



51 High Street, Bristol, CT 06010 | 860-584-6160 | Parksandrecreation@bristolct.gov

## Youth & Community Services Supervisor Report

Youth Commission  
(April 26, 2023)

### Counseling Updates

The Youth and Community Services Division is responsible for the coordination of a comprehensive community-based youth services bureau and the delivery of essential life services for Bristol residents in need. The Bureau strives to enhance the networking and support between family, school, peer, and community environments. Direct services include juvenile diversion programming, individual and family counseling, crisis support and positive youth development opportunities.

#### **This report is being generated to reflect data for individual and Family Counseling, Intakes and Referrals:**

- Number of intakes conducted by staff: 13 (February/March)
- Number of clients currently receiving services: 15 (Full-time staff and Contractors)
- Number of families referred by the BOE: 0
- Number of families referred for (FWSN) Families With Service's Needs: 0

#### **Community Services and the Parent and Child Program:**

- Intakes (February/March) Basic Needs (41), Relocation(7), Evictions and Foreclosures (31)
- 20 intakes for the caring closet (February/March)

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## Current Juvenile Review Board Statistics

- We currently have 14 open cases

### Open Cases:

Charge	Number of Cases
Breach of Peace 2nd	9
Criminal Mischief	2
Disorderly Conduct	2
Larceny 6th	1

### Pending Cases:

Charge	Number of Cases
Assault	1
Burglary 3rd	1
Assault, threat, interfering	1,1,1
Disorderly Cond. / Tres	1

### Total Gender for Open Cases:

Female	6
Male	8

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## Project Aware Program Updates

### A Step Ahead:

Empower Hour: Will begin on February 6<sup>th</sup> for its second session with elementary school students.

Lunch Buddies: Running at South Side School with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. After evaluation of current participants enrolled, this program (that typically runs through lunch and recess) has been altered to a shorter version (lunch only), but extended sessions to meet the needs of the students at their ability. Students enrolled have high emotionality and low self-regulation. Activities have covered healthy decision making, empathy building, engagement, mood regulation, and more. There are 4 sessions remaining.

Bristol Eastern: This program targets 10<sup>th</sup> grade females and concluded this month. All participants engaged fully and used the program to problem solve situations in real time. Participants felt comfortable sharing during the session, developed coping skills, alternative thought processes, and problem-solving strategies.

### Girls With A Purpose:

GWAP participants are fully engaged and participating in weekly activities. Topics discussed include self-awareness, active listening, positive relationships with other peers, self-management, and the development of coping and problem-solving skills. The group is at their mid-way point.

### Paul Vivian Internship:

Peer-to-Peer (PTP) students concluded their first module and created a substance abuse and prevention event at BCHS (as this is their home school) in which to provide information to the students and provide support opportunities if necessary for those in need. The 2<sup>nd</sup> module begins February 4<sup>th</sup> and will address dialogue sessions and peer interactions. Traditional Paul Vivian (PV) students are trained and ready to start work at job sites. Students have not started due to roadblocks to getting all paperwork in that is needed to complete the enrollment process.

### Teens Empowering Others:

Session 1 of TEO has concluded this month. Participants were able to reflect on their experiences, lessons learned, and goals achieved. The main points of success for most participants were the confidence they gained in themselves and the knowledge they learned through activities, discussions, and presenters. Session 2 will tentatively start on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Young Women's Issues Group:**

Participants are broken down into two groups based on school schedule and student need. The program is approaching their mid-way point. Students completed self-evaluations to determine progress made towards goals and identified problem solving steps to reach goals by the end of the program.

### **Tomorrow's Leaders Today:**

Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday at Chippens Hill Middle School. Group has approximately 5-8 youth per session and is running well. Recently, we had the Bristol Police dog, Frankie, come in to meet the group. This was the group's first introduction to emotional and therapeutic animals. The group is putting together a therapeutic book about Frankie. We have an author of a children's book coming in April. She is going to speak to the group about writing a book and how to get it published. We also met with the school to plan future field trips and the budget for the remaining of the group.

### **Lunch Buddies:**

Green Hills Middle School started Lunch Buddies on March 9<sup>th</sup> with 6 youth enrolled in the program. So far, we have had 2 groups and each group focused on program introduction and teambuilding. Next week we will focus on communication skills, impulse control, and taking turns. The group is being facilitated by the school social worker and BYS staff.

### **Young Men's Group:**

We have about 14 youth attending per group. Recently Planned Parenthood presented on healthy relationships, STIs, and healthy bodies. On March 24, the group attended a field trip to the Bristol Boys and Girls Club. At the club the group was introduced to health and fitness activities, career discussions, and life goal planning. In the coming weeks Wheeler Clinic will present to the group.

### **Man Up:**

This program's first meeting was held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. The program has 10 youth enrolled. Our first meeting consisted of creating a full value contract, getting to know each other, and creating program goals. Group members also engaged in discussion around following and accepting rules at school. In the first two meetings, facilitators were able to hold important

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discussions with participants in both indoor and outdoor settings which seems to work well. The next steps will be to define the roles of young men and to explore the myths of how young men are perceived.

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