – yes; (9 yes, 4 abstain, 3 not present for the vote).

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the work has begun on the 2024-2026 Comprehensive Plan and Application. Data is starting to be collected and focus groups are being scheduled. Planning workgroups will be scheduled in a few months. If anybody has any requests or would like to be part of a different workgroup they can reach out to Jamie Ziegelhofer. The survey monkey account is now active and the survey is going to start soon. Any feedback is appreciated. A few other counties provided their survey formats and focus group questions and we will try to incorporate them as appropriate. Also, we may do a focus group in April with the JOA. The updated regulations that govern the YSC are still pending. Once the regulations are posted the bylaws will need to be updated in accordance with the changes. The BCYSC conference will be meeting soon to start the planning process. If anybody is still interested in joining that subcommittee they can contact Jamie Ziegelhofer. The ACYSCA is looking to partner with the NJJDA for conference in September. There will be more information given when plans are finalized such as topics and speakers. The State will be offering another grant writing seminar in April. Details will be emailed when available. Program reviews and site visits will begin next month. We will need members to attend and the schedule will be sent out once finalized.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 2 youth in February.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 9 referrals in February.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 50 Municipalities are participating. 28 referrals 17 Municipalities in February.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 4 referrals in February

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) - 15 assessments, 6 in the male group, 2 in the female group. 2 graduated from the program. 1 youth in PAVE and 7 youth in BIPAS.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 8 males

Visions – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females.

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females.

Juvenile Detention Center – 12 youth, all male, 9 from Bergen County and 3 from other counties

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 2 males on BEM, 16 males and 1 female on regular ATD.

Children's Aid and Family Services – LST – the third marking period is closing and the fourth marking period will begin in April. EPIC has 11 8th graders from Lodi. Englewood had a successful vision board event. The youth conference will be held on 12/1/2023 and the topic is leadership. More details to follow.

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Teaneck Public Schools – Javalda Powell reported Benjamin Franklin Middle School is hosting an Empowerment Day March 24th, 2023. There will be workshops and assemblies throughout the morning. They are currently looking for workshop facilitators.

Probation –parent orientation program was held on February 28, 2023. It was successful. The next life skills topic are vision boards and the program is currently in need of old magazines for the project. The site visit will potentially be on April 4th during the vision board project.

Big Brothers Big Sisters –Bigs in blue and BMW programs are running great. There was 1 new Match in January and none in February.

TMR Mental Health Care – 10 youth are in the program, they will be connecting with probation to present the program to the probation officers. The program is seeing a lot of younger youth.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported 5 youth completed their OSHA Certification at Mercer College, 2 Youth received their diploma, 2 youth received their drivers permit, there are no Bergen County youth in State placements. There will be a tour of the Juvenile Detention Center on March 29th.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – none

New Business – A discussion was held regarding the CMO and youth in the juvenile justice system and the many contributing factors of what is being seen among the youth such as repeat offenses, long waits for placement, etc. Jamie Ziegelhofer will discuss reigniting the MDT with Liana moving forward in hopes of resolving some of the issues discussed.

Announcements – Rosemarie Lobretto Announces she has retired as the Executive Director of Family Support after 20 Years. Karen Stack will represent FSO going forward. She will remain as a member of the BCYSC.

Shelby Klein announced Bergen County Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services is hosting a Stigma Free Symposium on May 3, 2023. Information will be distributed.

Melissa DeBartolo announced Bergen County Commission on the Status of women is hosting a Women’s History Month Celebration on March 16, 2023, from 5:30pm at One Bergen County Plaza in the Commissioners’ public meeting room.

Harry Lisa reminded everybody program reviews will be starting in the next few months. He said it was a great way to learn about the funded programs.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, April 4th, 2023.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Mitch Badiner, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Submitted by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

April 4, 2023

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Nick Montello; Marcia Hartkopp (designee for Liana Dinallo); Silva Pascarella; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III);

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Venus Nelson

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Stephanie Drag, Robin Wanner and Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Patty Rafferty, CASA; Michelle McGovern, Sage Alliance; Kristen Ambrosio and John Cutitto, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus; Cynthia Castenda, Bergen's Promise

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Meredith Kunz, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCYSC March 7, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.* Nick Montello Abstained

Superior Court of NJ – No Report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – No Report

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported a small slowdown in numbers, but a rise in sexual offense cases especially among younger youth that cannot result in charges. A common thread in the cases are the youth are young with access to pornography. They are acting out with siblings and peers. The younger cases usually have DCP&P involvement and receive services through the division. We do not want to charge youth in order for them to receive necessary services. Another issue is releasing youth that are from out of county or out of state especially when scoring for a bracelet as well as having parents of youth (in County or out) refusing to take custody of their children. Meredith and Kristen are working together to solve these problems. Anne Giacobbe said she would be open to a discussion. Jamie Ziegelhofer also offered to have a discussion regarding ATD in other counties so we can come to a solution. There was also a discussion and agreement to explore existing services and needs regarding services for the younger youth committing sex offenses.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes echoed the same sentiments as Meredith Kunz and added his concerns are a few prosecutors are moving forward with Megan's Law as a response on sexual cases. Many of these cases are not a Megan's Law case and the kids need help and services. The court is very busy now. There is an extreme need for the kids to be embedded in services prior to hearing the case. He stated in his opinion there is a rise in probation violations and there should be more programs pre and post disposition.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported 2023 Plan Update everything was approved by the State and the resolution is pending with the county commissioners for April 19th. Once approved, the new programs will be able to move forward: BCDFG Culinary Arts, TMR Mindset for success, and YWCA Junior Jumpstart. It is

the end of the 1st quarter so we are going to begin to receive the quarterly fiscal and narrative reports. We are also starting monitoring. We are doing it like last year with formal monitorings, which will require two voting members and site visits. We will be conducting youth and staff interviews and file reviews on site when possible. April 10th is the first virtual formal monitoring of BCDFG ATD. We will need two voting members to attend. Please email Jamie if you are able to attend and an email will follow. BCDFG UTR was changed from May 4th to May 12th at 1:00pm and BBBS will be May 18th at 10:00am. The list will be emailed after the meeting. The formal monitorings consist of a PowerPoint presentation, questions and answers and a quick overview of the tool. The 2024-2026 Comprehensive Plan and Application is due out this month. We are waiting for the Notice of Available Funds (NOAF) to be leased by the state and once that is out, we can start our planning meetings, focus groups and surveys. Jamie is planning on a focus group with our Juvenile Officers Association. We were able to identify a need for two different programs in previous year. In the meantime, we have been collecting data. Jamie reached out to my counterparts in other counties and collected youth and stakeholder surveys. We are working to improve and release our surveys soon, possibly the end of the month. We are still waiting for the updated regulations. Once we receive them, we will review them and make the necessary changes to the bylaws. Jamie met with Liana Dinallo to discuss reconvening the MDT. We discussed possible have co-conveners and she also reached out to BCDFG to discuss a partnership. The 2023 BCYSC Conference will have a planning meeting soon. Some swag was ordered for the conference as well as outreach events that will be taking place soon. Jamie also thanked Jorge Sandoval and Dr. Montello for giving a tour of the JDC to State and County employees.

Program Updates:44:04

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 22 Youth, 11 BEM, no phone monitoring

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 7 youth (5 males 2 females), 13 assessments in March, 4 BIPAS sessions ran during March

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 6 evaluations, 5 in community, 1 in JDC

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 2 referrals

BCDFG Positive Strides – 3 referrals

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 18 referrals from 9 municipalities. Currently Serving 54 municipalities in total, 2 new this month are Demarest and Woodcliff Lake

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 8 Youth, 7 males and 1 female

Visions – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females

Juvenile Detention Center – 9 male youth, 7 from Bergen County and 2 from other counties

Teaneck Public Schools – 19 students enrolled, 9 MS and 10 HS

Center for Modern Dance Education – No report

Children's Aid and Family Services – LST program moving into the 4th marking period. They are starting to schedule 7 Habits, which typically runs in the summer. Lodi and Englewood EPIC participated in activities such as a locker slam and a table event signing a pledge not to use substances. It is alcohol awareness month and they are holding a game night on 4/20.

Probation –The site visit will be this evening. The kids will be working on vision boards. Parent orientation is scheduled for 5/16 and painting with a purpose for June 20th. Janice also reported a staffing change. As of 5/6 Claudia Rudolph will no longer be in juvenile. She was promoted to the Quality Assurance office.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – One youth was matched residing in Teaneck. The site-based programs are going well.

TMR Mental Health Care – 12 youth currently enrolled, At the end of the 1st Quarter TMR provided 160 sessions and 10 evaluations. There are many younger referrals. Youth are presented with self-harm, suicidal ideation, and there has been a lot of bullying situations.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported 1 youth from Bergen in JJC facilities. Kyle also reiterated appreciation for the JDC tour.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – None

New Business – Rosemarie Lobretto announced the Family Support Organization will resume in-person support groups. There will be one tomorrow at 7:00pm in Fairlawn with childcare provided.

Announcements – Harry Lisa reminded everybody to join program reviews, as they are a great way to learn about the funded programs; the signup sheet will be sent out via Jamie Ziegelhofer.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

A motion by Nick Montello, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Submitted by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

May 5, 2023

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Haley Contino (designee for Shelby Klein); Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); John Cuttito (designee for Dr. Nick Montello); Marcia Hartkopp (designee for Liana Dinallo); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Venus Nelson

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Sharon Barth, CASA; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus; Madeleine Doubet; Darshell DuBose-Stone

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to approve the BCYSC April 4, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported Judge Catuogno is the new assignment Judge. There are only six Judges in the family division. Judge Mecca will be the new presiding Judge for family when Judge Melchionne retires. Caseloads continue to rise as well as the seriousness of the offenses.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – No Report

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported they still have a very large caseload with very serious offenses. April was a slower month with 22 formal complaints, a large number were able to be stationhoused, 10 were transferred out of county, and only 8 were added to the docket. The new policy at the Garden State Plaza requiring juveniles to have chaperones is going well. However, it is a new policy and they will be monitoring it. They are still working on protocol regarding incidents when parents refuse to pick up children after being released.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes reported they currently have big calendar and long days, but very productive. He spoke about a new process in place on getting electronic discovery.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2023 Plan Update is fully approved and the three new programs will be launching soon. We have been very busy with the site visits and formal monitorings. We still need members for the remaining reviews.

Adiyah Washington presented the following: The BCYSC Allocations Committee met on Friday, April 28th and reviewed the completed site visit summaries and the following budget modifications, which are being recommended for approval:

ATD budget modification:

A. Personnel:

Current 2023 budget has \$10,821 allocated to salary

Proposed revised budget would allocate \$11,395 to Rachel's salary to cover contractual cost of living increase. (The current ATD budget is based on a rate of 26.0124 per hour (\$10,821 per year). In 2023, Rachel's rate is 27.3918 (\$11,394 per year). The 5.3% or \$573 increase is explained by the cumulative contractual COLA increase covering 2021, 2022 and 2023 which went into effect 1/1/2023.)

B. Consultant

Current 2023 budget allocates \$3,000 and proposed revised budget would allocate \$5,250. The increased funding would cover the costs of:

8 hours of music education per month (\$30/hr)

4 hours of martial arts education per month (\$45/hr)

4-5 contingency consultant hours (@\$45/hr) for the year in the event additional consultant time is needed to support the program due to unplanned consultant absence.

C. Materials and Supplies

Current 2023 budget allocates: \$1,440 for the three cellular phones assigned to ATD. Proposed revised budget allocates \$1,650 to cover costs for upgrading to most current cellular smart phones (phones, cases).

F. Miscellaneous: Bus passes, supplies

Current 2023 budget: \$3,178

Proposed revision: \$144 – based on the historical use of this line, this reduction is believed warranted.

The overall grant budget amount of \$66,771 is unchanged.

UTR budget modification:

A. Personnel

Current 2023 allocations and proposed revised allocations

Staff: \$7,035 / \$3,742 – reduction due to staff lowering of weekly grant hours from 4 hrs/wk to 2 hrs/wk

New Hire: ----- / \$4,680 – reflects actual hourly rate for staff occupying as impacted by 2023 implemented labor contract

New Hire: ----- / \$2,670 – reflects actual hourly rate for staff occupying as impacted by 2023 implemented labor contract

New Hire: ----- / \$4,125 – reflects actual hourly rate for staff occupying as impacted by 2023 implemented labor contract

Staff: \$7,012 / \$7,013

Vacant: \$12,966

The overall grant budget amount of \$44,893 is unchanged.

Positive Strides budget modification:

A. Personnel

Current 2023 allocations and proposed revised allocations

Staff: \$4,500 / \$4,396 – reduction due to change in staff member status from full time to per diem

Staff: \$3,900 / \$4,222 – increase due to contractual cost of living adjustment

New Hire: \$4,605 / \$4,507 – reduction due to hourly rate difference from original budget

New Hire: \$4,605 / \$4,005 – reduction due to hourly rate difference from original budget

Vacant: \$5,086

The overall grant budget amount of \$34,016 is unchanged.

RSAP budget modification:

A. Personnel

Current salary allocations and proposed revised allocations:

Staff \$35,000 / \$37,773 – increase is due to contractual cost of living adjustments

New Hire \$26,880 / \$24,107 – decrease is based on position being filled at a lower hourly rate than budgeted

The overall grant budget amount of \$87,952 is unchanged.

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the 2023 BCDFG ATD budget modification as presented was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Haley Contino – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Magali Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Marcia Hartkopp – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz – abstain; Adiyah Washington – yes; (9 yes, 6 abstain).

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the 2023 BCDFG UTR, Positive Strides, and RSAP budget modification as presented was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Haley Contino – yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Magali Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Marcia Hartkopp – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz – abstain; Adiyah Washington – yes; (9 yes, 6 abstain).

Adiyah Washington reminded agencies to plan accordingly and request budget modifications when necessary if they will be unspent in particular when it comes to staffing issues.

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented four site visit summaries: Superior Court Probation Youth and Family Engagement Programs, BCDFG ATD, Teaneck Public Schools PASS Partnership, and CMDE Moving into Knowledge.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the Superior Court Probation Youth and Family Engagement Programs, BCDFG ATD, Teaneck Public Schools PASS Partnership, and CMDE Moving into Knowledge site visit summaries as presented was carried.* Melissa DeBartolo, Jorge Sandoval, and John Cuttito abstained.

The 2024-2026 comprehensive plan has not been released yet. The updated regulations are also still pending release. Once released the bylaws subcommittee will meet. The Stakeholder survey has been updated and will be ready to share soon. The administrator attended the World of Resources event and collected approximately 40 surveys from various stakeholders. The focus groups are still pending. If anybody has any local data that they would like to submit to possibly be included in the Plan they can email it to Jamie Ziegelhofer. The MDT is tentatively scheduled for May 25th. The BCYSC conference subcommittee will possibly meet next month to plan.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 12 Youth, 8 BEM

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 15 youth in the program, 7 assessment referrals this month. The treatment groups and BIPAS groups are up and running.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations – 4 referrals

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 2 referrals

BCDFG Positive Strides – 4 referrals

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 55 police departments participating and 18 new referrals this month.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 3 Youth, 2 males and 1 female

Culinary Arts – the program is scheduled to begin in June. A chef has been located and they are in the hiring process. The program will be held at 125 Essex Street.

Visions – 8 youth, 5 males and 3 females

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females

Juvenile Detention Center – 9 youth, 6 from Bergen County and 3 from Hudson County. Jorge Sandoval reminded everybody the NJJDA conference schedule will be out soon. We will email the information once it is finalized.

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services – LST program has started the 4th marking period. They are currently in Englewood, Teaneck, and Hackensack. Rochelle Park is completed. They are starting to schedule 7 Habits, which typically runs in the summer. One may be in partnership with Bergen Family Center and one with Teaneck. The 3rd Annual Youth Summit will once again partner with the County Executive's office. It is scheduled for December 1st. The theme is leadership and it will be held at Bergen Community College. The Lodi EPIC group will be doing a natural high once a month activity starting with a youth volleyball game.

Probation – The vision board activity was a success as noted in the site visit summary. The second quarter parent orientation group will be held on May 16th.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – One youth was matched residing in Englewood and will be going to the park. The site-based programs are going well. There are 3 more sessions of each program until the end of the year. Bigs in Blue had the topic of understanding the consequences of one's actions. BMW did activities pertaining to coping skills and had their yearly auto shop tour.

TMR Mental Health Care – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported 1 youth from Bergen in JJC facilities.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the NOAF for the 2024 JDAI

grant was released. The administrator will find out if Bergen will be submitting a proposal or continue to plan. Any decisions will need to be approved by the BCYSC.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Harry Lisa reminded everybody to join program reviews, as they are a great way to learn about the funded programs. It does not take long. Please contact Jamie Ziegelhofer if you are available.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, June 6th, 2023.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Submitted by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

June 6, 2023

Members: Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Ken Lowry/Suzanne Tiren); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Dr. Nick Montello; Liana Dinallo; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Adiyah Washington; Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio)

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Laurie Bianchi, Venus Nelson

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Kristen Ambrosio and John Cuttito, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG); Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Marigrace Flynn, and Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS); Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Sharon Barth, CASA; Dana Czachorowska, Care Plus; Wallezka Melendez, TMR; Tiraj Lucas, YWCA; Rhona Vega and S.P. Brown, Parent Matterz; Michele McGovern, Sage; Quahim Muhammed, Marisa Heluk, Cynthia Castaneda.

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. He reminded everybody of the importance of attending the program reviews and how they are a great way to learn about the funded programs. He asked the members to sign up for the remaining reviews and discussed the possibility of assigning members to reviews next year.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Janice Conti, *to approve the BCYSC May 5, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.* Liana Dinallo abstained.

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported the caseload has increased significantly. There has been an uptick in gun charges and the severity of the offenses.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo echoed Judge Francois's report of the increased cases and the severity of the offenses. All cases are being heard in person.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported that caseloads are back up for the month of May. She noticed a large time gap between the actual occurrence of delinquency and the charging. An email was sent to the officers to stress the importance of not waiting to charge so the juvenile understands the consequence of their actions and can be helped in a timely fashion. Meredith Kunz also discussed the possible gang affiliations among youth and the increase in gun charges and how it may be linked to some of the law changes. The department has seen a decrease of serious sex crimes and an uptick in the cyber cases. A discussion was held regarding social media and its effect on youth in particular when a situation is dangerous they will record it instead of seeking safety and help.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No Report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented four site visit summaries: BCDFG ASAP, CAFS LST & EPIC, BBBS One-to-one Mentoring, and TMR Treat Me Right

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the site visits as presented was carried.* Jorge Sandoval, Dr. Nick Montello, Melissa Debartolo, and Kristin Ambrosio abstained. Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the BCDFG ATD and PE program review scores and recommendations.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve the BCDFG ATD and PE program review scores and recommendations as presented was carried.* Jorge Sandoval, Dr. Nick Montello, Melissa Debartolo, and Kristin Ambrosio abstained.

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the CMDE program review scores and recommendations.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Jorge Sandoval, *to approve the CMDE program review scores and recommendations as presented was carried.*

The remaining program reviews were announced and members were encouraged to sign up. An email will follow. The 2024-2026 Plan and Application has yet to be released, but we continue to move forward with data collection and planning. Planning subcommittee meetings will be scheduled soon. The updated regulations were due out yesterday and were received this morning from Kyle Sheehan. They will be reviewed and then we will meet so the bylaws can be updated accordingly to reflect the changes. The Stakeholder survey is done. It is electronic and will be emailed out. We are waiting to hear about a date for the BCYSC Conference potentially in October.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 17 Youth, 7 BEM, 3 Phone monitoring

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 10 youth in the program, 5 assessments, and 3 referrals this month. Still searching for Substance Abuse Professionals for the open position in the program.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 7 evaluations in May.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 2 referrals in May.

BCDFG Positive Strides – 2 referrals in May.

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 55 municipalities participating, 15 new referrals this month from 5 different municipalities. RSAP has also put together program information to hand out to the towns currently not participating in the program, reminding them the services are available.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 7 Youth, 3 males and 4 females

Visions – 9 youth, 4 males, 2 females, 3 transgender

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females

Culinary Arts – No report

Juvenile Detention Center – 12 youth, 9 from Bergen County and 3 from other counties.

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – no report

Children’s Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – EPIC Program reported a follow up to the site visit. The Volleyball event was a success with 50 participants. The date for the next Diversity and Equity Youth Summit in partnership with the County Executive’s Office will be December 1st. The theme is leadership and it will be held at Bergen Community College.

LST is finish the fourth marking period. They were able to complete a 7 habits of highly effective teens program in partnership with Teaneck Public Schools. There is one scheduled to be in partnership with Garfield Boys and Girls Club as well as one with the Englewood Bergen Family Center. Both will take place this summer.

Probation – The parent orientation session took place on May 19th and 4 parents attended. Painting with a purpose is scheduled for June 20th.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – Programs are doing well. One youth was matched residing in Lodi. Bigs in Blue finished yesterday. BMW’s last day of the program is 6/13/2023.

TMR Mental Health Care – They are currently finishing the second quarter of the youth program (Treat Me Right). The new program, Mindset for Success, will launch this summer.

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Tiraj Lucas reported 24 students registered and 2 sessions were held. The capacity is 25 students.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported 2 Bergen County youth are in JJC facilities.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – Bergen County will not be applying for the JDAI funds in 2024.

Old Business – None

New Business – Rosemarie Lobretto suggested reaching out to the Family Success Center in Little Ferry regarding some of the issues discussed earlier in the meeting.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, August 1, 2023.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

Submitted by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)
Membership Meeting (Virtual)
August 1, 2023

Members: Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Natalie Cureton (designee for Melissa DeBartolo); Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Nicole Jaccoi); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Dr. Howard Lerner); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Dr. Nick Montello; Liana Dinallo; Kristen Ambrosio; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Kleidon Ndreu

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Venus Nelson; Laura Farcas

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: John Cuttito, Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG); Stephanie Drag Robin Wanner, and Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS); Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Kristen Gifford, CASA; Elian Mustafa, YWCA; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Quahim Muhammed, Ben Franklin Middle School; Cynthia Castaneda, Bergen's Promise; Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court NJ; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care.

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Meredith Kunz, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to approve the BCYSC June 6, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Harry Lisa announced the agenda will be changed to allow the Administrator to report first in order to ensure member attendance for the votes.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported a slight program amendment to the Bigs in Blue portion of the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) mentoring program. It does not need to be voted on; they wrote a statement that will be read during the program reporting. A budget modification was reported. TMR Mindset for Success had to move the youth stipends from the specific assistance to clients' line to the personnel line since they were being paid by TMR to the youth. A budget modification request was made by TMR regarding their Treat Me Right Program. They are requesting to move \$2,500 from the specific assistance to clients' line to the training line. The amount was originally to be used for transportation to the program, but this has not been a barrier or need. The program would like to use the money for training the staff, which would have a more direct impact and benefit to the clients.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the budget modification to move \$2,500 from specific assistance to clients to training for the TMR Mindset for Success program was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Meredith Kunz – yes; Shelby Klein – not present during vote; Janice Conti – abstain; Mitch Badiner – not present during vote; Rosemarie Lobretto - yes; Anne Giacobbe – yes; Harry Lisa –yes; Nick Montello – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; Matt Stanislao – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz - yes; Marie LaTesta - yes; Kristen Ambrosio – yes; (10 yes, 2 abstain).

The Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Positive Strides site visit report was presented. A discussion was held regarding the group rooms and the possibility of dedicating a room to be specifically decorated for the youth.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCDFG Positive Strides Site Visit Report as presented was carried.* Nick Montello and Kristen Ambrosio abstained.

The YWCA Junior Jumpstart site visit report was presented.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Kleidon Ndreu, *to approve the YWCA Junior Jumpstart Site Visit Report as presented was carried.*

The BCDFG ASAP, UTR, and RSAP program review scores and recommendations were presented.

A motion by Liana Dinallo, seconded by Janice Conti, *to approve the BCDFG ASAP, UTR, and RSAP program review scores and recommendations as presented was carried.* Jorge Sandoval, Nick Montello, Melissa DeBartolo, and Kristin Ambrosio abstained.

The Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) LifeSkills Training (LST) and EPIC Peer Leadership Group, BBBS One-to-One Youth Mentoring, Teaneck Public Schools (TPS) PASS Partnership, and Superior Court of NJ Probation Youth and Family Engagement program review scores and recommendations were presented.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Nick Montello, *to approve the CAFS LifeSkills Training (LST) and EPIC Peer Leadership Group, BBBS One-to-One Youth Mentoring, TPS PASS Partnership, and Superior Court of NJ Probation Youth and Family Engagement program review scores and recommendations as presented was carried.* Jorge Sandoval, Dr. Nick Montello, Melissa DeBartolo, and Kristin Ambrosio Janice Conti abstained from the Super Court of NJ Probation Youth and Family Engagement program.

Superior Court of NJ – No report.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported Judge Francois is on vacation and will return next week. The juvenile unit will be moving possibly one floor up, but extensions will stay the same. Construction phase 2 will not begin until possibly 2026.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported an average July with about 40 new formal complaints with 15 being transferred out of county. This is a high number of transfers. There has been a number of out of county youth committing offenses. She also observed many parents refusing to allow their children to participate in stationhouse adjustments, which then moves the case forward instead of getting it resolved at a lower level. There was a discussion regarding the reasons behind the stationhouse adjustment refusals and ways to remedy the situation. She also reported there is a group of youth that have escalated in their offending after programming and/or probation. There was also a discussion about S3911, which is a bill that proposes to establish the minimum age as 14 for juvenile delinquency. The administrator informed the commission the ACYSCA (New Jersey Association of Counties Youth Services Commission Administrators) is tracking a few pending bills that may affect our youth and she will keep the BCYSC informed as necessary.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No Report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2024-2026 plan and application has still not been released. The 2024 Allocation letter was received last week. The amount is the same as the 2023 increased amount and it revealed the 2024-2026 Plan and Application due date of December 15, 2023. In the meantime, the data is continuing to be collected. The 2022 offenses map is complete, but the data is being reviewed and it will be presented soon. MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Team) is being scheduled for September 28th. The bylaws subcommittee will be meeting soon to review the regulation changes and update the bylaws. The BCYSC conference date was tentatively scheduled for October 18th. However, there are many conferences scheduled for that month so we may change the date to coincide with one of the monthly meeting dates.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 27 Youth, 7 BEM (Bilateral Electronic Monitoring), 6 phone monitoring

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 16 assessments completed, 5 youth are in the boys group. The BIPAS group had 9 sessions

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – the program began. 2 sessions were conducted serving 15 youth

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 4 referrals in July

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 6 referrals in July

BCDFG Positive Strides – 3 referrals in July

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) –19 referrals in July

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – Sylvia Pascarella has resigned as the Shelter Administrator. 7 Youth, (3 males, 4 females)

Visions – 9 youth

Shelter Plus – No report.

Juvenile Detention Center – 15 youth, 9 from Bergen County.

Teaneck Public Schools – 27 youth were in the program at the end of June. Some have graduated; 11 will be carried over. There will be intake appointments in September. The program maintains contact with the youth in the summer with free trips, leadership camp, freshman orientation, etc.

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – No report

Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – Stephanie Drag reported two cycles of 7 habits of highly effective teens are currently running this summer. One cycle is at Bergen Family Center with their employment program for 9th and 10th graders, and one is at the Boys and Girls Club of Garfield, which is open to all teens, but targeting their junior counselors. Scheduling has begun for the upcoming school year in September. Tonight is National Night Out. The agency will be collecting surveys for the

NJ4S grant. The survey data will be shared with the BCYSC to be included in the plan. 170 responses were received already. Robin Wanner reported they will be in 12 communities in Bergen County tonight for National Night out. EPIC is focusing on recruitment and leveraging their access to kids.

Probation – No report

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – Jamie Ziegelhofer read the following statement from Rachel Kinne: “Our Bigs in Blue program will be changing for the 2023-2024 school year. The Bergen County Sheriff’s Office shared with us they do not have the bandwidth to continue in the same capacity they have been. Although wanting to continue to collaborate with us in some form, they are unable to commit to the program as we have been running it. Wanting to continue to serve the children from Roy W. Brown MS in Bergenfield, our team found a solution of implementing a High School Bigs program. We put this plan into action and had a wonderful meeting with the Superintendent of Bergenfield as well as the Principal at Bergenfield High School. Bergenfield High School students will mentor the Roy W. Brown Middle School students. This will allow us to continue to serve the middle school students while also providing leadership skills to the High School students as well. Due to the Bergen County Sheriff’s Office still wanting to be involved in some capacity, they have committed to facilitating a few program sessions, which potentially will include a K-9 demonstration, mock crime scene and self-defense course. Our site based programs are still currently paused at the moment due to summer but we will be reaching out to Bergenfield School District to discuss next month and will begin recruitment in September!”

TMR Mental Health Care – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the Mindset for Success program started in July.

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Ellen Mustafa reported the program began in May. The students meet every week on Sunday at 4:00 pm and hear from many different coaches. The program is full with 25 youth.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – None

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – None

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements – Robin Wanner announced November 15th is the Tree of Addiction Conference. Shelby Klein announced a Youth Suicide Educational Conference on October 16th in collaboration with Bergen County Department of Human Services. Jamie Ziegelhofer announced the New Jersey Juvenile Detention Association is partnering with Association of Youth Service Commission Administrators for a training conference on September 13th to 15th in Atlantic City. Information will be emailed. The next BCYSC meeting will be Wednesday, September 6, 2023. The BCYSC will most likely need to have a November meeting since the 2024-2026 Plan and Application is being released so late.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

September 6, 2023

Members: Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Amanda Marcino); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Kristen Ambrosio; Dr. Nick Montello; John Cutitto; Liana Dinallo; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Venus Nelson; Robert Sibi, Laura Farcas

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS); Mary E. Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Kristen Gifford, CASA; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court NJ; Corinne Reilly-Ferretto, Center for Modern Dance Education; Tasia Milicevic and Adrianna Porcaro, TMR; Amanda Walker, Children's Mobile

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to approve the BCYSC August 1, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried. Judge Francois, Melissa DeBartolo, and Jorge Sandoval abstain.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported Family Court had three new Judges, but were still down. As of this week, Judge Francois will no longer hear domestic violence cases. This should help the juvenile calendar.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Marcia Hartkopp reported same as the judge with new judges and more cases on a weekly basis.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported an average August. She is continuing to see varied offenses and some parents refuse stationhouse adjustments. A discussion was held regarding this matter.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No Report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2024-2026 Plan and Application has been released. The data worksheet is being worked on, but a lot of information is missing and/or not tracked correctly. In the next couple of weeks, Jamie will try to have some data and questions answered so formal planning meeting can be scheduled. TMR program review scores and recommendations were presented.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the TMR program review score and recommendations, was carried.*

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Positive Strides program review scores and recommendations were presented.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa *to approve the BCDFG Positive Strides program review score and recommendations, was carried.* Melissa DeBartolo, Nick Montello, Jorge Sandoval, and John Cuttito abstain.

The YWCA Junior Jumpstart program review is scheduled for September 21st at 3:00pm virtually. Qualified members need to check their schedules and sign up if possible. An email will go out with the details. MDT will have their first meeting on September 28th. An email will be sent out soon with more information. We will continue to work on the updated bylaws one with 2024-2026 Plan and Application are complete. There are many events scheduled for October so it was decided to reschedule the BCYSC Conference. The new date is December 5th in conjunction with the regularly scheduled December membership meeting. It will be in person at 2 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, and more information will come soon.

Program Updates:

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 2 youth, (1 male, 1 female). The shelter is still seeking a qualified candidate for the shelter administrator position.

Visions – 5 residents

Shelter Plus – 7 residents

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 7 referrals for August from 4 different municipalities. 55 municipalities participate to date.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 7 referrals for August

BCDFG Positive Strides – 1 referral

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 1 referral

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – 20 youth in August

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 24 youth, 5 BEM, 7 phone monitoring

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 9 assessment in August, 5 youth in program (4 male, 1 female)

Juvenile Detention Center – 16 youth, 9 from Bergen County

Teaneck Public Schools – No Report

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – the summer camps ended. Corinne, the youth program lead, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the various camp sessions and the children learning and performing for the end of summer concert. The theme this year for the camp was “Energy”.

Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – Stephanie Drag reported the 7 habits of highly effective teens at the Boys and Girls Club of Garfield and Bergen Family Center is complete. They are

currently working on the back-to-school schedule for the first marking period for LST. They will begin in Hackensack and Englewood and possibly Rochelle Park. Robin Wanner reported EPIC did not have a lot going on in the summer. The Youth Summit, which is collaborating with the County Executive's office, will be on December 1st at Bergen Community College. The theme is leadership. It is also happening to be on World AIDS Day, so they are going to be honoring World AIDS Day as well. A keynote was secured, which will be Jeremy Feigenbaum, the Solicitor General at the NJ Attorney General's office.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – 1 community based match in August. As reported in the previous meeting, the Bigs in Blue program will be changing to a school-based program in Bergenfield. Bergenfield High School students will mentor Roy W. Brown Middle School students. This will allow BBBS to continue to serve the middle school students while also providing leadership skills to the high school students. Recruiting has begun at BMW as well.

TMR Mental Health Care – Mindset for Success program is currently running with 6 students and looking for 6 more referrals. The program completed about 8 seminars. The Youth Program currently has 10 youth.

Probation – Amanda Evans is a new probation officer. She has been there for approximately 60 days now and is doing well. She has about 15 clients so far, but that will increase as time goes on. The third POP (Parent Orientation Program) session is scheduled for September 26th.

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Sessions ended on August 27th. 32 students applied and 25 students were accepted in the program. Between 15 and 19 students attended regularly. Topics varied from emotional wellness to essay writing.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – 2024-2026 Plan and Application is out, no new report.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – Jorge Sandoval reported the NJ Juvenile Detention Association is collaborating with NJ Association of Youth Service Commission Administrators for a training conference on September 13th to 15th in Atlantic City. Jamie Ziegelhofer sent an email with the details. Robin Wanner reported the 10th annual Tree of Addiction conference is on November 15th. Registration will open next Monday, September 11, 2023. Tickets are \$70.00 per person. It is an in person event with lunch included.

New Business – None

Announcements – Shelby Klein reported September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. On October 16th there will be a training session partnered with the Department of Human Services. Reach out to Shelby Klein for more details. September is also Recovery Month. On September 28th there will be an event called Light the Night which will be held on the grounds of Bergen New Bridge Medical Center at the Spring House facility. Friday, November 3rd will be the second World of Resources event at 2 Bergen County Plaza. Venus Nelson invited everybody to the Bergen County Multicultural Family Fun Fest on October 14, 2023, from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, at the Duck Pond in Ridgewood, NJ. The flyer will be emailed.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

October 3, 2023

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Dana Napoletano (designee for Shelby Klein); Amanda Marcino; Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Kristen Ambrosio; Dr. Nick Montello; John Cutitto; Liana Dinallo; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Laurie Bianchi; Robert Sibi, Laura Farcas

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS); Mary E. Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Kristen Gifford, CASA; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mariela Gabriel, Superior Court NJ; Tasia Milicevic and Adrianna Porcaro, TMR; Amanda Walker, Children's Mobile; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Marisa Heluk, ADV; Laura Washington, Northeast Early Intervention Collaboration; Madeline Doubet; Javalda Powell, Willie Thornton

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to approve the BCYSC September 6, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois had no new report. There is still a need for more Judges.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo introduced Mariela Gabriel the new juvenile team leader. She also reported phase 2 of construction is being discussed and bids may go out for January.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz discussed a pending bill (A5169/S3911), which would establish 14 years old as the minimum age for juvenile delinquency.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes reported on issues with discovery. There have been many issues with the volume and difficulty downloading. He brought it up at the MDT meeting will discuss if further with Family Guidance staff to possibly get a solution at the Juvenile Detention Center. Meredith Kunz asked about the issue with discovery and will discuss it with all parties after the meeting.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates – The BCYSC Allocations Subcommittee met on Friday, September 29, 2023 and reviewed the following budget modifications and budget recommendation. Jamie Ziegelhofer presented a 2023 BCDFG ATD budget modification to increase the program by \$9,697 to include a bilingual case manager. The increase will be coming from the BCDFG Culinary Arts program, which will be decreased by \$9,697 due to the late start of the program (personnel and material & supplies).

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve 2023 BCDFG ATD Budget Modification to increase the budget by \$9,697 and decrease the BCDFG Culinary Arts program by \$9,697 as presented, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Dana Napoletano - yes; Amanda Marcino – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Magali Francois – not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Kristen Ambrosio – abstain; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz – abstain; Adiyah Washington – yes; (9 yes, 8 abstain, 1 not present for vote).

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented a budget modification for CAFS. The program completed a thorough review of the budget to ensure all YSC funds are expended by the end of the year in a productive manner. The following was requested: A reduction of personnel by \$10,074, a reduction of trainings by \$500, an increase to materials and supplies \$12,620, an increase to facility \$2,899, an increase to specific assistance to clients \$3,430, and a reduction of G&A \$1,079

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to approve the CAFS budget modification as presented, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – yes; Dana Napoletano - yes; Amanda Marcino – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Magali Francois – not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz - yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; (15 yes, 1 abstain, 2 not present for vote).

The 2024 Probation proposed budget was presented. The amount is for \$8,896, which is lower than 2023 due to staff changes, etc.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the proposed 2024 Probation budget as presented, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – yes; Dana Napoletano – yes; Amanda Marcino – abstain; Rosemarie Lobretto – yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Magali Francois – not present for vote; Harry Lisa –yes; Nick Montello – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – yes; Kristen Ambrosio – yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz - yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; (15 yes, 1 abstain, 2 not present for vote).

The 2022 BC Offenses Map and Summary was presented. The data will be more thoroughly reviewed at the prevention planning meeting.

A motion by Liana Dinallo, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to include the 2022 BC Offenses Map and Summary in the 2024-2026 Plan and Application data was carried.*

Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the first MDT meeting was Thursday, September 28th. It was a well-attended and productive meeting. The next meeting will be held virtually next Thursday.

The bylaws subcommittee will meet after the 2024-2026 Plan and Application is completed.

The 2023 BCYSC conference will be on December 5th. We will discuss potential speakers.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 5 referrals for September

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 4 referrals

BCDFG Positive Strides – 3 referrals

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 9 referrals for September. The third annual RSAP conference will be held on November 16th from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at 2 Bergen County Plaza in Hackensack.

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 12 assessments in September, 5 youth in program (3 male, 2 female), BIPAS – 2 cycles completed. New staff will be joining in the fourth quarter.

Visions – 6 residents

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 21 youth, 4 BEM, 8 phone monitoring

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 6 youth, (1 male, 5 female). The shelter is still seeking a qualified candidate for the shelter administrator position.

Shelter Plus – no report

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – 24 youth in September

Juvenile Detention Center – 20 youth, 12 from Bergen County

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – Stephanie Drag reported LST will begin in Englewood tomorrow. It will be scheduling soon in Hackensack. Teaneck and Rochelle Park will be at the end of the year. Robin Wanner reported EPIC youth outreach worker resigned. They are currently trying to balance recruitment for Englewood and Lodi. The focus is on regrouping and getting new members.

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Sessions ended on August 27th. The program review was completed last month.

Probation – Amanda Marcino reported the third POP (Parent Orientation Program) session was September 26th. 6 parents attended. Participation is better in person. The program will continue to offer the Zoom option, but encourage in person attendance. An incentive program for the youth will be taking place. It will be an ice cream social event where the youth can meet the chief and it will take place during a reporting day.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – 2 community based match in September (1 Carlstadt, 1 Teaneck). The school-based program in Bergenfield will begin on October 30th and is recruiting now. The BMW program is also recruiting now and will begin November 14th.

TMR Mental Health Care – 9 students in Mindset for Success program. The Youth Program is full.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – Kyle Sheehan reported an increase in Bergen County youth at JJC facilities.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements – Robin Wanner announced the Tree of Addiction Conference is on November 15th and is open for registration. Dana Napoletano announced the World of Resources event would be on November 3rd at 2 Bergen County Plaza.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Meredith Kunz, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)
Membership Meeting (Virtual)
November 8, 2023

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Meredith Kunz (designee for Mark Musella); Shelby Klein; Rosemarie Lobretto; Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Kristen Ambrosio; Dr. Nick Montello; John Cutitto; Liana Dinallo; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS); Mary E. Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mariela Gabriel, Jessica Mulligan, and Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court NJ; Tasia Milicevic and Adrianna Porcaro, TMR; Amanda Walker, Children's Mobile; Javalda Powell, Willie Thornton; Corinne Reilly-Ferretto, Center for Modern Dance Education; Stephanie Trusty, EPSD; Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Amanda Walker, Care Plus NJ; Renee Clark, Teaneck Comes Together.

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Meredith Kunz, seconded by Matt Stanislao, *to approve the BCYSC October 3, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Judge Francois reported a substantial rise in the need of out of home placements. Parents are coming to court seeking placement and are afraid for their safety and the safety of the other children in the home. The shelter is temporary with only 30 days. There has been a cycle of repeat placements due to their behavior. Some of the youth are facing significant mental health issues. Kristen Ambrosio added most of these families are in significant crisis. Many of the youth need to wait for evaluations to see if residential programs are needed and the issue is what will happen in the meantime. A further discussion was held regarding this matter. Another issue a parent brought up is her concern with the youth falling behind in school since they were excelling at the time of the incident. A discussion was held whether the youth could attend school remotely. Dr. Montello will look into the issue and possible resolutions.

Superior Court of NJ-Family (Juvenile) – No report

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Meredith Kunz reported a slow September and October returning back to normal with about 34 formal complaints. 12 were transfers out of county and 12 went to informal or ISC leaving 10 complaints that went on to the formal calendar. There were many dispositions this month as well. November has been busy with some very serious charges. She also reported some issues with police officers not being able to release youth to the custody of the JDC in a timely fashion.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes reported it has been very busy.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates –Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the proposed 2024 BCDFG ATD budget for \$115,486. A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to approve 2024 BCDFG ATD Budget, was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez - yes; Meredith Kunz – yes; Shelby Klein - yes; Rosemarie Lobretto - yes; Judge Magali Francois - yes; Harry Lisa –yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Kristen Ambrosio - abstain; Matt Stanislao – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; (10 yes, 3 abstain).

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the 2024-2026 BCYSC Comprehensive Plan and Application. There was a question on the vision that needed to be filled.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Adiyah Washington, *to approve the 2024-2026 BCYSC Comprehensive Plan and Application as amended, was carried unanimously.*

The third quarter is complete and an email was sent to all agencies to assess their spending for the fourth quarter and a possible fifth quarter to compensate for the lateness of the Plan and RFP. The confidence closet initiative is moving forward as well.

The BCYSC Allocations subcommittee is recommending designating \$7,000 for Client Specific funds under the MDT. A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, ***to approve allocating \$7,000 for client specific funds under the MDT, was carried unanimously.***

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez – not present; Meredith Kunz – yes; Shelby Klein - yes; Rosemarie Lobretto - yes; Judge Magali Francois - yes; Harry Lisa –yes; Nick Montello – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – yes; Kristen Ambrosio - yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; (12 yes).

MDT has had two meetings and another one is scheduled for tomorrow. It is moving forward. The bylaws are not ready yet, but will be worked on soon. The 2023 BCYSC conference will be on December 5th. There will be two speakers, a continental breakfast and boxed lunch, and some give-aways.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 7 evaluations

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 3 referrals

BCDFG Positive Strides – 5 referrals

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 10 referrals with River Vale utilizing the program for the first time this month. The third annual RSAP conference will be held on November 16th from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at 2 Bergen County Plaza in Hackensack.

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 10 assessments in October, 5 youth in program (5 male, 2 female), BIPAS – 1 session next week

Visions – 5 residents

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 11 youth, 4 BEM, 2 phone monitoring

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 7 youth (3 male, 4 female).

Shelter Plus – no report

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – 7 youth average for each session and 3 sessions a week

Juvenile Detention Center – 18 youth, 11 from Bergen County

Teaneck Public Schools – 11 Middle School students and 10 High School students with strong attendance for both

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – fall season has begun and there has been an increase in registration.

Children’s Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – Stephanie Drag reported LST is finishing the first marking period in Hackensack. There are in Englewood and starting Teaneck. The Rochelle Park classes start next week. 61 people registered for the Seeds of Change conference. There were various red ribbon week activities.

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Sessions ended on August 27th.

Probation – No report

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – Jamie Ziegelhofer read an email from Rachel Kinne, “Our Bergenfield High School Mentoring program kicked off on 10/30! We have 20 mentees and 27 mentors. We reviewed the match expectations, introduced the matches and allowed for the matches to get to know each other by participating in an icebreaker game. Our BMW program will be kicking off on 11/14 and we have 32 mentees enrolled! We are excited to kick that program off. We continue to enroll and match children in our Community-Based program.”

TMR Mental Health Care – 9 students in Mindset for Success program. The Youth Program has 6 youth enrolled with 394 sessions provided and 30 psychiatric evaluations.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – No report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements – The RFP will be coming out by the end of the month on bergenbids.com.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Kristen Ambrosio, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)
Membership Meeting (2 Bergen County Plaza)
December 5, 2023

Members: Seth Victor (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Amanda Marcino); Rosemarie Lobretto; Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Kristen Ambrosio; Dr. Nick Montello; John Cutitto; Liana Dinallo; Matt Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Laura Farcas, Laurie Bianchi

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Mary E. Davey, West Bergen Mental Healthcare; Kristine Gifford, CASA; Shekinah Williams, Bergen's Promise; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Mariela Gabriel, and Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court NJ; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBHCare; Rachel Kinne, BBBS; Tasia Milicevic and Adrianna Porcaro, TMR; Amanda Walker, Children's Mobile; Jaimie Smith; Lee Brigham; Mike Perez; Kayann Foster; Dianne DeRuggiero; Stephen Kaiafus; Patrick Fallon; Willie Thornton; Corinne Reilly-Ferretto, Center for Modern Dance Education; Mary Amoroso, County Commissioner; Sara Deletto; Xiomara Diaz Montanez; Michael Hannon

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to approve the BCYSC November 8, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – No report

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – No report

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Seth Victor announced he is the new Chief of Juvenile. Meredith Kunz moved to another division.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates – Jamie Ziegelhofer reported allocations would be reviewing the need for a fifth quarter and the spending on the grant. A few agencies have requested increases and could benefit from a fifth quarter in order to ensure the flow of services. The 2024-2026 Comprehensive Plan and Application is complete and will be submitted on time. The MDT is meeting on December 7th. The 2024 membership meeting schedule was presented. The updated regulations are being reviewed in order to update the bylaws. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is out now. The pre proposal meeting is on December 12th at 2:00pm, questions are due by December 14th at 12:00pm, and proposals are due on December 28th at 12:00pm.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 6 evaluations

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 3 referrals

BCDFG Positive Strides – 1 referral

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 23 referrals, 56 municipalities

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 16 assessments, 7 youth in program (5 male, 2 female), BIPAS – 3 cycles, 6 youth

Visions – 6 residents

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 11 youth, 4 BEM, 3 phone monitoring, 4 non

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 6 youth (5 male, 1 female).

Shelter Plus – 7 residents

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – service continues to be provided on Mondays and Wednesday evenings. BCDFG programs ASAP, Youth Resource and Empower House all participate. Average attendance per night is 7-10 youth

Juvenile Detention Center – 18 youth, 11 from Bergen County (10 male, 1 female)

Teaneck Public Schools – no report

Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE) – the youth are performing on Saturday.

Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) – no report

YWCA Junior Jumpstart – Sessions ended on August 27th.

Probation – 1 painting with a purpose session

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) – Rachel Kinne reported, “BBBS has a partnership with Macy’s and the Macy’s in Paramus at Garden State Plaza recently held a breakfast and shopping experience for children in the BBBS program. Many of whom attended reside in Bergen County. Our two Site Based programs, Bergenfield HS mentoring program and the BMW program are thriving. We have 20 mentees and 28 mentors for the Bergenfield HS program and 31 mentees and 20 mentors for the BMW program. We continue to enroll and match children in our CB program as well.”

TMR Mental Health Care – 9 students in Mindset for Success program. The Youth Program has 6 youth enrolled

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – No report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements – Matt Stanislao reported he would be the new President of the Juvenile Officers Association (JOA). Shelby Klein reported Bergen County Home 1 will be having a ribbon cutting on Wednesday at 2:00pm.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Nick Montello, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting, was carried.*

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

January 3, 2024

Members: Seth Victor (designee for Mark Musella); Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Amanda Marcino); Georgina DeRosa (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Dr. Nick Montello; John Cutitto; Liana Dinallo; Matthew Stanislao (designee for Gerald Powers); Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Marie LaTesta (designee for Louis DeLisio); Adiyah Washington;

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Laura Farcas

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan; Kristen Schwendeman

Resource: Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Health; Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Mariela Gabriel, Jessica Mulligan and Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court NJ; Kristine Gifford, CASA; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Rachel Kinne, BBBS; Tasia Milicevic and Adrianna Porcaro, TMR; Javalda Powell; Karen Stack; Amanda Walker, Children's Mobile; Shekinah Williams; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz; Corinne Reilly-Ferretto, Center for Modern Dance Education; Darshell's OtterPilot

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Shelby Klein, seconded by Seth Victor, *to approve the BCYSC December 5, 2023, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Family (Juvenile)/BCCJJSI Steering Committee – Judge Magali Francois stated that there had been a significant uptick in out of home placements. Non-offending juveniles placed in the shelter on a crisis petition by the parent or guardian went up significantly last year. She would like us to stay aware of the situation. She also discussed the lack of available psychiatrists.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported that they are continuing with Case Processing Subcommittee. Erica Hein gave a good presentation on 2022 school-based complaints. Liana mentioned the new law came into effect on January 1st, called VASPA (Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act). It is handled in the domestic violence unit. The law was changed to include predicate acts of cyber harassment, stalking, and incorporates some forms of bullying. The new law does not require a relationship between parties. Liana introduced again the new juvenile team leader, Mariela Gabriel.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Seth Victor reported out of State and out of County youth are still trending with theft of motor vehicles and shoplifting. He mentioned that there is an incredible need for services across the board that applies to the kids with delinquency charges as much as those without.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – No report

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates - Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2023 program results are not ready. The programs will be extended to a fifth quarter, but there will be an updated report possibly next month and a finalized report after the fifth quarter ends.

Liana Dinallo presented Adiyah Washington and Harry Lisa as co-chair. A motion by Janice Conti,

seconded by Shelby Klein *to approve Adiyah Washington and Harry Lisa as co-chairs was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Seth Victor – yes; Shelby Klein - yes; Janice Conti – yes; Georgina DeRosa – yes; Judge Magali Francois - yes; Harry Lisa – abstain; Nick Montello – yes; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – yes; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – yes; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz – yes; Adiyah Washington – abstain; Marie LaTesta - yes; (13 yes, 2 abstain).

Jamie Ziegelhofer presented the 2024 BCYSC Standing Committees. If anybody would like to request any changes, they can email.

A motion by Harry Lisa, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to approve the 2024 BCYSC Standing Committees was carried.*

The 2024-2026 Plan and Application is with the State and hopefully will be reviewed and approved soon. The RFP closed on December 28, 2023. The committee is in the process of reviewing and scoring allocations.

Adiyah Washington presented 2023 fifth quarter extension request and budget modifications. The BCYSC Allocations subcommittee met on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 and is recommending extending the programs funding with the following award modifications:

	Increase	Decrease
Center for Modern Dance Education (CMDE)	\$5,500	
Children’s Aid and Family Services (CAFS)	\$10,242	
TMR Mental Healthcare	\$12,000	
BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP)	\$9,361	
BCDFG Psychological Evaluations	\$25,650	
BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens		(\$3,097)
BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly		(\$7,000)
BCDFG Positive Strides		(\$3,500)
M&S Psychiatric Evaluations		(\$5,000)
Superior Court Probation		(\$1,428)
BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)		(\$42,728)
Totals	\$62,753	(\$62,753)

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Harry Lisa, *to approve extending the programs to a fifth quarter and the budget modifications as read was carried.*

A roll call vote to approve: Seth Victor – yes; Shelby Klein - yes; Janice Conti – abstain; Georgina DeRosa – yes; Judge Magali Francois – yes; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; John Cutitto – abstain; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – not present; Linda Spiegel – yes; Jared Lautz – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; Marie LaTesta - yes; (11 yes, 3 abstain, 1 not present).

Adiyah also thanked Jamie, Robert, and the whole planning and contracts office for the well-executed and thought out BCYSC conference.

The Bylaws still need to be updated.

Bergen County Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG) Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) – 11 Station House adjustments were initiated in December.

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) - 5 psychological assessments were completed during the month of December.

BCDFG Positive Strides (PS) - 6 youth are actively participating.

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 3 youth.

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 11 substance abuse evaluations. 6 treatment group sessions, BIPAS – 5 sessions, 8 youth

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – 4 sessions a week are being offered. For the 4th quarter, over 100 youth participated in culinary education.

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – currently 4 youth on bracelets, 2 phone monitoring and 5 youth are not on electronic monitoring.

Visions – 6 residents

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 2 males and 3 females.

Shelter Plus – 7 residents

Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) – 18 youth, 10 males from Bergen County

Teaneck Public Schools – Nick Campestre reported they finished up their last cycle with 12 youth that were enrolled, a consistent 11 daily. There were many gains in the students. Outcomes will be reported this quarter. Most of the middle school students completed their first cycle and will return for a second cycle, which will be beneficial.

Center for Modern Dance Education – Corinne reported that CMDE was closed from December 16th until today.

Children's Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag reported that the Life Skills program finished up right before the winter break, and thankfully the flooding didn't impact the programming too much, and they started right back in Hackensack on January 2, 2024.

Robin Wanner added that they are moving forward with planning for January. The youth summit was a success. They collaborated with Jared Lautz and the County Executive Office. There were about 130 kids in attendance on December 1st. Jared reported it was a pleasure to partner with CAFS and to bring all the students together and see the kids realize they are in a room with likeminded youth like them.

Probation – Janice Conti said that are in the planning stage and will schedule the next pop within the next month or so.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Rachel Kinne reported last month they had their holiday party. This month they will be doing vision boards. The BMW program as well as the Bergenfield High school program will be meeting next week.

TMR Mental Health Care – Adrianna Porcaro reported they ended the year with the same number as before. 9 in the mindset program and 6 youth enrolled in the youth program.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – No report.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – No report.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements

P.O. Matthew Stanislao took over the Juvenile Officers Association for Bergen County as the President. John Cutitto announced his retirement. His last day with BCDFG will be January 19, 2024. He thanked everybody for the support he received. The group gave John many accolades for all his hard work and dedication through the years.

The next BCYSC meeting will be Tuesday, February 6, 2024.

A motion by Seth Victor, seconded by Jorge Sandoval, ***to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting was carried.***

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

February 6, 2024

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Martha Grant (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Janice Conti (designee for Amanda Marcino); Mitchell Badiner (designee for Dr. Howard Lerner); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Dr. Nick Montello; Liana Dinallo; Kristen Ambrosio; Matt Stanislao; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Adiyah Washington

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi, Laura Farcas

Ex-Officio: Kyle Sheehan

Resource: Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Mary Davey, West Bergen Mental Health; Stephanie Drag and Robin Wanner, Children's Aid and Family Services; Mariela Gabriel and Jessica Mulligan, Superior Court NJ; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Rachel Kinne, BBBS; Tasia Milicevic, TMR; Javalda Powell and Renee Clark, Teaneck Comes Together; Shekinah Williams and Dean Pastras, Bergen's Promise; Rhona Vega, Parent Matterz, Mayra Cabrera, BC Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Darshell's OtterPilot

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order.

A motion by Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Linda Spiegel *to approve the BCYSC January 3, 2024, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.* Martha Grant, Judge Magali Francois, Richard Nunes, and Melissa DeBartolo abstained.

Superior Court of NJ – Family (Juvenile)/BCCJJSI Steering Committee – Judge Francois discussed a recent uptick in caseload, out of home placements continue to increase, and the charges seen in Court are more serious. There is a long wait list for residential placements and parents are frustrated with what they perceive to be the lack of appropriate services. She reported many crisis petitions are escalating and DCP&P involvement. Anne Giacobbe is also seeing a lot of frustrated parents at DCP&P and discussed putting together an elevated resource list and a more creative approach to complicated needs. Dean Pastras discussed the large number of youth involved with Bergen's Promise and how he filled staff. He is hoping to collaborate with more groups now that positions are filled. Jamie Ziegelhofer gave a reminder that there is the MDT (multidisciplinary team) as a potential avenue to help specific youth. Kristen Ambrosio discussed the length of stay in the juvenile detention center (JDC) increasing and youth being brought in again due to the long wait for services.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo agreed with Judge Francois and announced the juvenile staff moved from room 159 to room 202A, with no changes on the telephone extensions. An update regarding Phase II of the construction at the Court House, the bidding is happening shortly, but has not started.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Martha Grant had no report

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes agreed the caseload is very high and the charges are serious. The JDC has a large number of youth. The nature of the charges require waiver discussions, which lead to longer times to complete the case. He discussed the need for pre-trial services such as mentoring and feels the needs are greater. He discussed parents not affording transportation to get youth to Court. Jamie Ziegelhofer reminded that the MDT has funds and could provide reimbursement for transportation services. Shekinah Williams said she should be informed at

the MDT if a youth is not being provided services. A discussion was held regarding the pre-trial issues and services Rich is observing. He also reported observing school issues such as youth being suspended indefinitely and youth being transferred to alternative schools with no option to return to their previous school. This will be discussed further at MDT. He is also observing parent frustration and youth depression. Janice Conti echoed what Rich is observing. Parents and youth are being strongly encouraged to withdraw youth from school and attend online. This contributes to the feeling of helplessness and depression. There is a lack of socialization and youth want to return to school, which is very difficult and at times stigmatizing. Dean Pastras talked about collaborating for system improvement. Adiyah Washington suggested the topic of strategic collaboration to be added to the BCYSC Conference. There was a discussion regarding the long wait time for placements and the importance of streamlining the placement process and expediting placement.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates - Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the 2023 program results report is in the process. The fourth quarter reports are still being completed. The 2024-2026 comprehensive plan and application has been approved. The certified assurance and grant conditions are being completed. The bylaws need to be updated and approved in order to send it with them. The Association of the Youth Service Commission Administrators sent a letter to the state requesting a clean copy of the regulations. The state sent the clean copy and this will hopefully speed up the updating process and a subcommittee meeting will be scheduled soon.

Adiyah Washington presented a budget modification for approval. The BCYSC Allocations subcommittee met on Thursday, February 1, 2024 and is recommending the following award modifications:

	Increase	Decrease
BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP)		(\$5,170)
BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens		(\$163)
BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly		(\$3,537)
BCDFG Positive Strides		(\$1,936)
BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)	\$10,806	
Totals	\$10,806	(\$10,806)

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto *to approve the award modification.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez - yes; Martha Grant – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain; Janice Conti – abstain; Mitch Badiner – yes; Rosemarie Lobretto - yes; Anne Giacobbe – abstain; Judge Magali Francois - not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Kristen Ambrosio - abstain; Matt Stanislao – yes; Jorge Sandoval – abstain; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes (9 yes, 6 abstain, 1 not present for vote).

Adiyah Washington presented the scores and funding recommendations for the 2024-2026 comprehensive plan and application (the full report is attached).

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for Priority Services identified in the 2024-2026 Bergen County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan. A total of approximately \$903,781 is available for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Nine (9) agencies submitted fifteen (15) proposals totaling \$1,561,904.00.

The BCYSC Allocations Committee, all of whom were devoid of conflict of interest, met on 1/2, 1/9, 1/11, 1/16, 1/18, and 2/1. They thoroughly reviewed and scored the proposals based on the weighted criteria included in the RFP.

The recommended allocation plan includes:

- Twelve (12) proposals scored above 85 and are recommended for funding at the designated amounts below totaling \$903,781.
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Coastal & Northern NJ (BBBS), One-to-One Youth Mentoring - \$53,780.50
 - Teaneck Public Schools, PASS (Police/Parents and School Students) Partnership Program - \$66,410
 - BC Dept. of Human Services, Division of Family Guidance (BCDFG), Psychological Evaluations - \$82,100
 - BCDFG, Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) - \$98,334
 - BCDFG, Positive Strides (PS) - \$27,790
 - Children's Aid and Family Services, Botvin's Life Skills Training and Seven Habits - \$118,300
 - TMR Mental Health Care PC, Treat Me Right - Youth Program - \$213,600
 - BCDFG, Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) - \$137,908
 - BCDFG, Culinary Arts for Teens - \$23,600
 - BCDFG, Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) - \$27,967
 - YWCA Northern New Jersey, Junior Jumpstart for Bergen County Youth - \$33,600
 - Children's Aid and Family Services, EPIC Youth Groups and Seeds of Change Youth Conference - \$20,391.50
- No funding is recommended for three (3) proposals that scored below 85.
 - Teaneck Comes Together, Inc. (TCT), TCT Youth Internship Program
 - Indian Hills Farm, LLC, A Stable Life - Equine Assisted Therapy and Learning
 - Exposure and Opportunities LLC (Parent Matterz), Sankofa Blueprint to Success Leadership Academy

A motion by Adiyah Washington, seconded by Harry Lisa *to approve the 2024 allocation report as presented.*

A roll call vote to approve: Richard Nunez - yes; Martha Grant – yes; Melissa DeBartolo – abstain for BCDFG, yes for all other; Janice Conti – abstain; Mitch Badiner – yes; Rosemarie Lobretto - yes; Anne Giacobbe – not present for vote; Judge Magali Francois - not present for vote; Harry Lisa – yes; Nick Montello – abstain; Liana Dinallo – yes; Kristen Ambrosio - abstain; Matt Stanislao – abstain; Jorge Sandoval – abstain for BCDFG, yes for all other; Linda Spiegel – yes; Adiyah Washington – yes; (8 yes, 4 abstain, 2 abstain for BCDFG and yes to other, 2 not present for the vote).

Program Updates:

BCDFG Positive Strides (PS) – 4 referrals for the month of January

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 3 referrals

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 4 referrals

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 2 females and 6 males and 5 in the current BIPAS group, 15 assessments in January

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) - 23 referrals in the month of January, currently serving 13 municipalities and 58 municipalities to date since the inception of the program. There was a first time referral from Carlstadt. They are up 11 referrals from last year and announced that they received their 500th referral since the inception of the program. It is a big milestone for the program.

Visions – 6 youth, 4 males and 2 females

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 6 youth

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 12 youth in total; 5 youth males on bracelets electronic monitoring (BEM), 2 youth phone electronic monitoring (PEM) and 5 male youth are on regular atd

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – no report

Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) – 21 youth, 13 from Bergen County. The JDC can use an outside basketball court especially with the increase in youth.

Teaneck Public – Currently operating in the extension of the 5th quarter. 10 high school students and 11 middle school students

Center for Modern Dance Education – no report

Children's Aid and Family Services – LST is in the 5th Quarter in Hackensack and Teaneck. They are unable to add youth to JAMS. Jamie Ziegelhofer is in contact with the State to extend the JAMS contracts. EPIC is in Lodi doing their strategic prevention framework training on February 15th and providing community programming in Englewood, Dwight Morrow High School is doing a glitter jar event in the next couple weeks.

Probation – They are kicking off 2024 with our first parent orientation program group on next Tuesday

Big Brothers Big Sisters – The program is continuing to match youth in the community based program. The Bergenfield High School program partnered with the Sheriff for a session. The BMW program is meeting today and is focusing on self-love and positive affirmations for Valentine's Day.

TMR Mental Health Care – Same number of youth are currently enrolled in the program. There is a waitlist of 3. They were able to hire a therapist last month, which will help with the waitlist. They are grateful for the 5th quarter to continue to support the youth and their families. We have a pediatric emergency right now in our state for mental health concerns for kids. They are seeing a lot of kids coming

in with self-injurious behaviors, suicidal thoughts, their abusing substances, a lot of anxiety and depression and a lot of school refusal because of things like bullying and cyber bullying.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – No report, but will look in the JAMS for the 5th Quarter.

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – The JDAI conference is going to be in Washington, DC on May 29th to June 1st, 2024, engaging youth, turning passion into policy is the theme for this year. (Correction Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference)

Old Business – none

New Business – Bergen’s Promise is hosting an inaugural Legislative Breakfast on May 3, 2024 at Biagio’s in Paramus. The purpose is educating legislators on the children's system of care and in particular Bergen’s Promise, who is serving 1650 youth in this county. It is a good opportunity to network with different legislators for your own programs and support. Michele Hart-Loughlin asked if it would be possible to plan a full child family team meeting in partnership with the MDT for each one of the youths who fall under the umbrella of intense concern that Dean, Richard, Janice and Liana highlighted. Dean Pastras would like to talk offline regarding the question and some of the issues brought up at the meeting.

Announcements - The next BCYSC membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024

A motion Nick Montello, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator

BERGEN COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION (BCYSC)

Membership Meeting (Virtual)

April 2, 2024

Members: Richard Nunes (designee for April Petersen); Martha Grant (designee for Mark Musella); Melissa DeBartolo; Shelby Klein; Janice Conti (designee for Amanda Marcino); Rosemarie Lobretto; Anne Giacobbe (designee for Melena Anderson/Jessica Ambrosini); Judge Magali Francois (designee for Judge Melchionne); Harry Lisa (designee for Tammy Molinelli); Dr. Nick Montello; Liana Dinallo; Kristen Ambrosio; Matt Stanislao; Jorge Sandoval; Linda Spiegel; Jared Lautz (designee for James J. Tedesco III); Tara Smith

Staff: Jamie Ziegelhofer; Robert Sibi

Ex-Officio: Kristen Schwendeman

Resource: Nick Campestre, Teaneck Public Schools; Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid and Family Services; Mariela Gabriel and Marcia Hartkopp, Superior Court of NJ; Michele Hart-Loughlin, CBH Care; Rachel Kinne, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Javalda Powell, Teaneck Comes Together; Shekinah Williams, Bergen's Promise; Amanda Walker, Bergen CMRSS; Darshell's OtterPilot

Harry Lisa called the Membership Meeting to order. Kristen Ambrosio introduced Tara Smith. She is the new Bergen's Place Youth Shelter Administrator and is a new member of the BCYSC.

A motion by Kristen Ambrosio, seconded by Rosemarie Lobretto *to approve the BCYSC February 6, 2024, Membership Meeting Minutes was carried.*

Superior Court of NJ – Family (Juvenile)/BCCJJSI Steering Committee – Judge Francois reported sharing the drug treatment court solicitation. There are grants available. The purpose of the grants are to implement new and innovated approaches and improve outcomes for youth with substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders. Jamie Ziegelhofer signed up for the webinar to receive more information and will share the notice after the meeting. Judge Francois also reported she attended a three-day inspiring summit in Cleveland. NJ has implemented much of what was presented at the summit. She came back with some ideas specifically a therapeutic animal program. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of this program with many members interested and a further discussion will take place offline.

Superior Court of NJ–Family (Juvenile) – Liana Dinallo reported there are three new Judges, but it does not affect Juvenile. The Juvenile Unit moved to 202A. There were no updates on Phase II of the construction.

Bergen County Prosecutor's Office/Juvenile – Martha Grant had no report.

NJ Office of the Public Defender-Juvenile/Bergen – Richard Nunes reported they are very busy. He is still seeing a challenge in getting youth in programs. He reported a challenge with a particular youth in crisis going to New Bridge and being released very quickly without stabilization. He stated youth with severe mental health issues do not belong in JDC and there needs to be a better way to help them. He reported his concern over education issues. He is seeing youth giving up hope when they are sent to alternative and online schools and are not allowed a way back to their former schools. Jamie Ziegelhofer suggested discussing more specific youth at MDT. There was also a discussion regarding youth in detention and how they are served by their current school. Dr. Montello reported being aware of the issues and working on them when feasible at the JDC. Janice Conti furthered the discussion stating they are seeing youth post adjudication are also having education issues such as not being allowed back in

school because of an offense that happened outside of school. They are missing the socialization as well as negatively affecting their education.

BCYSC Administrator Report/ BCYSC Committee/Subcommittee Reports/Updates - Jamie Ziegelhofer reported the fifth quarter has ended. 2023 will be closing shortly. The 2024 Contracts are pending and will be in JAMS soon. As they are completed, an email will be sent to the agencies. She reiterated MDT is meeting and it is a good venue to bring up the needs you are seeing for specific youth in order to come up with a solution. The bylaws are being updated and the subcommittee will meet once they are completed to review and/or amend them. Michele Hart-Loughlin asked how to discuss a youth. The person that can add a youth for discussion is MDT coordinator Valerie Park.

Program Updates:

BCDFG Positive Strides (PS) – 5 referrals for the month of March

BCDFG Using Technology Responsibly (UTR) – 3 referrals in March

BCDFG Psychological Evaluations (PE) – 5 referrals in March

BCDFG Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) – 2 females and 5 males and 6 in the current BIPAS group, PAVE is taking referrals

BCDFG Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program (RSAP) - 23 referrals in the month of March, currently serving 8 municipalities and 59 municipalities to date since the inception of the program. There was a first time referral from Haworth. They are up 9 referrals from last year.

Visions – 5 youth, 2 males, 2 females, and 1 transgender

Shelter Plus – 7 youth, 5 males and 2 females.

Bergen's Place Youth Shelter – 6 youth, 4 males and 2 females, 3 Bergen County and 3 out of county youth

BCDFG Alternatives to Detention (ATD) – 18 youth in total; 8 youth on bracelets electronic monitoring (BEM), 0 youth phone electronic monitoring (PEM) and 10 youth are on regular ATD

BCDFG Culinary Arts for Teens – 15 youth

Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) – 18 male youth, 12 from Bergen County and 6 out of county. The length of stay has been a growing issue with approximately 60% of youth in the JDC for five months or longer. This affects the education issue.

Teaneck Public Schools – 21 youth, 10 high school students, and 11 middle school students

Children's Aid and Family Services – Stephanie Drag announced Robin Wanner moved on from the agency. LST is currently planning the fourth marking period. EPIC youth group in Lodi is up to 11 youth.

Probation – The parent orientation program (POP) met on March 19th with 6 parents attending. A paint night will be in April and a second POP will be in May. Ice Cream with the Chief event will be in June. Janice Conti will have an intern from Montclair helping with events for the youth.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – The program is continuing to match youth in the community based program with matches in New Milford, Hackensack, and Rutherford. The Bergenfield High School program and BMW program have six sessions remaining.

TMR Mental Health Care – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) – no report

NJ Juvenile Justice Commission/JDAI – no report

Old Business – none

New Business – Shelby Klein reported the stigma free sticker contest ends this Friday. May 1st is the Stigma Free Symposium highlighting the power of youth voice. They are sponsoring a social work ethics training in late May for CEUs with the Human Services Institute. In August they are sponsoring a municipal alliance event for overdose awareness day. Jared Lautz announced at the end of April two divisions under the Department of Human Services will be renamed: Office for Children will be named the Division of Child Care and Resources, and Special Child Health Services will be called the Office of Child Development.

Announcements - The next BCYSC membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

A motion Rosemarie Lobretto, seconded by Shelby Klein, *to adjourn the BCYSC Membership Meeting was carried.*

Prepared by: Jamie Ziegelhofer, MSW, LSW
BCYSC Administrator