

PLANNING PROCESS

OCEAN County

Instructions

This section will allow you to describe to the public your County's planning process regarding identifying the needs of youth in your county. Your answers to each of the following questions should describe your county's planning *process*, **not the results/outcome** of the planning process. Answer all questions using this form.

1. List the County Youth Services Commission meetings held in 2017:

The YSC has held four (4) full membership meetings to date (3/2, 4/6, 6/1, 8/3) at which some component of the planning process was discussed. The Needs Assessment/Program Development Committee held three (3) meetings to date (8/11, 8/18, 8/25,). Discussions ensued for each of the sections of the 2018-2020 Plan and Vision. Identification of changing needs in services and possible plans to accommodate those needs. Also discussed were priority areas of the 2016 needs assessment; and how they will influence our planning process and services for 2018. The committee also discussed plans to develop more customized services to solicit in the next comprehensive planning cycle. Additionally, conversations ensued to discuss the current usage of the 1/4rd set aside, the JJC monitoring results regarding the concerns around the use of the 1/4rd set aside and the strategies to eliminate those concerns outlined by the JJC. The Monitoring Committee met eleven (13) times over the year and discussed the service delivery of our programs based on the needs identified in our 2015-2017 Plan, and conducted our annual site visit and monitoring of all the YSC and Innovations funded programs. The YSC Executive Committee met twice (2) this year to discuss concerns around our 2017 Innovations program and the concerns around our use of the 1/4rd set aside dollars.

2. Describe the planning process for this Comprehensive Plan for all points of the continuum, indicating the planning activities that identified needs or service gaps. Also, indicate any policy or practice changes you have made at each point in the continuum based on your 2018-2020 Plan recommendations.

Prevention: The YSC discussed at length the need for prevention services, yet do not have the data to justify providing Community Based services through the Library Workshops as we have previously done. Knowing there needs to be a specific focus on targeted Prevention, the YSC identified a prevention program to fund as a pilot that has specific data and serves as primary prevention. Additionally, efforts are being made to include Family Engagement in all points of the continuum.

Diversion: Diversion services have addressed the growing needs of Ocean County's at-risk youth population by providing a 9 week Best Practice Anger Management course for probation youth with higher needs, and including the capacity to provide best practice gender responsive programs when needed. Development of family engagement activities and practices has also become a recommended focus for YSC Diversion providers. Additionally, Diversion workshops

have been opened up to receive referrals from the SRO's and Juvenile Officers as Stationhouse Adjustments to offer more community based comprehensive services and in an effort to support the success of the FCIU – Stationhouse Adjustment program. The 2018 Innovations Proposal is a Diversion program focused on addressing the school to prison pipeline, and creating more community based options for schools and SRO's to use in lieu of out of school suspensions, and offering gender responsive programs that meet the needs of the youth and address a gap in services. Family Engagement is also being woven into the fabric of all the Diversion programs funded. Specifically with regard to the FCIU services, there is a youth and family driven, points based family engagement curriculum that is being funded specifically in the FCIU scope of services. The YSC is very excited about this addition.

Detention: From program monitoring, JDAI Detention Alternative/Case Processing meetings, and JDAI data reviews, a concern arose around the decrease in detention alternative successful completions and LOS for preadjudicated youth in detention. Recommendations for specialized trainings on how to engage difficult youth are recommended for Detention Alternative staff. Additionally, Ocean's 2017 JJC Monitoring report of the YSC Administrator, concerns were noted around the utilization of the 1/3rd set aside SCP grant dollars. Traditionally, Ocean used these funds to provide 2 Electronic Monitoring staff. After addressing the concerns in the monitoring report the YSC has decided it is in the best interest of the County to solicit those grant funds for the 2018-2020 grant cycle. This has created some healthy conversations around being able to build the detention alternative program up to the standard the YSC holds all of its other programs, and being able to weave family engagement and more comprehensive supervision into the foundation of the program. This program will also be a fee per service program allowing the YSC to right side the spending as it will be based on utilization of the program. Additionally, it is the hope of the YSC to potentially decrease the LOS for youth in detention predispositionally, as it will be a concerted effort of everyone involved in the writing of the solicitation to develop a policy that allows the MDT to make recommendations when appropriate for youth who could be placed on an EM bracelet as an alternative to Detention. Additionally, the criteria for being violated on the EM bracelet will be looked at and reevaluated.

Disposition: No specific action was taken in regard to Disposition, other than to include Family Engagement into the fabric of all our YSC funded programs. The YSC justified the continuation of the disposition program service areas that have previously been funded.

Reentry: No specific action was taken in regard to reentry; however, with ongoing communication between Ocean's JJC Court Liaison, the YSC Administrator and the MDT Coordinator; the JPATS Community Program Specialist, and Parole officer for Ocean are aware of the reentry services available. An updated list of programs and services funded by the Ocean County YSC, including alternate resources within the community not funded through YSC have been provided in hard copy and through email. Many of our YSC services are available for reentry youth. Ocean sees very few youth being released from JJC Secure care, and of those that are the average age of youth released is 19 years old. While our Disposition services (with the exception of substance abuse treatment) will serve youth up to the age of 21 it is difficult to get youth to comply with anything not on the Parole certification.

Comments:

3. Use the table below to describe any additional data or information other than that provided by the JJC (i.e. JJC Residential and Commitments Data, Detention Statistics Report, etc.) used in your county's planning process. Attach any additional information you used (i.e., surveys, data, articles, questionnaires, etc.).

Point of Continuum	Description	Source	Timeframe/ Year(s)	How was the data used?
<i>Diversion</i>	<i>Ex: Municipal Arrest</i>	<i>State Police, Uniform Crime Report</i>	<i>Jan – Dec 2015</i>	<i>To focus on municipalities that had high arrest for youth.</i>
<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Survey</i>	<i>YSC funded programs</i>	<i>February 2016</i>	<i>To understand from youth perspective what services they need to be successful.</i>
All	Program Monitoring Data	YSC Funded Programs	Jan 2016 – Dec 2016 & Jan 2017 to May 2017	Programs are required to submit YSC spreadsheets and monthly service data to the YSC for review. This data was used to gage utilization of current funded services and the needs based on utilization
ALL	YSC 2016 Needs Assessment – Problem Areas	YSC 2016 Needs Assessment	2016	To identify gaps in services throughout the county for youth and families. To identify needs not specifically pointed out with data supplied by the JJC.
Detention / Detention Alt.	JDAI Quarterly Data	JJC	2015-2016	The YSC uses this data to help guide service planning for youth on detention alternatives.
Disposition	Active Case Load Listing	Juvenile Supervision	2015 & 2016	The YSC uses this data to help guide service planning for special needs populations such as sex offenders.
Diversion	Stationhouse Adjustment Data	OC Prosecutor's Office	2015	The YSC uses this data to justify the need for Diversion programs and the expansion of the current utilization of Diversion funding.
Prevention	NJ Kids Count	Advocates for Children of NJ	2017	The YSC uses this data to help guide service planning in Prevention.
Prevention	My Life My Choice Data	Harbor House & Prevent Child Abuse NJ	2015/2016	The YSC used this data to support funding a pilot program in 2 local school

				districts around human trafficking.
Prevention	Opiate Crisis Data	OC Health Department/ DA Coordinator	2014 & 2015	The YSC used this data to provide evidence that the opiate crisis is impacting the community, however youth ages under 18 account for a low number of youth being admitted to Inpatient SA treatment.
Diversion	School Based Complaint & Education Data report	JJC Research and Reform Specialist	2015-2016	The YSC and Innovations work group used this to justify the 2018 Innovations program and the expansion of the YSC funded diversion services.
Diversion	Enhanced Stationhouse Adjustment Program Pilot Report for Camden and Ocean	JJC	2014	The YSC used this report to justify the continued efforts and supports to FCIU and the utilization and expansion of SHA options funded by YSC.
Diversion	Special Needs Treatment Services for Fire Setters	Ocean County Sheriff's Department	2016 & 2017	The YSC used this data to identify a gap in services
Diversion/ Detention/ Disposition	YSC Year End Data	YSC Administrator	2015 & 2015	The YSC uses this data to track the utilization of programs and services over a planning cycle.

Comments:

4. If you are a JDAI site, list topics and discussion points that were shared between the Youth Services Commission and the County Council on Juvenile Justice System Improvement and any activities that helped to facilitate the completion of this Comprehensive Plan.

To date the JDAI CJJSI met three (2) times (3/21 & 6/13); the Detention Alternative/Case Processing subcommittee met three (3) times to date (1/6, 3/24, & 6/16); the Probation subcommittee met three (3) times this year (1/6, 3/24, & 6/16); and, the Innovations work group met two (2) times so far this year (3/7 & 5/2), The Education subcommittee met (4) times so far this year (1/24, 4/28, 6/7 & 8/16), the Gender Race and Equity subcommittee met once so far this year on 4/7. All meetings were held with the expressed intent of addressing the needs and data collected in Ocean County for services and alternatives. The Detention Alternative Case Processing meetings identified some challenges Ocean is having with length of stay (LOS) for preadjudicated youth. This topic has been discussed at length in several different forums. Likewise, those conversations have led to addressing concerns in the detention alternative programs with regard to compliance and success rates. Family

Engagement is an overarching focus of not only the CJJSI, but the YSC as well. Family engagement is being woven into the fabric of YSC funded services.

Additionally, the YSC Administrator participates on the CJJSI, as well as all the JDAI workgroups, thus ensuring that when discussions take place at the YSC subcommittee level that it is always done through the lens of JDAI and how to better serve our youth and families in the community.

With Ocean qualifying for Exceptional Innovations funding for 2018, discussions ensued regarding the success of our Enhanced Stationhouse Adjustment program, and how the YSC could work to expand that though process and provide more diversion options to schools and make a concerted effort to reduce the school to prison pipeline and giving the schools and SRO's more comprehensive and community based diversion options. Also, with the success and utilization of our FCIU - Stationhouse Adjustment pilot program, the YSC had discussed modifying our Diversion Workshop referral sources to include partnerships with the SRO's and Juvenile Officers throughout the county to be able to access the YSC Diversion workshops as a SHA option, thus opening up the availability of more comprehensive community based service options for our youth and families.

5. Describe efforts made by the YSC to seek additional funding to supplement the funding received through the Partnership/Family Court Program.

The YSC sought additional funding through JDAI Innovations 2017 and 2018, and applied for \$60,000 in base funding for 2017 and \$120,000 in base and exceptional funding for 2018. Additionally; the YSC Administrator reviews applicable grant opportunities monthly on the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website, as well as being on the email list of grant opportunities from the Juvenile Justice Commission, the Ocean County Department of Human Services, and will often get emails about grant opportunities from the YSC members themselves.

In October 2014, the Ocean County Department of Human Services in collaboration with the Ocean County Youth Services Commission and the Ocean County Health Department did receive notification that we were selected to receive Phase 2 grant funding from the US DOJ, OJP, BJA Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program FY2014 in the amount of \$207,166, for which we had applied for in March of 2013. This grant enabled the county to facilitate a county wide Trauma-Informed Treatment Initiative to address the criminogenic risk and needs factor of trauma. The end date for this grant is September of 2017.

Additional Comments: