

Burlington County

Department of Human Services

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Youth Services Update

September 10, 2014

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Director of Human Services

Overview



- Strategic Initiatives
- Current Youth & Family Programs
- System Changes
- Major New Initiatives



Successes & Strategic Initiatives



- Cultural Diversity/Community Outreach
 - Reached 130+ groups this year
 - Reached 10,000+ people this year

- Health Starts Here*
 - 2 new sites implemented capacity to serve 80-100 youth
 - Further details to be presented separately in October

- Workforce Development Initiative
 - ITF meeting 9/23/14
 - Apprenticeship programs
 - Coordination with county

- Improving Services to At-Risk Youth and Families
 - Planning high school symposiums to serve 260 youth
 - Youth Opportunity program serves 90-100 young adults

- Ending Homelessness
 - Details & Full program update on 9/24/14

Current Youth Services Programs



- Each Year more than **\$2.6 million in grant dollars secured**
- County funds **25+ programs**
- Each Year more than **5,000+ individuals served**



Current Youth Serving Councils

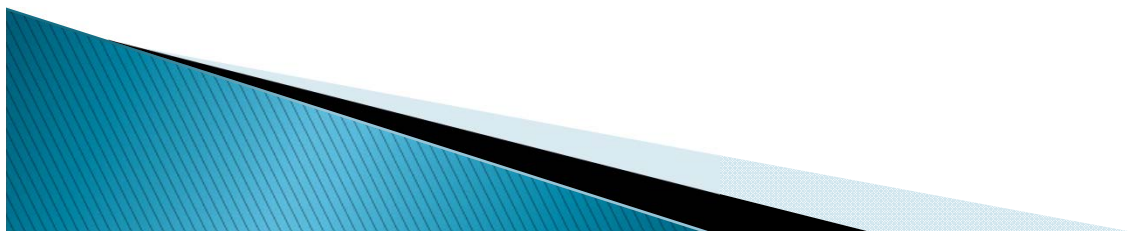


Children's InterAgency Coordinating Committee (CIACC): serves youth and young adults with emotional and behavioral challenges and their families

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI): works with youth who are currently involved in the Juvenile Justice System

Youth Services Advisory County (YSAC): serves youth who are currently involved or are at risk of involvement in the Juvenile Justice System

Youth Investment Council of the Workforce Investment Board: serves teens and young adults with life skills, academic assistance and employment assistance through the Youth Opportunity Program



YSAC Focus



Prevention: assisting youth with remaining free from juvenile justice system.

Diversion: offers alleged juvenile offenders an opportunity to avoid arrest and/or prosecution

Disposition: assists with specific sanctions, supervision and services due to their delinquent behavior

Detention: care of juveniles and Detention Alternative Programs.

Re-Entry: community-based supervision and services after release

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Youth Opportunity Program



Burlington County low-income youth between ages 14-21, that must have at least one or more of the following barriers:

- Basic Skills Deficient
- Homeless/runaway/foster child
- Pregnant and/or parenting
- Juvenile Offender
- Disabled youth requiring additional
- Out of School Youth



Provides:

- Leadership Learning, mentoring, employment readiness
- **90-100 youth participating**



New! Youth Initiatives (2013-2014)



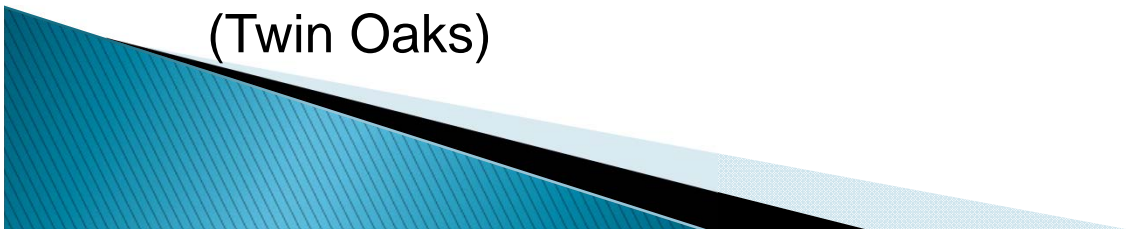
HoopSkills: basketball clinic and youth development mentoring program.
(The Gladden Project)

Empowering Youth to End Dating Violence: information regarding healthy relationships and dating violence. (Twin Oaks)

Burlington County Sheriff's Mentoring Program: offers court-diverted youth an opportunity to experience positive attitudes that promote character building to deter recidivism.

REACH Camp: at-risk summer camp for ages 11-13 that promotes positive peer relations, adult role modeling and educational enrichment through daily learning; service-learning projects and small group mentoring. (YMCA)

Prevention Mentoring: to inspire and change youth by strengthening their character, promoting positive adult role modeling and small group mentoring.
(Twin Oaks)



New! Youth Initiatives (2013-14)



MADE (MVP's Academy for Developing Excellence): 5 week training session for students to prepare to go in to Willingboro high school. (MVP)

Footprints for Life: helped children build a strong foundation of life skills rooted in social competencies. (Prevention Plus)

Youth Arts, Mentoring and Technology Program: to prevent youth from engaging in anti-social and delinquent behavior through arts, mentoring, and technology. (Faith in Action)

Burlington County Teen Confidence Conferences: teen acquire new skills and ideas with role models that help shape their future. (Sherriff's Department)

Challenge Day at Willingboro High School – shifts dangerous peer pressure to positive support. (MVP)

Art Reach provided arts and cultural experiences to young people of underserved populations. (Crossroads Programs)



New! Youth Initiatives (2013-14)




Sports Mentoring Program: 3 basketball clinics for at-risk youth in Burlington County; included a mentoring program, computer training, and SAT preparation. (South Jersey Blitz)

Junior Ambassadors Program: raised standards and achieved success academically, while thinking critically of their pursuits and goals. (Ambassadors for Leadership)

Girls Circle was an intensive group mentoring and support program for at risk Middle School girls from Willingboro. (Crossroads)

Team Education Assistance and Mentoring: extensive mentorship program for at-risk youth - need, communication, finance and academic success. (The O League)

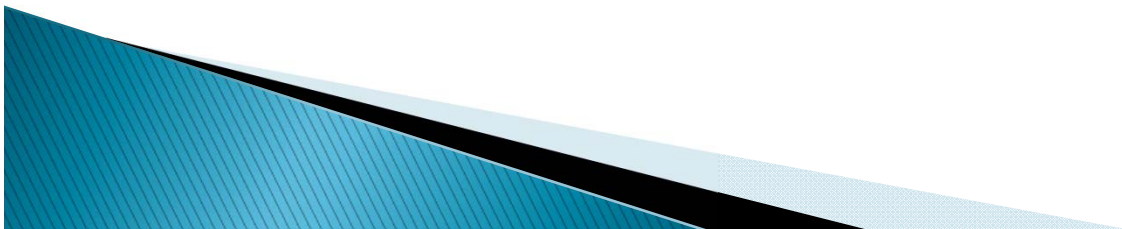
Building Bridges Resource Day: inspired and changed youth by strengthening their character and linking them and their families with various community resources. (Faith in Action and You 1st)



YSAC Comprehensive 3-Year Plan 2015-17



- Reviewed data, answered analysis questions, made program recommendations and developed a County Vision
- Focus groups with youth in the community and youth in YSAC funded programs and parents/guardians
- Law Enforcement including School Resource Officers, Sheriff Officers and Municipal Officers completed a survey
- YSAC Comprehensive 3-Year Plan
 - **Over \$700,000 in State Community Partnership funds**
 - **\$120,000 JDAI funds**
 - **1,100 clients served**



New! YSAC Services for 2015



- Youth Prevention Programs
- Sheriff's Youth Mentoring Camp
- Diversion Community Activities Program
- Family Crisis Intervention Unit
- Sex Offender Treatment
- Fire Setter and Sex Offender Evaluations
- Re-Entry Community Activities Program



Developing Initiatives



Developing Youth Drop-In Centers

- 3 sites envisioned; 2 sites currently piloting programs in Burlington City and Willingboro
- Goal of 400 youth served annually
- Evaluation of needs across all areas of service
- Request for Qualifications to be published 9/15/14
- Integration of health & fitness programming

Apprenticeship/Internship Coordination

- Youth Build Program Model & Curriculum Mapping
- Develop Career ladders across training programs
- Reorganize Employment & Training Staff
- Student Working Professional coordination:
 - Develop registered accounting apprenticeship program with Student Working Professionals
 - 30 individuals to be served per year
 - Successfully graduated 200+ kids

Developing Initiatives



Developing Joint Youth Services Committee

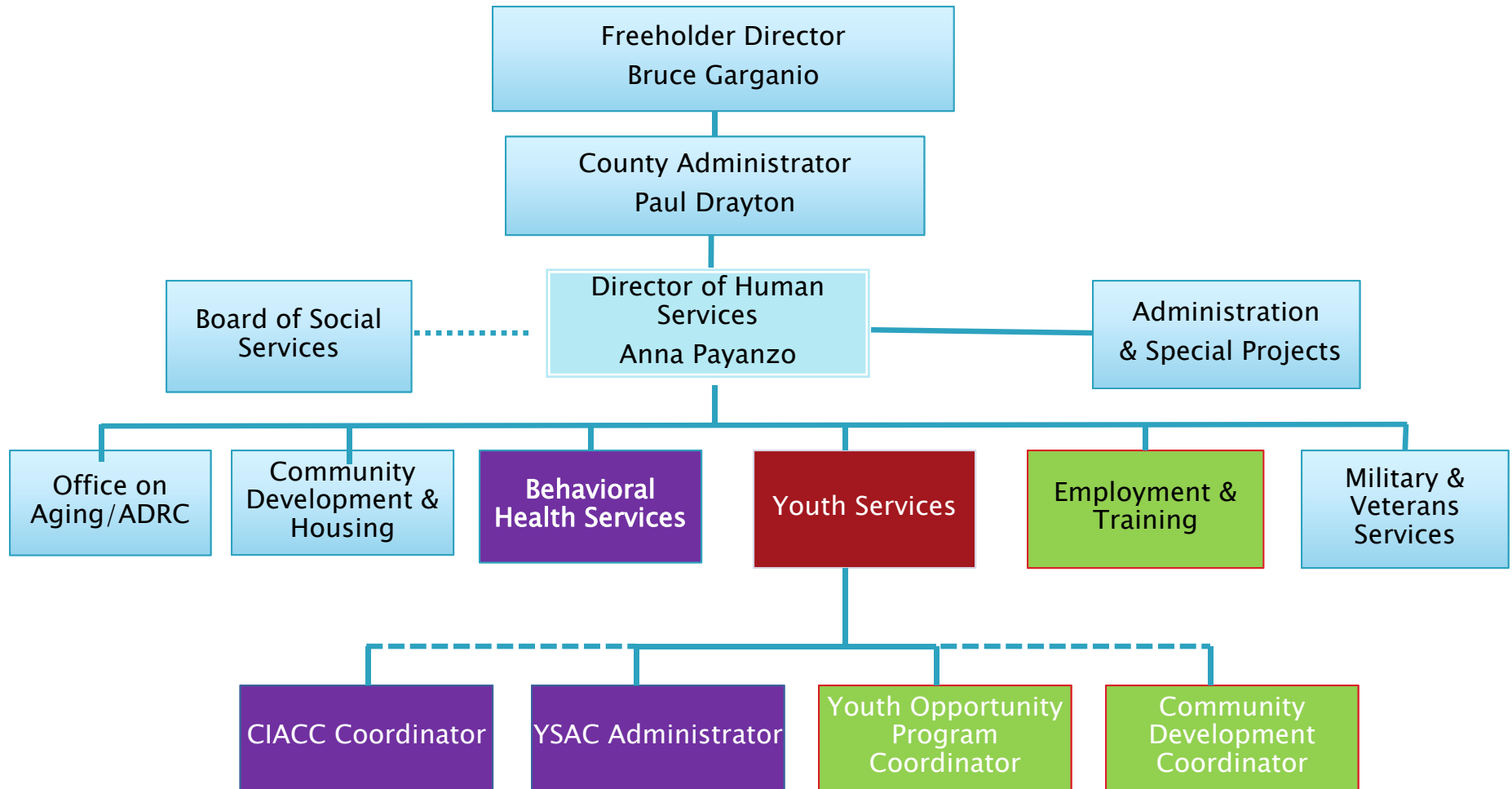
- Family Engagement Initiative
- Education System Coordination
- Prevention Pilot Initiatives
- Outreach and Information

JDAI Innovation Funds:

- Family Engagement
- Community Transitions/Work Experience
- Enhanced Probation



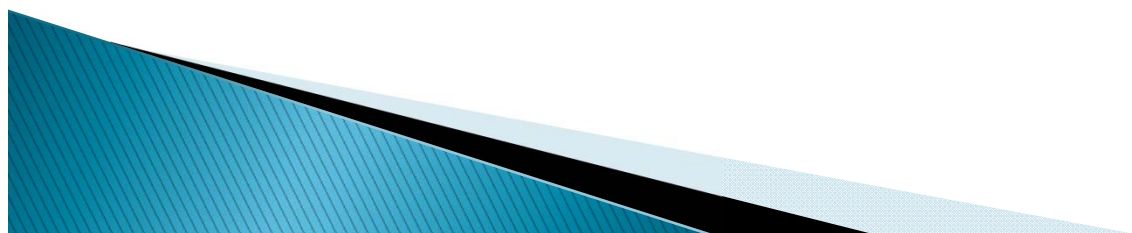
Youth Services Division



Overarching Goals



- Cultivating Leadership
- Meaningful Family & Community Engagement
- Increasing high school graduation rates
- Decreasing involvement in juvenile justice and reducing recidivism
- Increasing employment readiness & job placement
- Improving health & wellness through active engagement



Thank You!

