

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

Youth Justice Council Meeting Minutes

Date: September 20, 2023

Time: 3:30pm-5:30pm

Location: Virtual

Minutes

✚ Welcome and Grounding Statement

✚ Safe Communities Presentation

- New Service area in Health and Human Services.
- Viewing through a human services and public health lens.
- Preventing impact of toxic stress and trauma and facilitate healing.
- Guided by the conviction that disparities and community violence are linked, thus must be solved together.
- Community assets as the basis for safety.
- Breaking the cycle of community violence – starts with youth/young people – looking at improving outcomes of youth/young people aged 10-24.
- Impact of violence on youth and families.
- Collaboration – community as center of this work.
- Strategies for preventing community and youth violence.
 - Creating protective environments.
 - Standing up for decency.
 - Hennepin County’s response to hate crimes – strengthening and supporting.
 - Preventing and addressing sex trafficking.
 - Preventing and responding to sexual exploitation.
 - Connecting young people to caring adults and activities.
 - Strengthening young people’s skills.
- Domestic abuse services.



- Improving community – police relationships – building trust and safety with interactions with police.
- Building on a foundation of violence prevention.
- New way of looking at violence prevention.
- Housing stabilization connected with community providers.
- Identifying service gaps.
- ✚ Juvenile Detention Center Presentation – Superintendent
 - Services – education, centurion medical care, two social workers.
 - Contracted/Volunteer Services – weekly.
 - Canvas Health Chemical Dependency Education
 - Sexual Health Education with Family Tree
 - Healthy Relationships
 - YWCA girl’s empowerment group
 - A Mother’s Love
 - Dog Therapy
 - Hennepin Counties Libraries
 - Art Therapy
 - Chess - males
 - Crochet – females
 - Decision Points
 - Zen Meditation
 - Religious Support – Champlain’s and Imam
 - Barber – must be there 21 days or longer
 - Music Studio Therapy – rules around language
 - COMING – YouthLink “Not a Number” – five module curriculum
- ✚ DRT Legislation – Juvenile Detention Center
 - 2023 Public Safety Omnibus Bill – legislation goes into effect January 2024
 - Culture Change – less correctional, more therapeutic, and responsive to youth
 - Key component to success – policy, training, practice, programming
 - Thoughtful conversation about what is the purpose of JDC – where do we want to go? What are the values?
 - New incentive system – what motivates youth? Positive behavior to provide safe behavior
- ✚ How is JDC engaging with families? Expanded visiting hours (six times/week), Zoom visiting hours, Social Workers making connections with families.
- ✚ It is critical to understand the importance of post-release supports.
- ✚ Effective January 2024, Youth Justice Council Meetings will be moving to 4:30pm start time to accommodate young people that are in school/working. The last meeting of 2023 will be held in November and will be starting at 3:30pm