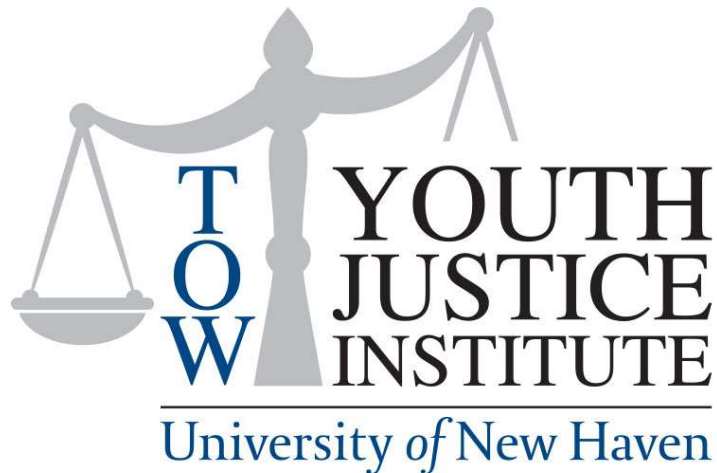


Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

December 14, 2023 Meeting

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

LOB- 300 Capitol Ave Hartford, Room 2C / Hybrid



[SCAN TO SUBMIT YOUR ATTENDANCE](#)

Opening Remarks



- Welcome and Introductions - Rep Toni Walker and Under Sec. Marc Pelka
 - Approval of November 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - Announcements
- Overview of Meeting- Erika Nowakowski, Tow Youth Justice Institute

Meeting Agenda



Dalio Report: CONNECTICUT'S UNSPOKEN CRISIS

Barbara Dalio, Founder and Co-CEO, Dalio Ed.
Andrew Ferguson, Co-CEO, Dalio Education
Adhlere Coffy, Senior Portfolio Director,
Connecticut Opportunity Project
Chris Lyddy, Director of Partnerships, Dalio Ed.

JJPOC 2024 Recommendations Vote

JJPOC Workgroup Chairs

A light blue outline map of the state of Connecticut is centered on the page. The map shows the state's irregular shape, including its coastline and the notch at the top.

Connecticut's Unspoken Crisis

Getting young people back on track



Barbara Dalio

Founder and Co-CEO, Dalio Education

Andrew Ferguson

Co-CEO, Dalio Education

Adhlere Coffy

Senior Portfolio Director, Connecticut Opportunity Project

Chris Lyddy

Director of Partnerships, Dalio Education

For more information, visit: www.DalioEducation.org/Report
Chris Lyddy at Chris.Lyddy@dalioeducation.org

Integrated Data Analysis

**Collaboration with Connecticut's leaders and longitudinal data system
P20 WIN (Preschool through 20 Workforce Information Network)**

This research is the first to utilize an individual-level, longitudinal database that integrates data from:

- Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness
- Department of Children & Families
- Department of Labor
- Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
- State Department of Education

This research also incorporates data from:

- Judicial Branch
- Department of Correction
- American Community Survey

And it leverages extensive qualitative research, including more than 100 interviews with stakeholders across Connecticut.



On-Track

Young people aged 14–26 who are engaged in prosocial institutions and on-track for gainful employment

At-Risk

High school students who are at risk of not graduating and, therefore, also at risk for eventual disconnection. Category has three sub-populations:

- **Off-track:** Students who do not meet state credit attainment requirements
- **At-risk due to other factors:** Students who exhibit concerning rates of absenteeism and/or behavioral issues
- **Severely off-track:** Students who are both off-track and at-risk due to other factors

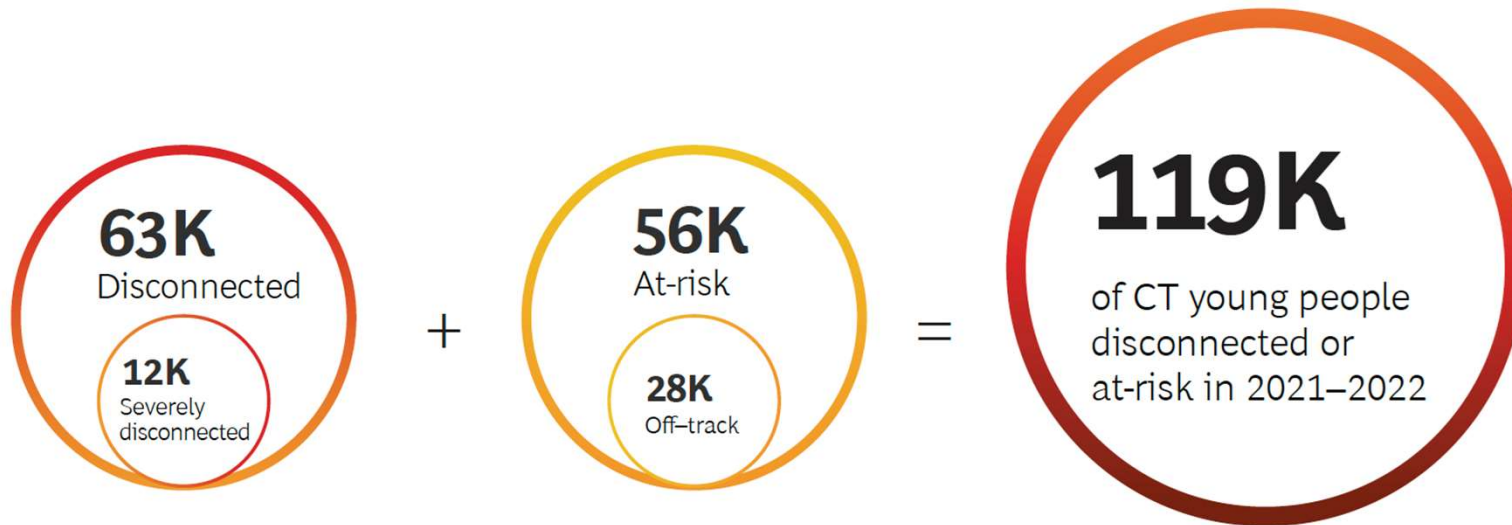
Disconnected

Young people aged 14-26 who are not engaged in prosocial institutions and/or not on-track for gainful employment.¹ Category has two sub-populations:

- **Moderately disconnected:**
(1) High school diploma holders who are neither employed nor in postsecondary and
(2) high school non-graduates who are employed
- **Severely disconnected:** Young people who are not employed, have not attained a high school diploma/equivalent and/or are incarcerated

1. Includes participation in workforce training programs

1 in 5 Young People (ages 14-26)



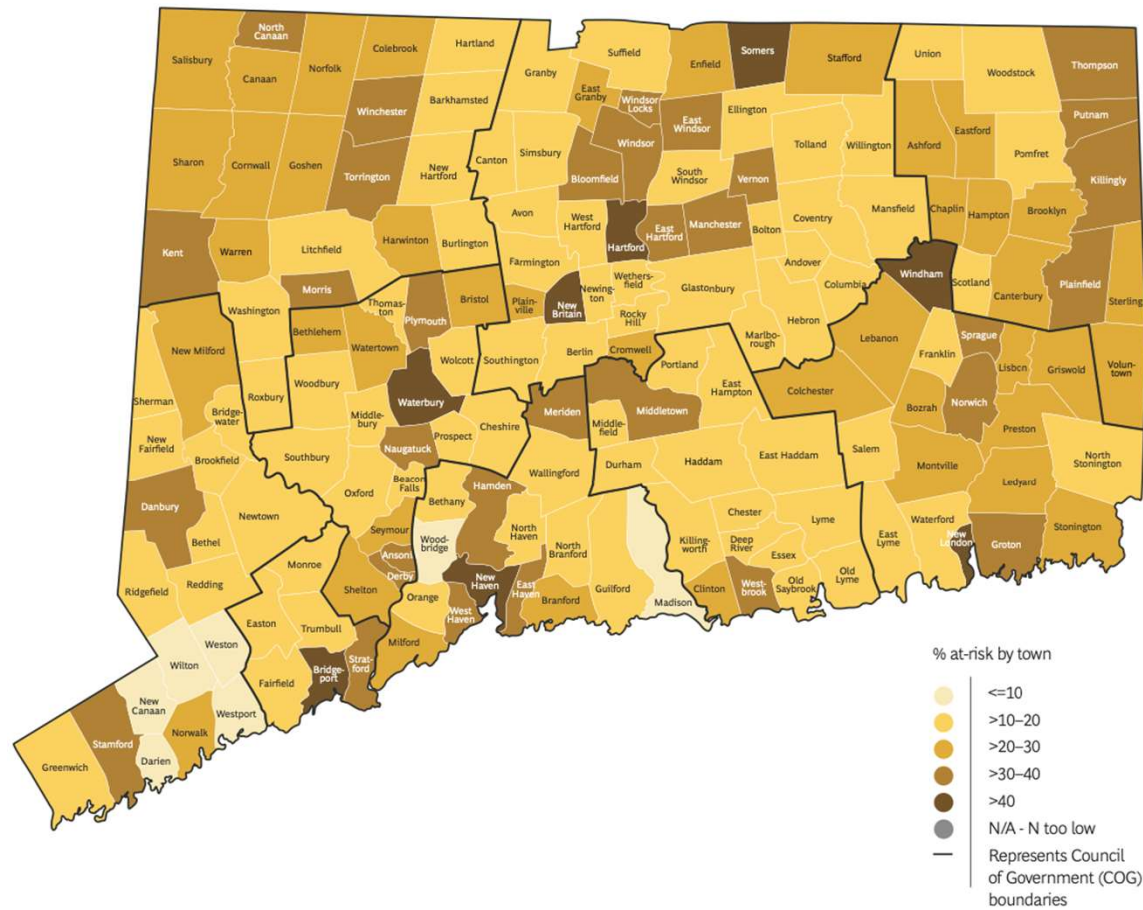
CT's Eight Largest Cities

42% of CT's at-risk students and 36% of disconnected young people

Name	# at-risk students	% at-risk	# newly disconnected young people	% of 14-26 year-olds exiting high school who were newly disconnected
Bridgeport	3,050	42%	711	41%
Hartford	3,618	53%	677	42%
New Haven	2,748	45%	553	39%
Waterbury	2,567	45%	480	36%
Stamford	1,793	34%	390	31%
Danbury	1,328	34%	291	32%
Norwalk	1,114	28%	242	27%
New Britain	1,775	49%	303	35%

Widespread Graduation Concerns

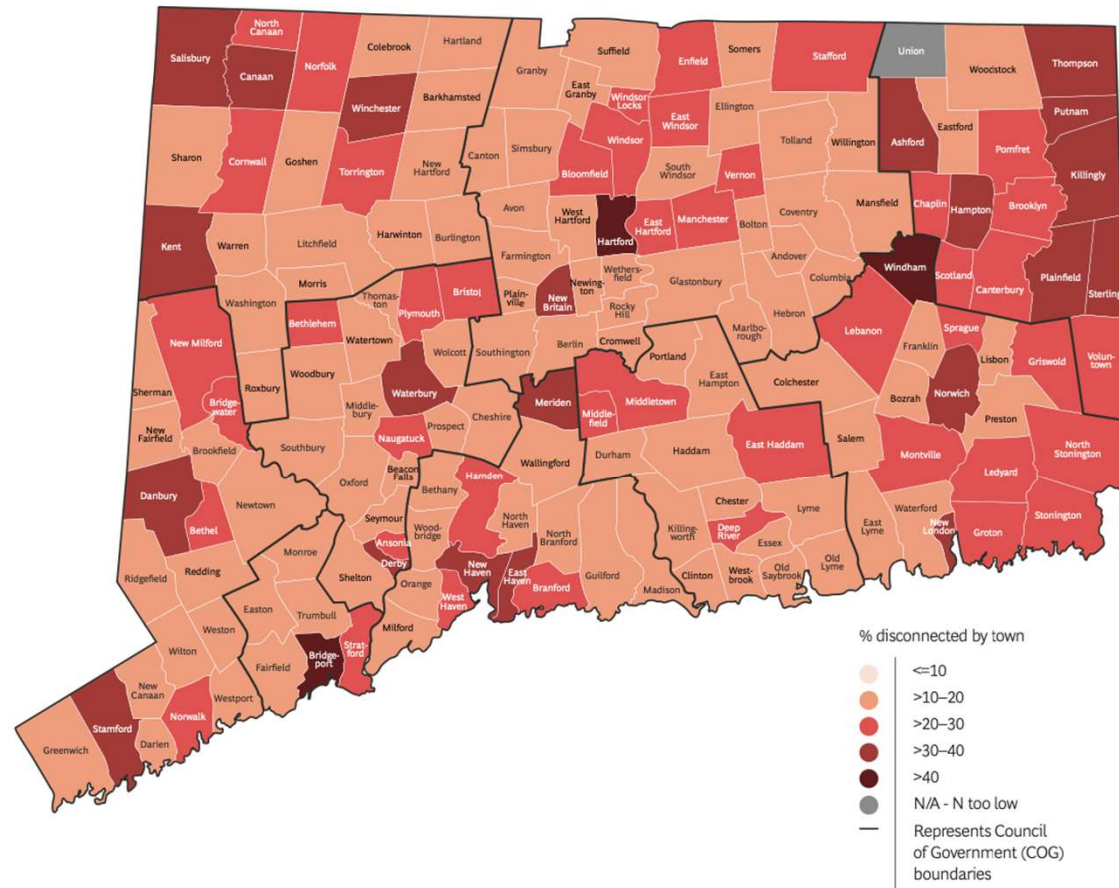
High school students at-risk of not graduating (% at-risk by town)



Source: P20 WIN (2017-2022), BCG analysis

Widespread Need Impacting Every Community

Young people experiencing disconnection (% by town, age 14-26)



Source: P20 WIN (2017-2022), BCG analysis

Note: % disconnected by town, age 14–26.

Stark Differences by Race/Ethnicity

Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino young people are **twice as likely** to experience disconnection compared to White people.

41% of young men of color end up disconnected in Connecticut.

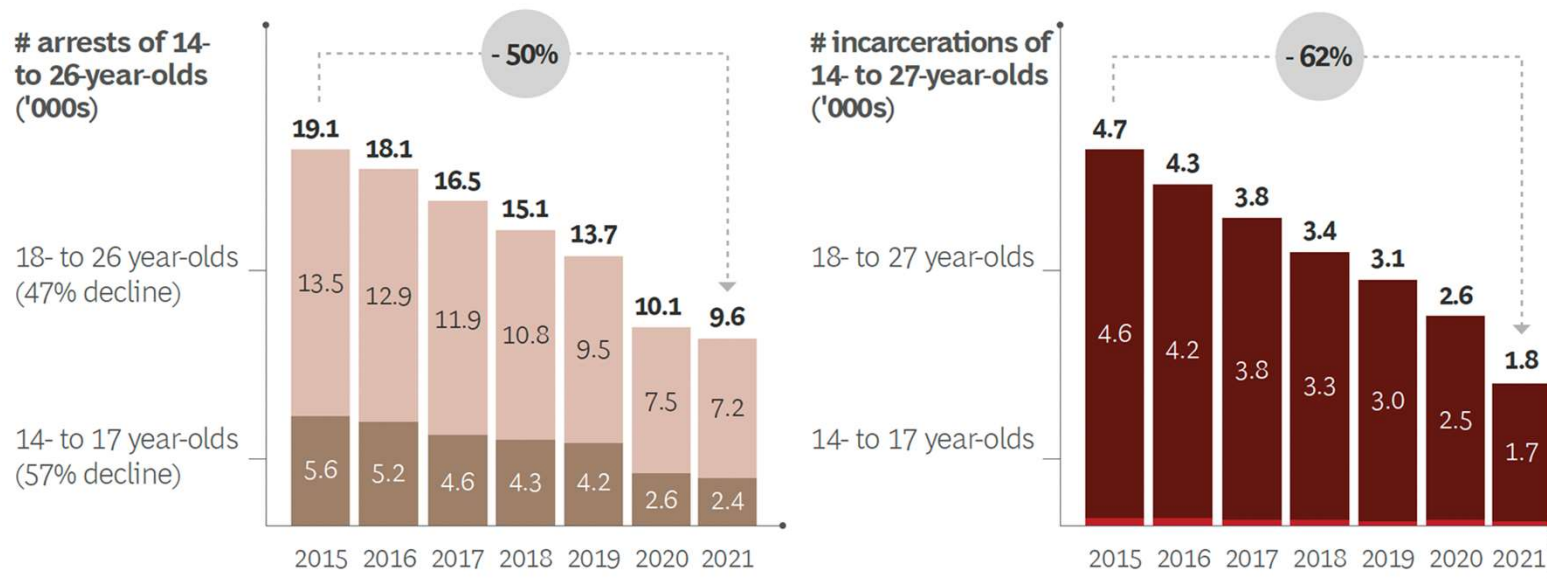
Factors Associated with Disconnection

	Factor	% of young people who exited high school that experienced this factor	% of those experiencing this factor who ended up disconnected	Likelihood of disconnection vs. not experiencing this factor
Out of school factors	Has received select services from Department of Children and Families*	15%	46%	2.3x
	Has received any services from Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services since age 18	3%	55%	2.3x
	Has received any services from Connecticut's Homeless Response System since age 14	1%	63%	2.7x
Additional in school factors	Has ever attended a high-poverty school in high school	18%	44%	2.2x
	Has ever been involved in special Education in high school	16%	47%	2.4x
	Transient—has moved high schools two or more times	9%	52%	2.4x
	Has ever been involved in alternative Education in high school	4%	67%	3.0x

* Has received Child Protective Services, or >=1 Contracted Service, from Dept. of Children and Families since age 14
This is not a causation analysis.

Criminal and Juvenile Justice System Involvement

Arrests and incarcerations are down significantly from 2015 to 2021



The Challenge of Repeat Offenders

More needs to be done to re-engage the most disconnected young people, who are often repeat offenders

Among the 9,600 young people who were arrested in 2021, 49% had already been arrested at least once in the past 6 years, and **29% had been arrested at least three times.**

Among the 604 juvenile auto theft arrests over the first 6 months of 2023, 20% were for a second auto theft offense; **another 20% were for a third offense or higher.**

The Economic Costs for Connecticut are Enormous

Connecticut is leaving between \$650 million and \$750 million on the table every year by not addressing this statewide crisis:

- **Real annual cost:** Between **\$350 million and \$400 million**, accounting for what Connecticut is currently paying for young people who are disconnected in costs associated with Medicaid, SNAP, rental assistance, TANF, and incarceration.
- **Additional opportunity cost:** If all disconnected young people were re-engaged by the time they reach 26 years old, Connecticut could realize **\$300 million to \$350 million** in additional tax revenue, driven by higher earnings, which then translate to higher income taxes and greater levels of consumer activity.

Recommendations for Local Leaders

Increase Visibility

- Improve school district **data systems and practices** to identify and support at-risk students.
- Publish **annual reports** about at-risk/disconnected young people.

Improve Coordination

- Establish **cross-sector coalitions and partnerships** focused on supporting at-risk/disconnected young people.
- Designate an **entity in every municipality or region** responsible for supporting disconnected young people.

Expand capacity

- Significantly strengthen the **capacity of organizations** that serve at-risk/disconnected young people.
- Invest in **expanding supports and services** for at-risk/disconnected young people.

Fund Effective Programs

- Invest in **high-touch case management** for at-risk/disconnected young people.
- Invest in **tackling chronic absenteeism**.
- Invest in **strengthening pathways** from disconnection to employment.

JJPOC 2024 Recommendations

Voting Protocol

- A quorum of 21 JJPOC members must be present
- Each JJPOC members has one vote on each recommendation. The recommendations will be presented to the Committee with the opportunity appointed members to offer friendly amendments. After the Committee comes to consensus on the recommendation language, the vote will take place.
- TYJI staff will call role announcing Committee member names and, in their absence, designee names.
- For Committee members joining in person, when called you will need to turn your microphone on and vote for, against or abstain (yay, nay, abstain) from the recommendation. For Committee members joining virtually, you will need to turn your camera on, unmute yourself on zoom and vote for, against or abstain (yay, nay, abstain) from the recommendation.
- Consensus shall be reached through a majority of members voting “yay”

Education Workgroup 2024 Recommendation



Public institutions of higher education (including community colleges, professional and technical schools) in the state of Connecticut shall not request nor require information from applicants regarding their school disciplinary history for the purpose of admission.

Gender Responsiveness Workgroup 2024 Recommendations

- a. Amend Public Act 14-217 Sec. 79 – insert (k): there shall be the creation of a Gender Responsiveness Workgroup created in partnership with Trafficking in Persons Council (TIPC), responsible for:
 - i. Creating a landscape analysis and conducting a gap assessment of gender responsive work in the state; no later than January 1, 2025
 1. Define what is meant by gender responsive and what makes a practice gender responsive
 2. Hear from youth, families, and communities directly impacted
 3. Review national best practices – approaches, service types, and system considerations
 4. Review past work and legislation on gender responsiveness
 5. Identify gaps resulting from system/program changes.
 6. Review existing work and practices on gender responsiveness among agencies and community providers
 7. Review data, broken down by race and ethnicity, gender, age, location, and level of system involvement (type of offense/ judicial handling).

Gender Responsiveness Workgroup 2024 Recommendations Continued

- ii. Collaboratively develop a framework for reporting, collecting, and distributing police data on human trafficking.
 - 1. TYJI collaborate with TIPC and generate regular analysis and reports for data collected, received, and reported to TIPC or through JJPOC Gender Responsiveness Workgroup regarding human trafficking.
- iii. Compile a set of legislative and or policy recommendations for JJPOC and TIPC to consider.
 - 1. Recommendations for improvements to the continuum of care that include trauma informed and culturally informed approaches, services, treatment, and permanency models for girls and include:
 - a. Continuity of clinical support across a continuum of placement/treatment settings.
 - b. Specialized treatment foster care for girls who have experienced sexual abuse and/or domestic minor sex trafficking, including children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.
 - c. Specialized training for direct care providers and treatment providers.
 - d. Consistent and constant source of support (e.g., peer mentor, therapist) for the young person.
 - e. Programs and practices that are developed with the input of sexual abuse and trafficking survivors.
 - f. Service and treatment setting options that specifically address the needs of children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.
 - g. Examination of successful treatment/support models from other jurisdictions to inform service enhancement in CT.
 - h. Supports for youth who identify as trans or gender non-conforming
 - i. Diversion options through JORB or other diversion models
 - j. Quality assurance framework/monitoring framework

Gender Responsiveness Workgroup 2024 Recommendations Continued

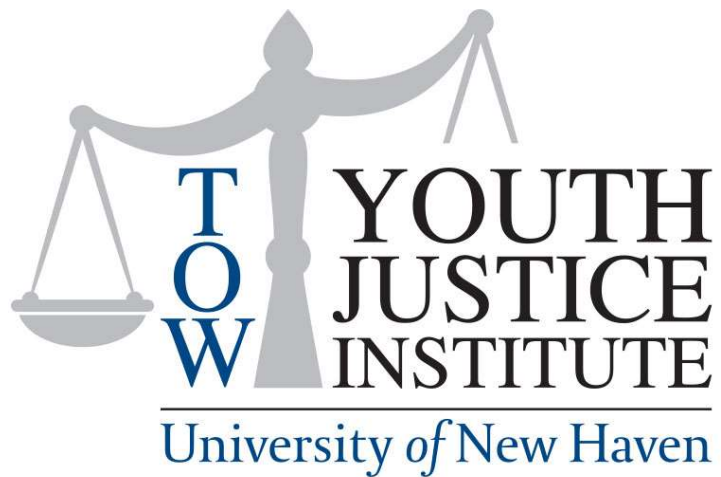


- iii. The Gender Responsiveness Workgroup and Transforming Children’s Behavioral Health Committee will share information on gender responsive practices and policies for youth with child welfare involvement.

Incarceration Workgroup, Reentry Subgroup



1. Mentorship (e.g., credible messengers, reintegration mentors) will be expanded to serve interested youth reentering from DOC, JBCSSD facilities, and contracted programs. This support will be available to youth for up to 24 months from the time of release.
2. JBCSSD and DOC will ensure that youth, prior to reentering from juvenile-serving facilities or contracted programs, will have started, and whenever possible, completed job readiness and/or career training programs with imbedded industry-recognized credentials, certifications, or licenses. The facility or contracted program will collaborate with the youth and coordinating entity to support the youth in seeking, and whenever possible finding, employment prior to release and sustaining employment after release.
3. The JJPOC Reentry Subgroup will continue to meet, with the continued participation of CSDE, DCF, DOC, JBCSSD, DOL, DSS, DMHAS, and DOH to complete the Quality Assurance Framework and Funding Sections of the 2023 Reentry Success Plan.



Next Meeting
January 18, 2024

TYJI will be closed 12/21/23-01/02/24