



COUNTY OF ESSEX
DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICE-YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
50 South Clinton Street – 3rd Floor, East Orange, New Jersey 07017
(973) 395-8161 or (973) 530-9580
www.essexcountynj.org

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
Essex County Executive

Anibal Ramos, Jr.
Department Director

Jason M. Martinez
Division Director

Essex County Youth Services Commission

Thursday, January 15, 2026, 2:00 PM 50 So. Clinton St. East Orange
Suite Samuel Okparaekwe, 2nd Floor

or

Via Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85956421449>

AGENDA

CONVENE: OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:

“This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 -10:4-21. Notice of this meeting has been provided on the Essex County Website.”

- 1. Open Public Meeting Law:** Announcement of the Opening of the Public Meeting Act
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Minutes Approval:** November 6, 2025
- 4. Subcommittee's Report:**
 - I. Planning
 - II. Monitoring
 - III. Allocation/Proposal
- 5. Action Items:** Approval of the following programs:

- I. **Big Brothers Big Sisters – One-on-One Mentoring Program:** \$20,000
- II. **United Community Corporation – Afterschool Program:** \$20,000
- III. **United Community Corporation – Art Therapy:** \$115,000
- IV. **YMCA – Youth Emergency Services:** \$85,000

6. Presentations:

- I. United Community Corporation - Restorative and Transformative Justice for Youths and Communities Pilot Program
- II. Division of Youth Services | YSC - Multi-Disciplinary Team Convenors

7. ECYSC (Updates/Announcements): Jason Martinez, YSC-Administrator

8. State Community Partnership and Family Court Programs

(Updates/Announcements):

- I. Aspira Inc. - Recreational & Evening Reporting Center
- II. Essex County Prosecutor's Office – Summer Internship Program & What's it all about Conference
- III. Imatter – Early Intervention Program
- IV. Leaders For Life – Prevention, Day & Evening Reporting Center Programs
- V. Superior Court of New Jersey- Essex Vicinage Probation – Youth Engagement Program
- VI. Team Resurrection – New Pathways
- VII. Township of South Orange Police Dept. – Junior Police Academy
- VIII. Township of West Orange Police Dept. – Junior Police Academy
- IX. United Community Corporation – Summer & Family Engagement Programs
- X. YAP - Family Engagement Programs

9. Youth Justice Commission (Updates/Announcements):

- I. Court Liaisons
- II. JDAI
- III. RTJ

10. Public and/or Youth Service Commissioner (Updates/Announcements): Public Portion of the Meeting

11. Adjournment: Next Meeting, February 19, 2026 Via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87138238255> or In Person, *50 So. Clinton St. East Orange, NJ* - Suite Samuel Okparaekwe, 2nd Fl

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, November 6, 2025

2:00 PM- Via ZOOM <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85956421449>

Attendees: **Hon. Leonardo Hernandez** - Designee for Presiding Judge, **Kenneth James** Designee for Family Division Manager, **Keisha Walker** Designee for Chief Probation Officer, **Anthony Higgins** -Designee for County Prosecutor, **Michelle Callari** – County Public Defender, **Valentina Richardson Green** - Designee for County Human Services Department Director, **Rosi Hermida** - Designee for Superintendent of Schools, **Todd Barcliff** -Youth Detention Center Director, **Tyrone Hunter** – Juvenile Family Crisis Intervention Unit – Director, **Colette DeGrazia** - Designee for County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Director, **April Caldwell** – Designee for Workforce Investment Board Representative, **Alle Reis** -Business Representative, **David Armstrong** - Parent or parent organization of at-risk or justice-involved youth , **Lori Scott Pickens**, **Erica Cashew**, - Education Sector, **Laquanda Williams** – Domestic violence, and/or victims' rights group, **Rev. Bernard Wilks** – Clergy, **Jasmine Joseph-Foreman** - Education Sector, **Eric Cashew** -Education Sector, **David Sims** – Child advocacy, **Isiah Fudge** – Civic Organization, **Sarah Cruz** -Municipal Youth Services Commissions, **Reginald Bledsoe**, **Taieta El-Amin**, **Josephine Garcia**, **Caryl Lucas**, Representative with knowledge, experience, or interest in local youth, the local community, or the juvenile justice system. **Amanda Compton**, **Ron Small** – Court Liaisons - Youth Justice Commission, **Jason Martinez** -Youth Services Commission Administrator, **Nayellie Collazo**, **Alicia Holman**, **Flohisha Johnson** -MDT Convenors, **Karina Silva**, **RTJ Pilot Program** - Community Service Aide,

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

Nicole Williams - Leaders for Life, Keisha Walker -Juvenile Probation , Curtis Moore -YAP Inc, Wilfredo Guzman - Aspira Inc, Malika McCall, Lavon Smith -Team Resurrection -UCC, Charles Mainor.

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Approval of Minutes: Director Barcliff opened the meeting, confirmed attendance, and initiated recording by commission protocol.

Motion: Approve minutes from September 28, 2025.

Moved: Lori Scott Pickens

Second: Anthony R Higgins

Passed by roll call vote.

Old Business:

Subcommittee Reports Summary:

1. *Planning:* No updated report.
2. *Monitoring:* 95% of monitoring complete; need reports submitted for 2026 plan approval per new YJC requirements.
3. *Allocation/Proposal:* Reminder that both monitoring outcomes and reports required for next year's updates.

ECYSC Updates: Jason Martinez, YSC Administrator:

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

- Board of Commissioners approved RTJ extension to June 2026; contract continues with United Community Corporation.
- RFP for Detention Alternatives & Delinquency Prevention closed today; proposals to be reviewed.
- Upcoming RFPs for home detention monitors (Class B) and JDI grant for life skills/job readiness are being worked on.

Action Items:

I-Matter Contract Increase

- Proposal: Increase contract 20% (from \$20,000 to \$24,000)
- Funding: From unallocated funds, not another program
- Motion: Approved by roll call. Result: Unanimous with one abstention

MDT Budget Modification

- Correction in salary and fringe calculations to meet union and county rates
- Increase: From \$285,047 to \$321,731
- Motion: Approved by roll call. Result: 26 in favor, none opposed

Announcements:

December 18, 2025: Annual luncheon at 50 South Clinton and via Zoom.

Providers to submit end-of-year reports and 2026 plans.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Laquanda Williams and seconded by David Armstrong

Next Meeting: December 18, 2025, via Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87138238255>

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

and/or In Person: 50 S. Clinton St. East Orange, NJ 07018- Suite Samuel Okparacke, 2nd Fl