

DELAWARE COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION BOARD OF MANAGERS
TUESDAY JUNE 17TH, 2025
4:30PM
HYBRID: DELAWARE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING ROOM AND VIRTUAL

Board Members Present:

Kevin Madden, Chair/Council Member	Hon. Nathaniel Nichols
Marie N. Williams, Vice Chair	Chris Eisermann
Kelly Diaz, Deputy Controller	Candice Linehan
	Rev. James Turner

Call Meeting to Order: Councilman Madden called the meeting to order at 5:32PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only): No public comment.

Approval of Minutes: Board Member Nichols motioned to approve the May Meeting Minutes. Board Member Diaz seconded the motion. The Meeting Minutes from May 19th were approved.

Reports:

- A. Monthly Detained Youth Report, Danielle DiMatteo- There are currently thirteen (13) youths in detention. There are six (6) males in detention and being housed at Abraxas Morgantown, Bucks County, Chester County, George Junior Republic, Jefferson County, Oh, and Adelphoi. There are three (3) females in detention with two (2) being housed at Chester County and one (1) at Montgomery County. The remaining four (4) youth are direct file cases with two (2) currently being housed at Delaware County Prison, one (1) being housed at Abraxas Morgantown and one (1) being housed at George Junior Republic.
- B. Interim Director of Juvenile Justice Services, Nelson Walker- Mr. Walker reported on the pilot programs that have been supported by the Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation department. The Youth Advocate Programs (YAP)'s had two programs: Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC) Program and the Targeted Intensive Prevention Services (TIPS). Mr. Walker stated that final evaluation so a decision can be made on how to or whether to fund a continuation of that programming. Mr. Walker also reported on the Safe Corridors pilot program and stated that final evaluation is still ongoing and once completed, a decision will be made on how to or whether to continue funding for that program.

Mr. Walker also reported on the secure community-based detention shelter which will operate out of available space at Clocktower, the former site of the Glen Mills school. Mr. Walker stated that he is working to solidify a contract with an architect to proceed. Mr.

Walker also stated that he is working with Clock Tower to see if Delaware County could adopt any of their established practices and programs such as medical and laundry.

Mr. Walker additionally updated the board on the OJJDP grant budget and stated that the first of five community meetings in Chester regarding CCLP survey results and hearing from the community about what issues exist with the goal of solidifying a community resource center in Chester. Mr. Walker additionally stated that two contracted positions, Program Coordinator and Program Evaluator will be hired as part of this project.

Board Member Linehan asked if Mr. Walker can quote how many kids are impacted by the YAP, TIPS, and Safe Corridors programs.

Mr. Walker stated that while he could not quote exactly how many students were impacted, attendance figures are included in invoicing.

Ms. Linehan asked if there are any existing community-based detention centers that already exist in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Walker responded affirmatively stating that there are several in Philadelphia that he is personally familiar with.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Board Member Comment: Board Member Nichols asked what information Mr. Walker had regarding the recent absconding and car theft that occurred at the Clock Tower School and if Juvenile Probation has been successful in terms of the completion of probation.

Mr. Walker responded that the TIPS program and Safe Corridors get referrals through Juvenile Probation and that all organizations have helped garner positive results.

Chairman Madden regarding the Clock Tower school asked if Mr. Walker could clarify the difference between a community-based shelter and detention and the difference between what Delaware County will implement and what Clock Tower already does.

Mr. Walker responded that shelter care is a short term (30 day) facility compared to Clock Tower which is a 3–6-month program. Mr. Walker noted that there is always a potential for absconding from any facility. Mr. Walker also stated that fear is the primary reason for running and that youth's primarily run back to their communities that they are from and familiar with. Mr. Walker stated that staff will be trained to deescalate youth and keep communication open to

limit the fears that may enable absconding. Mr. Walker additionally stated the importance of assessing their mental health within the first 72 hours in secure care to minimize the potential for absconding. Mr. Walker additionally stressed the importance of maintaining family and community ties and frequent family interactions.

Board Member Nichols noted that the youths who absconded from Clock Tower in fact fled to their hometown of Washington D.C.

Adjourn: Board Member Turner moved to adjourn. Board Member Townsend seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm.