



BERGEN *County* NEW JERSEY

Youth Services Commission

Membership Meeting Minutes

Contents

January 4, 2022	2
March 1, 2022	5
April 5, 2022	8
May 3, 2022	11
July 6, 2022	14
August 2, 2022	17
September 7, 2022	20
September 28, 2022	23
November 1, 2022	26
December 6, 2022	29
February 7, 2023	32
March 7, 2022	36
April 4, 2023	41

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
-------------------------	------------------

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 Jaccio); 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 Stanislao – 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 Adiylah 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; Adiylah 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 Adiylah 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, 2022

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 if 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