



YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Youth Services Commissions are mandated by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission to serve in each county as a juvenile justice planning body. The County Youth Services Commissions were established to examine the individual and unique needs of youth in their communities and to develop programs and sentencing options for their youth.



PROGRAM SERVICES 2020

A Service of the Union County
Board of Chosen Freeholders

UNION COUNTY
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YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

OUR MISSION & GOALS

The Union County Youth Services Commission (YSC) is a state-mandated committee represented by state and local juvenile justice stakeholders that plan, monitor and implement programs and services to at-risk youth and those youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

YSC meets monthly to review local service provider outcomes, distribute information on upcoming events and plan initiatives in response to identified gaps in meeting Union County Continuum of Care objectives.

YSC MISSION

To engage in juvenile justice planning and priority-setting in developing new community programming for juveniles and monitoring the effectiveness of existing programs in the community for at-risk youth and youth offenders that assist clients in becoming independent, healthy, and safe.

YSC GOALS

- Better outcomes for clients and communities through collaboration, integration and shared responsibility.
- Reduce delinquency and antisocial behaviors resulting in youth incarceration and recidivism.

UNION COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION 2020 GENERAL MEETING CALENDAR

Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted, and are held in the Union County Administration Building, 6th floor, Freeholders conference room. We look forward to your participation in making this a productive year.

DATE	LOCATION
January 2020	No Meeting
February 4, 2020	6th Fl. Conference Rm
March 3, 2020.....	6th Fl. Conference Rm
April 2020	No Meeting
May 5, 2020.....	6th Fl. Conference Rm
June 2020	No Meeting
July 7, 2020	6th Fl. Conference Rm
August 2020	No Meeting
September 1, 2020.....	6th Fl. Conference Rm
October 6, 2020.....	6th Fl. Conference Rm
November 2020.....	No Meeting
December 1, 2020.....	6th Fl. Conference Rm

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

POINTS OF INTERVENTION DEFINITIONS

Each of the programs in the Union County Youth Services Commission Continuum of Care has a specific goal.

PREVENTION: To prevent youth from engaging in anti-social and delinquent behavior and from taking part in other problem behaviors that are pathways to delinquency.

DIVERSION: To provide services and/or informal sanctions to youth who have begun to engage in anti-social and low level delinquent behavior in an effort to prevent youth from continuing on a delinquent pathway.

DETENTION/DETENTION ALTERNATIVE: To ensure youth's presence at court hearings and to provide short term (45-60 days) supervision sufficient to safely maintain appropriate youth in the community while awaiting the final disposition of their case.

DISPOSITION: To provide the court with a range of options that match the supervision and service needs of youth in their communities in an effort to reduce recidivism.

REENTRY: To provide youth transitioning from JJC residential programs and youth returning from secure facilities with additional support for successful reintegration into their communities in an effort to reduce recidivism.



SERVICES

PREVENTION

Performing Arts Program
Mentoring & Youth Development Program

DIVERSION

Family Crisis Mediation and Program Services Linkage

DETENTION/DETENTION ALTERNATIVE

Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program
Electronic Monitoring Case Management Program

DISPOSITION

Substance Abuse Treatment
Early Intervention & Sexual Offender Treatment
Individual & Family Counseling

DISPOSITION & REENTRY

High School Equivalency Preparation & Tutoring

REENTRY

Reentry Mentoring

JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVE INITIATIVE

Family Engagement Program
Career Exploration and Job Readiness Program

PREVENTION

Service: Performing Arts Program

Program: Union County Performing Arts Program

Agency: Institute of Music for Children

Address: 780 Salem Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Telephone: (908) 469-1211 **Fax:** (908) 353-5614

Contact Person: Alysia Souder, Executive Director

Email: info@instituteofmusic.org



Service Description: The Institute of Music for Children's Afterschool and Summer programs will provide Union County pre-teens and teens, ages 8-18, with delinquency prevention services including: instruction in performing arts (voice, drama, dance, spoken word), instrumental music (guitar, drums, piano, harp violin, cello), and/or multi-media (electric music or video production), with a focus on sustained motivation, regular attendance, at-home practice, and public performance.

Target Population: Union County youth between the ages of 8-18.

Points of Continuum: Prevention and Diversion

Hours: Fall, Winter, and Spring: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 4:30pm-8:00pm; Friday: 4:45pm-9:30pm;

Saturday: 9:30am-3:00pm

Summer: Monday-Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm

Youth can be referred by: Families and Community Members

Services: Mentoring & Youth Development
Program: Union County Mentoring & Youth Development Program

Agency: Communities in Cooperation, Inc.
Address: 1025 John Street, Linden, NJ 07036 with three Union County Mentoring Hub-sites 1)Linden 2) Elizabeth 3) Plainfield
Telephone: (908) 290-3107 **Fax:** (908) 718-5889
Contact Person: Pamela B. Jones, CEO **Email:** cicdirector@yahoo.com

Service Description: Using fun activities and interactive group methods, youth and their mentors engage to ensure mentoring does not occur by chance. This program is a comprehensive youth development initiative with individual, group, and peer mentoring occasionally involving parent participation with a connection to any needed family resources. Role models are integrated into the process to help youth focus on their future (careers and lifestyles). By using evidence based curriculums, youth have the opportunity to improve social behaviors, individual differences in thinking, reasoning, decision making and their self-esteem. Additionally, youth are provided tools for team building using group activities to assist in their positive development. The sessions are, at a minimum, one hour per week, year-round, with a minimum of 26 weeks of participation required in a calendar year to complete the program.

Target Population: At-risk youth in Union County (8 to 16 years of age), with no involvement in the Juvenile Justice system
Point of Continuum: Prevention
Hours: Plainfield Location: Wednesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm; Elizabeth Location: Fridays: 6:00pm-8:00pm; Roselle/Linden Locations: Thursdays 5:00pm-6:30pm
(based on closings and other facility scheduling needs, the days and times listed are subject to change)
Youth can be referred by: Schools, Government Agencies, Police Departments, Community and Faith-Based Organizations and Local Libraries

Service: Crisis Mediation and Program Services Linkage

Program: Family Crisis Intervention Unit (FCIU)

Agency: Union County Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services

Address: 1141-1145 East Jersey Street Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Telephone: (908) 558-2520 **Fax:** (908) 558-2540

Contact Person: Victoria Jones, Supervisor **E-mail:** vjones@ucnj.org

Service Description: The Family Crisis Intervention Unit (FCIU) is a legislatively mandated program for families experiencing family conflict, runaway behavior, truancy, minor delinquency, a threat to safety issues, and human trafficking within the family unit warranting intervention. The goal is to mediate the immediate crisis and make recommendations to prevent involvement or further involvement with the court. When all appropriate resources are exhausted, and the family is still in crisis, FCIU has the option of filing a Family Crisis Petition with Family Court. This program has 24/7 response capability.

Targeted Population: Union County youth between the ages of 11-17

Point of Continuum: Diversion

Hours: Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

with late nights until 7:30pm on Mondays and 7pm on Tuesdays

Crisis calls have 24/7 response capability.

Youth can be referred by: Families, Community Members, Police Departments and Schools



DETENTION/DETENTION ALTERNATIVE

Service: Union County Electronic Monitoring (Installation and Removal Only)

Program: Union County Dept. of Corrections Juvenile Detention Bureau Electronic Monitoring Program

Agency: Union County Department of Corrections Juvenile Detention Bureau

Address: 7 Elizabethtown Plaza, 7th Floor Garage Elizabeth, NJ 07207

Telephone: (908) 965-3773 **Fax:** (908) 436-2905

Contact Person: Ronald Charles **E-mail:** rcharles@ucnj.org

Service Description:

The Union County Dept. of Corrections Juvenile Detention Bureau Electronic Monitoring Program is utilized as an alternative to secure detention upon release, while awaiting disposition to assist in sustaining Union County's continuing participation in New Jersey's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). Thirty-five (35) youth are to be served in this program annually. Union County Dept. of Corrections Juvenile Detention Bureau will install and remove the Electronic Monitoring (EM) units as well as provide initial intake.

Targeted Population: Union County youth between the ages of 11-17, in need of a detention alternative

Point of Continuum: Detention/Detention Alternative

Hours: Staff are available 24/7

Youth can be referred by: Family Court

Service: Electronic Monitoring Case Management
Program: Electronic Monitoring Case Management Supportive Services

Agency: Union County Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services
Address: 1141-1145 East Jersey Street Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Telephone: (908) 558-2520 **Fax:** (908) 558-2540
Contact Person: Victoria Jones, Supervisor **E-mail:** vjones@ucnj.org

Service Description: This program is a court ordered alternative to secure detention. The primary goal is to prevent detention overcrowding by permitting low risk offenders to be monitored at home while awaiting final court disposition of their case. Youth are monitored 24/7 via a GPS tracking system for compliance with home confinement and other court ordered conditions of release. Program provides linkages to resources as needed.

Targeted Population: Union County youth between ages 11-17, in need of a detention alternative
Point of Continuum: Detention/Detention Alternative
Hours: Office hours Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm
EM staff are available 24/7.
Youth can be referred by: Family Court

DISPOSITION

Service: Substance Abuse Treatment

Program: Trinitas Adolescent Outpatient Substance Abuse Services

Agency: Trinitas Regional Medical Center

Address: 655 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206

Telephone: (908) 994-7376 **Fax:** (908) 994-7354

Contact Person: Luke Salter, Clinical Coordinator **E-mail:** lsalter@trinitas.org

Service Description: A six to nine month program that provides co-occurring mental health and substance abuse treatment for court-involved youth and their families. Services at Trinitas Regional Medical Center provide development of positive coping skills; identification of relapse triggers; individual and family therapy; group therapy; medication management (if applicable); relapse prevention; random drug screens; and regular monitoring. The treatment utilizes an emotionally therapeutic and empathy building approach while emphasizing the development of emotional intelligence and healthy personal empowerment for youth and their families. Our clinical team collaborates with other support agencies that may be involved in their life such as their school, physician, case management, probation officer, parole officer, in order to create a strong and efficient support system.

Target Population: Union County youth between the ages of 13-21 years old

Points of Continuum: Prevention, Diversion, Disposition and Reentry

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-8:00pm; Fridays 8:00am-4:30pm

Youth can be referred by: Parole, Probation, Case Management, Family Court; Union County Youth Services, Schools, Families, Juvenile Justice Commission Facilities, Police, Community, and other Mental Health/Substance Abuse Agencies

Service: Early Intervention & Sexual Offender Treatment

Program: Juvenile Outpatient Early Intervention and Sexual Offender Program

Agency: Trinitas Regional Medical Center

Address: 655 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206

Telephone: (908) 994-7376 **Fax:** (908) 994-7354

Contact Person: Luke Salter, Clinical Coordinator **E-mail:** lsalter@trinitas.org

Service Description: Trinitas Regional Medical Center's Outpatient Early Intervention and Sexual Offender Program provides trauma-sensitive cognitive behavior therapy and sexual offender specific treatment services to at-risk youth who are not involved in the juvenile justice system, court-ordered youth charged with sexual offending behaviors and reentry youth who are returning from JJC residential/secure facility who are referred by Probation and/or Parole. Programming includes individual, group, and family therapy; Union County S.H.A.R.E (Sexual Harassment and Regaining Empowerment) Program for youth ages 11-18 who are either a victim of a cyber sexting crime or those who have committed a cyber sexting crime.

Target Population: Youth between the ages of 13- 21 years old with sexual behaviors and/or sexually abusive behaviors who have been court ordered or serving a term of probation in the disposition category or youth returning from a Juvenile Justice Commission secure and/or residential facility in the re-entry category; youth not court involved who are displaying early signs of inappropriate sexual behavior between the ages of 8-13 years old.

Points of Continuum: Prevention, Diversion, Disposition, and Reentry

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-8:00pm; Fridays 8:30am-4:30pm

Basic Boundaries Group Ages 8-11, Wednesdays 5:00pm-6:00pm; Healthy Boundaries Group, Ages 10-13 Tuesdays 6:00pm-7:00pm

Youth can be referred by: Families, Community Agencies, Family Court



Services: Individual and Family Counseling
Program: Youth Counseling Services

Agency: Family and Children’s Services
Address: 70 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Telephone: (908) 372-1007 **Fax:** (908) 372-1018
Contact Person: Molly Fagan, Executive Director **E-mail:** mfagan@facsnj.org

Service Description: Provides counseling services to 45 youth and their families at a community based setting. Counseling sessions will range between 12 and 15 sessions, with an option for three follow-up sessions determined on a case-by-case basis. The goal of intervention will be to improve youth functioning and family interaction.

Targeted Population: Union County youth between the ages of 13-21
Points of Continuum: Diversion, Disposition, and Reentry
Hours: Monday-Friday 12:00pm-8:00pm
Youth can be referred by: Family Crisis Intervention Unit, Probation, Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP), Parole, and Police



"I know
something
better is on the
road for me."

-Maya Angelou

DISPOSITION & REENTRY

Service: High School Equivalency Preparation and Tutoring

Program: Union County Educational Achievement Center

Agency: Boxwood Learning Center, Inc.

Address: 1143 East Jersey Street, Albender Building, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

115 West Second Avenue, 3rd Floor, Roselle, NJ 07203

Telephone: (908) 241-6862 **Fax:** (866) 861- 6379

Contact Person: Marie Thelusma Chase, Executive Director **E-mail:** mchase@boxwoodnj.org

Service Description: To help young people create their own opportunities by equipping and empowering them to attain higher education and employment levels along with mentoring to aid their transitions to successful adulthood. Services include assistance with preparation for high school equivalency exams; tutoring in various academic subjects; interactive life skills workshops; help with enrolling in college or occupational training; and in securing gainful employment.

Target Population: Union County youth between the ages of 16-21 years old serving a term of probation, youth who are serving a term of parole who lack access to traditional school programs

Points of Continuum: Disposition and Reentry

Hours: **Elizabeth Location (Probationers only):** Monday-Wednesday 12:00pm-3:00 pm

Roselle Location (all Youth): Thursday 12:00pm-3:00pm; (Peer Groups) Friday 6:00pm-9:00pm;

Sunday 2:00pm-6:00pm

Youth can be referred by: Juvenile Probation, Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP), Parole Divisions, and Family Court



Service: Reentry Mentoring
Program: Union County Reentry Wellness Program

Agency: Communities in Cooperation, Inc.
Address: 1025 John Street, Linden, NJ 07036
Telephone: (908) 290-3107 **Fax:** (908) 718-5889
Contact Person: Pamela B. Jones, CEO or Kishon DuBose, Linden Supervisor **Email:** cicreentry@yahoo.com

Service Description: A Union County support based program for youth and their families involved in the Juvenile Justice System (youth on probation or on parole). The goal is to redirect misguided youth through mentoring while helping to reduce recidivism. Youth are assigned program services to possibly include (but not be limited to) mentoring; life-skill services; assisting participant’s navigation of required resources and court systems, influencing and reinforcing positive decision making; assisting in the development of appropriate life structure for self-accountability; acquiring job readiness skills; establishing educational goals; as well as family support and engagement prior to and upon release from a Juvenile Justice Commission facility along with any other services as deemed appropriate.

Target Population: Justice Involved and Adjudicated Union County youth between the ages of 13-21 years old
Points of Continuum: Disposition and Reentry
Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9:00am-6:00pm; Thursday-Friday 1:00pm-8:00pm
Youth can be referred by: Parole, Probation, Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP), and Multi-Disciplinary Teams

“Family is not an
important thing,



it's everything.”

— Michael J. Fox

JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVE INITIATIVE (JDAI) GRANT

Service: Family Engagement Program

Program: Union County Family Engagement Program

Agency: Communities in Cooperation, Inc.

Address: 1025 John Street., Linden, NJ 07036

Telephone: (908) 290-3107 **Fax:** (908) 718-5889

Contact Person: Pamela Jones, CEO or Pamela Long, Family Engagement Specialist

E-mail: rosellefirst@yahoo.com

Service Description: The Union County Family Engagement Program will coordinate programming and service linkages for youth and their families who are court involved. The program uses an evidence-based curriculum to guide, strengthen and engage the family, developing trust and open communication that will support the information-sharing to understand family dynamics. The program inspires families to be their own advocates, in order to work toward goals that will help them understand and get through the court process.

Target Population: Union County residents currently involved in the Juvenile Justice System between the ages of 13-21 and their families. Support services are offered to families of youth previously involved in the Juvenile Justice System.

Point of Continuum: Detention/Disposition

Hours: In Juvenile Court-Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am-11:30am and as needed

Juvenile Court: Wednesday and Thursday from 1:30 to 2:30pm and as needed

Linden Office: Mondays and Tuesdays after 1:00pm as well as Fridays for scheduled appointments

Youth can be referred by: Family Court, Probation, Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP), Union County Juvenile Detention Center, Union County Electronic Monitoring Program, and Multi-Disiplinary Teams

Service: Career Exploration and Job Readiness

Program: Union County Career Exploration and Job Readiness Program

Agency: Boxwood Learning Center, Inc.

Address: 115 West Second Avenue, 3rd Floor, Roselle, NJ 07203

Telephone: (908) 241-6862 **Fax:** (866) 861-6379

Contact Person: Marie Thelusma Chase, Executive Director **E-mail:** mchase@boxwoodnj.org

Service Description: The Union County Career Development and Job Readiness Program will help youth explore career options and prepare them for job placement. It will identify careers that interest youth and match them with job shadowing positions and internships in different fields. Job Readiness activities will provide career exposure in various industries. Parents and guardians will engage with the youth in goal setting in the youth's areas of interest.

Target Population: Union County court-involved youth ages 16-21.

Points of Continuum: Detention/Disposition

Hours: 12:00-5:00pm, or extended hours as needed

Youth can be referred by: Family Court, Probation, Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP), Union County Juvenile Detention Center, Union County Electronic Monitoring Program, and Multi-Disiplinary Teams

MEMBERS

Superior Court of New Jersey, Family Division Union Vicinage
Office of the Prosecutor
Office of the Public Defender
Division of Child Protection and Permanency
NJ Juvenile Justice Commission

UNION COUNTY

Union Vicinage - Probation
Sheriff's Department
Juvenile Officers Association
Workforce Investment Board
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services
Superintendent of Schools
Mental Health Services
Youth Shelter
Juvenile Detention Center
Family Crisis Intervention Unit
Department of Human Services

Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded
Youth Services Commission, Freeholder Liaison

Honorable Judge James P. Wilson, J.S.C., Superior Court, Family Division, Chair
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