Sussex County Youth Services Commission

Meeting Date:	6/18/2025	**Platform:**	In person	**Called to Order:**	12:43pm

☐Honorable D. Mikulka
☐Dawn Carruth
☐Julia Zimmerman
☐James Villano
☐Jeff Wilk
☐Jill Space
☐Sahil Kabse
☐Karl Hauck
☐Dan Palazzo
☐Shaun Russell
☐Melissa McCurry
☐Ben Davey
☒Cindy Armstrong
☐Gayle Carrick
☐Adam Kendler
☐Gus Modla
☐Debbie Keiper

☐Christine Florio
☒Nick Kapatenakis
☐Jill Cerullo
☐Anthony Mauceri
☐Jen Colville
☐Janel St. Croix
☐Brittny Perna
☐Brittany Brusberg
☐Chief Jeff McCarrick
☐Paige Dewald
☐Beth Rodgers
☐Kim Johnson
☒Rachel Helt*
☐
☐Diahann DeRuggiero
☐Massiel Sanabria
☐Jim Mahoney
☒Maria Augustowicz

☒Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro
☐Kristen Lauber
☒Shannon Larrow
☐Elizabeth Plavnicky
☐Debbie Berry-Toon
☐Haley McCracken
☐Michele Wolf
☐Jenn Wrobleski
☐Margaret Pittaluga
☒Amanda Catizone
☒Lisa Lombardo
☒Marissa DeOliveira
☐Alyssa Fiedorczyk
☐
☐Tracy Cappiccile
☐

Ex Officio: ☐ Jeena Williams ☒ Natalie Roca ☒ Kristen Turtur ☒ Lawanda Lewis
Guests: Carly Abrams, Tom Milantano, Claire Neary, Nicole Jackson, Leena George, Deanne Prisoni, Ashlyn Gec, Lucia Campegla

Ms. Helt announced that this is an open public meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*: February 15, 2023

**Quorum*	*Motion*	*Second*	*Abstentions*	*☐Pass*
☒Yes ☐No				

TOPIC OF THE MONTH: CAP Program/DASI: Shannon Larrow

NEW BUSINESS: no new business

OLD BUSINESS: county still awaiting the 2025 JDAI Innovations executed award from YJC

UPDATES/ STRUGGLES AND SUCCESSES: (See attached statistical report for the numbers)

County Reports:

Department of Health and Human Services: Email communication: "Hunger doesn't take a Vacation" Food Drive at Shoprites of Franklin, Newton, Sparta, and Sussex on Saturday, June 21, 2025 from 9am to 2pm. Donations will benefit Sussex residents through the Social Services food pantry. As school ends, there will be an increased need of the summer vacation.

Division of Community & Youth Services (CYS): Mr. Kapetanakis reported this is the busiest time of the year and the division is out at a lot of events. Kids Day at the fair is August 5, and the division will be there. The transit office filled quite a few positions recently, and is currently only short one driver.

Sussex County Detention Alternatives (SCDA): statistics. Jason LeValley graduated from the academy and received the academic achievement award. Congratulations to him.

Department of Education/County Superintendent's Office: Dr. Carrick will be hosting a Chronic Absenteeism Think Tank committee meeting at the end of June.

Sussex County Chief's Association/Prosecutor's Office: nothing new to report

Department of Children & Families (CIACC):

Education Partnership (EP): next meeting is September 24, 2025

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC): no report

Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP): The Sussex office is fully staffed. Ms. George reported the division is revisiting those frequently encountered families (3 times within 6 months) to explore different strategies.

Mobile Response/Family Crisis Intervention Unit (MRSS/FCIU): statistics
Caring Partners (Morris/Sussex CMO): statistics
Family Partners (Morris/Sussex FSO): no report
Regional Coalition: Continuing to provide community education around the county. The first Coalition scholarship is going to a senior from Vernon High School. Prevention messages will be displayed at the Minors baseball games and throughout social media.

NJ-JJC Youth Services Commission (YSC): The 2026 Plan Update has been completed and awaiting the allocations letter for funding amounts.
Youth Justice Commission (JJC): no report
Morris County Youth Shelter/Juvenile Detention Center (YS/JDC): no report
Probation: statistics
Family Division (Intake & JCC): statistics
Family Court funding: Substance Use Treatment Program: CFPC: Drug trends continue as the same. Due to staff shortages, CFPC is utilizing a waitlist.
State/Community Partnership funding: Think, Act, Grow Program: CFPC: Referrals are low with four youth participating.

Council on Juvenile Justice System Improvement (CJJSI/JDAI): still waiting for the executed award for 2025.
Innovations Sub-Committee: Cybersmart work groups will begin in August with a flyer to go out soon.
Probation Sub-Committee: Purchasing Sussex Minors tickets for incentives over the summer

Open Discussion:
CFPC: Changing the Face of Addiction walk scheduled for August 2, 2025
PSS: Back to School Fair scheduled for August 22, 2025.
Youth Corp is open for enrollment
DSAI: DASI Gala is scheduled for June 29, 2025 at Perona Farms

Please refer to the Bulletin and Handouts for upcoming events that are open to the community.

Handouts/Attached Documents: Agenda, Statistics Report, Mtg Minutes, Bulletins

MEETING ADJOURNED: Motion to adjourn at: 1:15pm Motion- Vaca-Bullaro Second-Larrow

The next SCYSC meeting is July 16, 2025 via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by: *Kristen M. Turtur* __6/24/2025__
Kristen M. Turtur Date