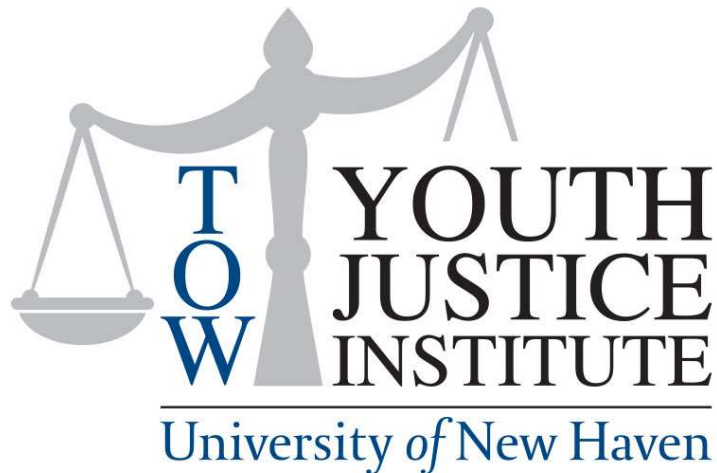


# ***Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee***

***January 18, 2024 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 Maurice Reaves
  - Approval of December 2023 Meeting Minutes
  - Announcements
- Overview of Meeting- Erika Nowakowski, Tow Youth Justice Institute

# Meeting Agenda



Department of Social Services; Medicaid  
Waiver Announcement

William Halsey, Deputy Director of Medicaid  
and Division Health Services, DSS

Judicial Branch, Court Support Services  
Implementation Plan

Catherine Foley Geib, Director of Clinical, Division (JBCSSD);  
Education, & Juvenile Residential Services;  
Kelly Orts, Program Manager, Special Projects

JJPOC 2024 Recommendations Vote

JJPOC Workgroup Chairs

# Department of Social Services Medicaid Waiver Announcement

# JBCSSD, Implementation Plan



# Transferred Juveniles Custody Plan and Implementation Report

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JUDICIAL BRANCH COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

CATHERINE FOLEY GEIB, DIRECTOR OF JUVENILE RESIDENTIAL, CLINICAL, & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

KELLY ORTS, PROGRAM MANAGER OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

January 18, 2024

# Legislative Task

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The Judicial Branch shall develop an implementation plan to securely house in the custody of the Judicial Branch any person under eighteen years of age who is arrested and detained prior to sentencing or disposition on or after January 1, 2023.

Not later than July 1, 2023, the Judicial Branch shall begin a review and update of the implementation plan and include provisions for the full and final transition of all children from the care and custody of the Department of Correction and into the care and custody of the Judicial Branch. Such updated plan shall include a phased-in timetable for full implementation and estimated costs for each phase of such implementation.

Not later than December 15, 2023, the Judicial Branch shall submit the plan and any recommendations for legislation, funding, or policy changes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and to the JJPOC.

# Work Group Membership

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1. Center for Children's Advocacy
2. Connecticut Justice Alliance
3. Department of Children and Families
4. Department of Correction
5. JJPOC Community Expertise Workgroup
6. Judicial Branch Administrative Services Division
7. Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division
8. Judicial Branch, Juvenile Matters
9. Judicial Branch Office of External Affairs
10. Office of Chief Public Defender
11. Office of Chief State's Attorney
12. Office of the Child Advocate
13. Office of Policy and Management



# Work Group Process

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- The Work Group met 7 times between August 2023 – November 2023
- Additional subgroups met to focus on specific areas, including implementation language, risk and needs of the transferred juvenile population, and current facility operation costs
- The Judicial Branch toured Manson Youth Institution and York Correctional Institution to understand current juvenile housing, operations, and programming
- The Judicial Branch toured 1225 Silver Street, Middletown and explored other state property options
- Reviewed current DOC and JBCSSD data
- Met with DESPP to review bond out process
- Surveyed adult court judges, public defenders and social workers, and prosecutors involved in transferred juvenile cases to solicit feedback on current challenges and service needs.

# Facility Needs

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- The Judicial Branch estimates it will need additional daily housing capacity for approximately **50** pretrial transferred juvenile males who have cases pending in adult court.
- Given the extended length of stay, a facility that can adequately meet the educational, vocational, recreational, and other developmental needs of the transferred juvenile population is required.
- Given the small number of transferred juvenile females, the Legislature may want to consider phasing this group into the care and custody of the Judicial Branch prior to the transferred juvenile males. If the number of girls referred to the juvenile court system remains low, the Judicial Branch may be able to absorb the small number of transferred juvenile females into its current operation and facilities.

# Transferred Juvenile Population Data

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## Under 18 Year Old Offenders

### Population on July 1st

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MYI	61	47	47	39	48	45
YCI	2	3	2	0	1	2

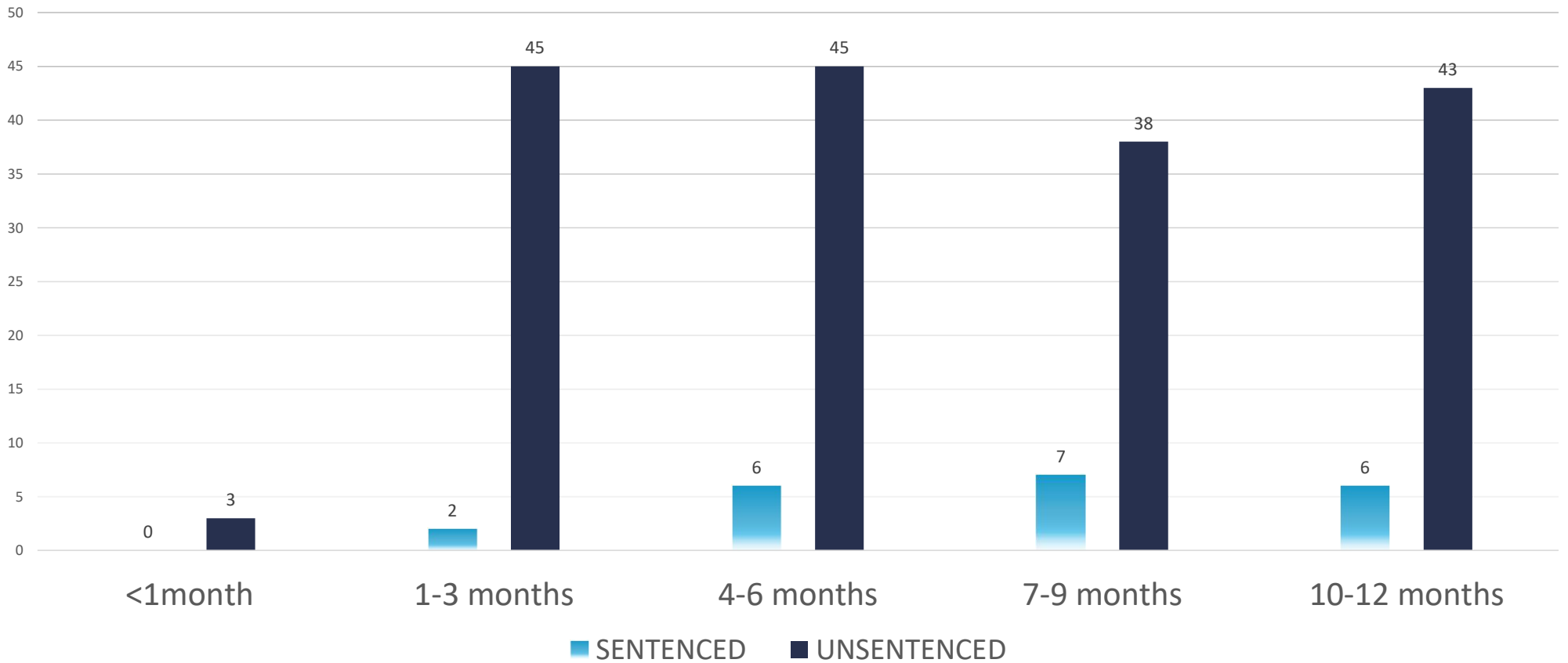
### Pretrial Status on July 1st

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MYI	45	34	39	36	41	37
YCI	2	3	1	0	1	2

### Post-Conviction Status on July 1st

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MYI	16	13	8	3	7	8
YCI	0	0	1	0	0	0

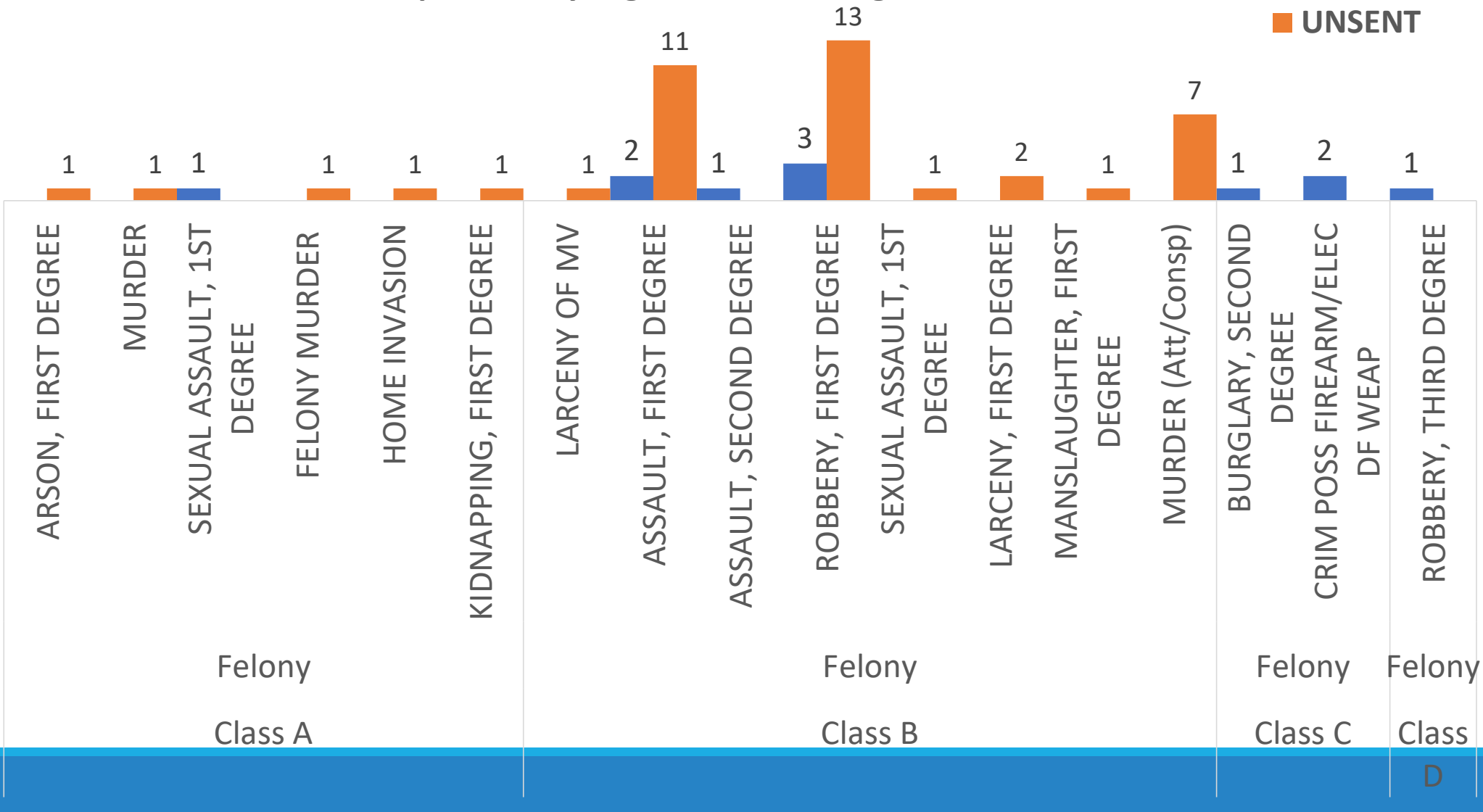
## AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY AT MYI IN 2022 FOR TRANSFERRED JUVENILES UNDER 18



# Under-18 MYI Population by Legal Status & Charge on October 13, 2023

SENT YR+  
UNSENT

14  
12  
10  
8  
6  
4  
2  
0



# Work Group Recommendation

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**Conduct feasibility and design studies of 1225 Silver St, Middletown, formerly occupied by the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS), to understand the design, utilization, costs, and timelines for renovations to serve the transferred juvenile population.**

<b>Estimated Cost of Studies:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>Estimated Timeframe to Completion of Studies:</b>	<b>18-24 months</b>

The Judicial Branch will not be able to develop more accurate estimates of cost and time until feasibility and design studies are completed, and it is unknown whether mandated timeframes for procurement procedures are waived by the Legislature.

The Policy Recommendations of the previous report remain the same.

# Work Group Recommendation

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A redesign of the property will focus on four buildings; 2, 4, 8, and 3 (large multipurpose building including school, vocational workshops, food services and dining, gymnasium, and conference space).

The **Schematic Design Study** will assess the design of the space, including, but not limited to, the interior (kitchen, bedrooms, etc.), foot traffic, building connections, and overall therapeutic environment of the interior spaces.

The **Feasibility/Due Diligence Study** will assess the four buildings and surrounding campus:

- Facilities (Building Envelope-Roof, Windows, Façade), Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Fuel Cell)
- Site (Exterior Space Needs, Access to the Site for Clients, Visitors, Employees, Deliveries, Parking, Recreation)
- Blocking & Stacking of Programmatic Needs (Security, Intake, Living Areas, Classrooms, Workshops, Dining/Kitchen Areas, Laundry, Recreation, Offices)

# Benefits

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- Sufficient space to meet developmental needs
- Numerous vocational & educational opportunities
- Office and group space for treatment, programming, and staff
- Large outdoor and indoor recreation areas
- Centrally located and adequate parking
- Safe and secure environment that prevents crowding reducing incidences of disruptive behavior, peer conflict, and suicidal ideation
- Estimated implementation timeframe shorter and cost lower than for new build

# Limitations

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- Currently not a state surplus property; it's in use
- Larger space than needed for a small population of 50 - 65 youth
- Requires a large amount of staff to run facility
- Redesign and renovations may be constrained by budget, which may result in the setting feeling less therapeutic and educational than proposed



# Work Group Recommendation

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**The estimate for using the property at 1225 Silver Street, Middletown is based on current JBCSSD operating costs and includes:**

- **\$24,200,000 in renovation costs**
- **\$33,678,180 in annual operating costs**
- **10 to 16 years timeline to complete**

An additional 5% of annual operating costs is added per year to reflect the 3% COLA for salaries and 2% inflation for other operating expenses. The cost estimates for the first few years will be significantly higher due to the need to purchase equipment, furniture, and to fund other start-up costs.

- Vocational equipment includes, but is not limited to, such as forklift and truck simulators, barbershop expenses, music studio expenses, CNC woodworking machines, spray paint simulators, tablets, and other electronic training aides

**Significant budget, collective bargaining, and policy issues must be addressed before the recommendations in this report can be implemented.**

# Estimated Phased-In Timeline

<b>Phase 1</b> <b>(2.5-3.5 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capital Bond Authorization approved by Legislature and Governor for Design and Construction</li><li>• Complete Feasibility/Due Diligence Study and Schematic Design Study</li><li>• Conduct a population assessment to confirm capacity need</li></ul>
<b>Phase 2</b> <b>(3.5-4.5 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fund allocation and project approval</li><li>• MOU and transfer of property</li></ul>
<b>Phase 3</b> <b>(2-3.5 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete DAS contracting and bid process with all approvals, including SPRB approval for CA services during construction</li><li>• Renovations</li></ul>
<b>Phase 4</b> <b>(1-1.5 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop Policy, Operations, and Programming</li><li>• Contract for services</li><li>• Hire and train new staff or train transferred staff from DOC</li></ul>
<b>Phase 5</b> <b>(0.5-1 year)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transfer 15- and 16-year-olds</li></ul>
<b>Phase 6</b> <b>(0.5-1 year)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hire and Train more new staff or additional transferred staff from DOC</li></ul>
<b>Phase 7</b> <b>(0.5-1 year)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transfer 17-year-olds</li></ul>

# Questions?

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**Catherine Foley Geib, Director of Juvenile Residential, Clinical, & Educational Services**

[CatherineFoley.Geib@jud.ct.gov](mailto:CatherineFoley.Geib@jud.ct.gov)

**Kelly Orts, Program Manager of Special Projects**

[Kelly.Orts@jud.ct.gov](mailto:Kelly.Orts@jud.ct.gov)



# JJPOC 2024 Recommendation Vote Continued

Recommendations from the Gender Responsive Workgroup were voted on and passed at the December JJPOC Meeting

January's Meeting is the vote on Re-entry Subgroup Recommendations and the Education Workgroup Recommendation

# 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 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

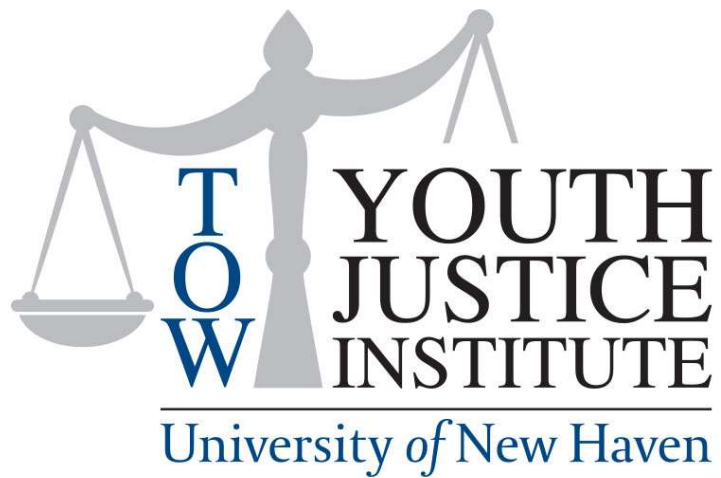


Public institutions of higher education (including community colleges, professional and technical schools) in the state of Connecticut shall not request nor require information from applicants regarding their school disciplinary history for the purpose of admission.

# Incarceration Workgroup, Reentry Subgroup 2024 Recommendations



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  
**February 15, 2024**