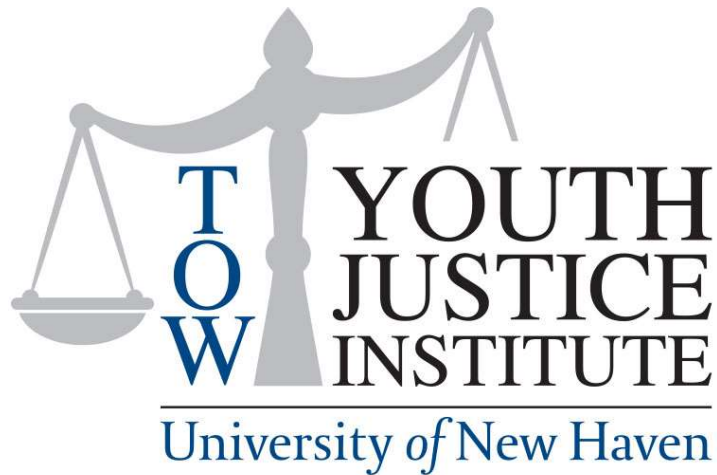


Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

September 21, 2023 Meeting

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

LOB- 300 Capitol Ave Hartford, Room 1E / Hybrid



Opening Remarks



- Welcome and Introductions - Rep Toni Walker and Under Sec. Marc Pelka
 - Approval of July 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - Acknowledgement of Attorney Susan Hamilton
 - Introduction of new JJPOC members
- Overview of Meeting- Erika Nowakowski, Tow Youth Justice Institute

Meeting Agenda



- **Announcements**
- **JJPOC Orientation Manual**
- **Gender Responsiveness Workgroup**
- **Deputy Warden Tammy Perreault, Department of Corrections**
 - Program Spotlight Presentation

JJPOC Orientation Manual



The JJPOC Orientation Manual was revised over the course of 3 months by a subgroup consisting of JJPOC appointed members and members of the Community Expertise Workgroup, facilitated by Technical Assistance Facilitator, Laura Furr.

The JJPOC Orientation Manual includes the following:

- JJPOC Strategic Plan
- JJPOC Membership
- JJPOC Member Roles and Responsibilities
- Structure of the JJPOC and Work Groups
- JJPOC and Legislative Process Workflow
- JBCSSD Juvenile Case Flowchart
- History of Reforms to Connecticut's Youth Legal System
- Glossary of Acronyms and Common Terms

The JJPOC Orientation Manual can be found on the TYJI and CGA websites

2023 State Boards & Commissions Membership Diversity Reporting [2023 State Boards and Commissions Membership Diversity Reporting \(office.com\)](#)

Gender Responsiveness Workgroup



- Cross collaboration with JJPOC, TIP, and ROCA
- Bring stakeholders from across the state to participate in the “GR” workgroup.
- Through review of best practices and consultation from content experts provide a definition for Gender Responsive.
- Partner with ROCA on conducting a landscape analysis of gender responsive services that currently exist in the state.
 - Hear from youth, families, and communities directly impacted
 - Review and analyze gaps in programs, services, delivery method, and practices.
 - Compile a set of legislative and or policy recommendations for JJPOC and TIP’s
- TYJI collaboration with TIP to develop an operational plan for a framework of reporting, collecting, and distributing police data on human trafficking.

DOC Spotlight Presentation



JJPOC Spotlight presentation

Manson Youth Institution Programs and Treatment

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

PBIS Implementation Timeline

- ▶ Assembled Multidisciplinary PBIS Leadership team.
- ▶ May 2023 developed STARCARD and PBIS point cards.
- ▶ May 2023 Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice visit.
- ▶ Youth completed snack and activities surveys describing incentives they would like to earn.
- ▶ June 1st, 2023 implemented STAR bucks program.
- ▶ Created Youth Community Council with the purpose of informing and supporting self-advocacy.
- ▶ August 2023 contracted with SERC (State Education Resource Center) for training and program support.
- ▶ September 2023 completed two sessions of training with SERC.

STAR bucks /
Star Card

Safe
behavior

Take
responsibility

Active
participant

Respect



Feedback from PBIS Implementation

- The DOC is on track to meet the November 1st, 2023, effective date for implementing a commissary plan containing an integrated positive behavior motivation system (Section 127 of Public Act 23-204).
- Currently, there are no indigent youth at MYI or York.
 - ❖ (Indigent is defined as when a person has less than \$5 on account at admission or when the balance in their trust account has not equaled or exceeded \$5 at any time during the preceding ninety 90 days.)
- Some youths have expressed concerns regarding a change in access to their full commissary funds if negative behaviors are demonstrated, and family members have contacted facility staff to inquire about the upcoming changes.
- DOC staff are responding these concerns and will share further information on the positive behavior motivation system as it is developed in anticipation of the November 1st effective date.
- Youth would like to participate in a meeting virtually with JJPOC members.
- DOC staff is working intensively on the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports implementation timeline including participating in trainings.

MYI Population Overview

► Population count : 317

- 18-21: 264
- 15-17: 53
 - 15: 1
 - 16: 18
 - 17: 34

► Legal status

- 18-21 Accused: 159
- 18-21 Sentenced: 105
 - ✓ 18-21 Sentenced w/pending: 12
- 15-17 Accused: 41
- 15-17 Sentenced: 12
 - ✓ 15-17 Sentenced w/pending: 2

MYI Population Overview

▶ Mental Health Scores 15-17 Y/O

- 1: 4
- 2: 9
- 3: 36
- 4: 4
- 5: 0

▶ Mental Health Scores 18-21 Y/O

- 1: 52
- 2: 99
- 3: 102
- 4: 11
- 5: 0

FAMILY INITIATIVES

- ❖ Embracing Fatherhood: Understanding the role of being a father and build a healthy lifestyle to benefit themselves and their children.
- ❖ Collaboration with Connecting Through Literacy Incarcerated Parents, Their Children, and Their Caregivers (CLICC)-trained parent mentors work with incarcerated parents through literacy exercises while modeling parenting skills.
- ❖ Collaboration with the Office of Early Childhood Fatherhood/Family Engagement: Understanding their role as parents in the children's lives. children's lives.

Reading LEAVES ME HAPPY!



Daddy and Me Reading night

Embracing Fatherhood group members will visit with their children who are active and have contact visits. The fathers will engage with their children by reading a book and completing an art project.

The dads will teach and **EMBRACE** all things **Fall!**
Snacks and Juice will be provided by the **MYI Culinary** Students.



The featured book will be
"We're Going on a Leaf Hunt"
by **Steve Metzger**

Where: MYI Visiting Room
When: September 21st 5:30pm -7pm



+

FAMILY INITIATIVES

- ❖ 24/7 Dads AFCAMP Advocacy for Children works with incarcerated parents to understand what it means to be a parent and their role in their children's lives. Co-parenting pilot program with mom at York CI.
- ❖ Family Engagement Meetings with youth, family members, supports, and a multidisciplinary team with the goal of providing optimal supports and services.
- ❖ Virtual visits for youth and incarcerated parents.
- ❖ Justice Dance Performance Project, Inc. works with fathers through art to overcome obstacles and build a bridge to their children.

CONNECTING WITH CREDIBLE MESSENGERS

- ❖ Next Level Empowerment: People with lived experience work with youth to assess needs and provide community based supports.
- ❖ Transitions Mentoring provides life skills training, tutoring, and support to incarcerated youth.
- ❖ New Haven Violence Intervention Program serves youth that engage or are at risk of engaging in behavior that could lead to violence in the community.

CONNECTING WITH CREDIBLE MESSENGERS

- ❖ Reflections Mentoring Group with WCCI Reintegration Unit: the youth connect with adult mentors to enhance problem solving skills and receive encouragement to make decisions that support positive outcomes.
- ❖ All Black Men Need Therapy Podcasters Chief, Bell, and Prentice presented and had an open discussion about mental health, overcoming adversity, decision making, and conflict resolution.

PROGRAMS AND TREATMENT HONORABLE MENTIONS

❖ Treatment Focused

- Voices
- Anger Management
- Unlock Your Thinking
- Stress Management
- Restorative Justice Circles

❖ Skill Building/Goalsetting

- Know Your Rights CCA
- Youth Community Council
- Garden Program
- Thresholds-decision making & problem solving
- Life Skills Workshops
 - Financial Literacy
 - Tie a Tie
 - Mock Interviews

❖ Leadership Based

- Peer Leadership: Effective Communication
- Mamba Mentality
- Game Changers
- Young Men's Group

Program Statistics

FY23 7/1/22-6/30/23

	<18 Started	<18 Completed
Anger Management	0	0
Unlock Your Thinking	14	14
Embracing Fatherhood	0	0
VOICES	13	12

	18-21 Started	18-21 Completed
Anger Management	31	11
Unlock Your Thinking	47	36
Embracing Fatherhood	11	8
VOICES	78	72

Program Statistics

FY24 7/1/23-present

	<18 Started	<18 Completed	Currently enrolled
Anger Management	0	0	0
Unlock Your Thinking	5	0	5
Embracing Fatherhood	0	0	0
VOICES	4	0	4

	18-21 Started	18-21 Completed	Currently Enrolled
Anger Management	17	10	14
Unlock Your Thinking	17	12	3
Embracing Fatherhood	0	3	0
VOICES	14	15	10

PROGRAMS AND TREATMENT HONORABLE MENTIONS

- ❖ Job Readiness Fair Community resources, employment connections, mock interviews, and resume building.
- ❖ Reentry Needs Surveys Completed upon intake (accused/sentenced) with Reentry Counselor to assess needs.
- ❖ Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board
 - Drivers Education 30-hour course, Learner's Permit test upon discharge, and behind-the-wheel training.
 - VR Goggle work experience.
 - OSHA 10 training.
- ❖ MYI Give Back Program Youth are encouraged to complete community service projects in a positive way. Anyone can give to the community regardless of where you are from.
 - April - MYI youth organized and assembled 60 bags of toiletries for a homeless shelter in the community. Items were donated by the staff. A Community Building Circle (practice) was formed after and many shared how it felt good to give back not because they had to but because they chose to.
 - September MYI Kids gave to Kids - Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Youth could donate a \$1 or more and participate in a basketball hoop challenge to raise funds to create awareness. MYI raised and donated \$111.
- ❖ MYI Connections - an email point of contact, was created to allow for youth who have been discharged, to reach out to MYI staff and either keep MYI staff updated on how they are doing, need work boots and don't have the resources or any other reason to ensure their success back into the community.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ❖ IAHV Prison Program: Evidence based stress management and rehabilitative that transforms mindsets, behaviors, and attitudes aiming to break the cycle of violence and reducing re-offending. (Formerly Prison SMART)
- ❖ The Workplace: Platform to Reentry will provide work readiness training, job search, and placement assistance.
- ❖ CT Money Works/Money School: Financial Literacy
 - Setting goals, understanding credit reports, dealing with debt, and paying bills.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

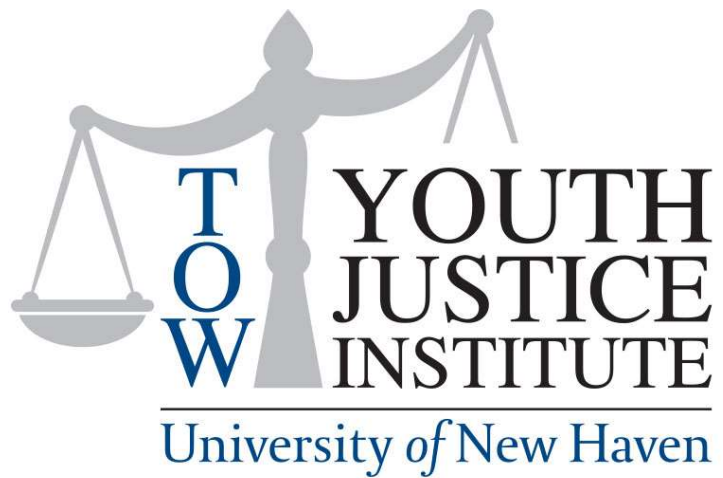
❖ MYI Podcast: For the youth by the youth

- Enhance writing skills, gain public speaking experience, and technical skills in a creative forum.

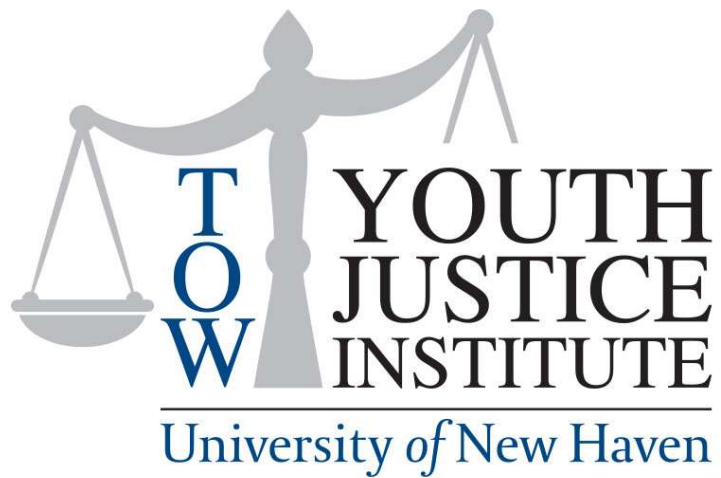
❖ MYI Newsletter: Fall Edition 2023

Organized by the Community Council, writing collective stories, and poetry, and coming together to creatively reach the entire population. The newsletter will be uploaded to the tablet.





Questions
and
Discussion



Next Meeting
October 19, 2023
2:00PM – 3:30PM

