



*City of Bristol
Youth Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/85852635281?pwd=IRy3Ua04nOCtOfUZr0UITPDvVbSPJg.1>

The regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 6:00 PM. in City Hall, Room G-1 (004), 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Attendance
2. Public Participation
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes: December 11, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes
4. Supervisor's Report
 - a. Supervisor's Report
 - b. Year to Date Financials
 - c. B.E.S.T Year End Review
5. New Business
 - a. YSB Quarter 1 Data Collection Review
 - b. School Readiness Presentation
 - c. Social Media Presentation

- d. BPRYCS Tentative Relocation Plan to City Hall
 - e. By Commissioners
- 6. Old Business
 - a. Holiday Gift Giving Program Impact Report
 - b. By Commissioners
- 7. Adjournment

PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRPERSON
Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chair



Youth Commission

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Bristol City Hall-111 North Main Street Bristol, CT 06010 Room 1-4

1. Call to Order

Chair Officer Matthew Gotowala called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

a. Attendance

Members Present:

Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chair
Deborah Ahl, Vice Chair,
Ryan Broderick, Commissioner
Donna Osuch, Commissioner
Miguel Salguero, Commissioner
Renee Singleton, Commissioner
Luke Viens, Commissioner
Lance Washington, Commissioner
Erick Rosengren, City Council Liaison
Dr. Josh Medeiros, Superintendent

Absent:

Richard Kilby, Commissioner
Lance Washington, Commissioner
Sarah Larson, Deputy Superintendent

b. Pledge of Alligiance

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes: October 23, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made By Vice Chair Ahl to Approve the October 23,2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Chair Gotowala, all in favor, motion carried.

4. Supervisor's Report

a. Supervisor's Report

Youth and Community Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the Supervisor's Report; discussion followed.

Youth and Community Coordinator Raven Cody presented the Project Aware Updates; discussion followed.

Commissioner Broderick brought up the issue of social media and how it is still being misused among groups of young women. He stated the most of the suspensions and office referrals are because of social media and suggested future programs touch on the proper use of social media; discussion followed.

b. Year to Date Financials

Bristol Parks and Recreation, Youth and Community Services Superintendent Josh Medeiros presented the Year-to-Date Financials; discussion followed.

c. B.E.S.T Update

Youth and Community Services, BEST Project Coordinator Deedra Willingham presented the B.E.S.T Updates; discussion followed.

5. New Business

a. Adoption of the Youth Commission Calendar

Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chair, presented the Youth Commission 2025 Meeting Calendar; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by City Council Liaison Rosengren to Adopt the Youth Commission 2025 Meeting Calendar.

Seconded by Commissioner Broderick, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Memorandum Between the Board of Education and Youth Services Bureaus

Youth and Community Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the Memorandum between the Board of Education and Youth Services Bureaus. This is for Youth and Community Services being able to share data in order to best serve students and families and assist with government funding; discussion followed.

Superintendent Josh Medeiros showed his appreciation to the Board of Education's

Superintendent, Iris White, for her quick response and collaboration on the Memorandum.

MOTION: By City Council Liaison Rosengren to place the Memorandum between the Board of Education and Youth Services Bureaus on file.
Seconded by Vice Chair Ahl, all in favor, motion carried.

c. Youth and Community Services Fiscal Year 2026 Approved Division Budget

Bristol Parks and Recreation, Youth and Community Services Superintendent Joshua Medeiros presented the Fiscal Year 2026 Division Budget; discussion followed.

MOTION: By Commissioner Broderick to endorse the Youth and Community Services Fiscal Year 2026 Approved Division Budget.
Seconded by Commissioner Singleton, all in favor, motion carried.

d. By Commissioners

None.

6. Old Business

a. By Commissioners

None.

b. Holiday Gift Giving Program Update and Facility Site Visit

Youth and Community Services Coordinator Aubrey Minkler presented the Holiday Gift Giving Program Update and a Facility Site Visit; discussion followed.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by City Council Liaison Rosengren to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.
Seconded by Commissioner Singleton, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amaris Estrada
Recording Secretary
Youth Commission

Youth Commission Updates

February 2025

Paul Vivian Internship Experience Program

The Paul Vivian Internship was scheduled to begin in January of 2025. We have had several students show interest to the program. Out of those interested, many have applied to the program, however, presenting barriers have either disqualified them from being eligible hires, or delayed the hiring process. Some barriers have been students navigating challenging personal circumstances like homelessness. Two students were not able to be accompanied to their drug screenings by their parents/guardians which is a requirement. Additionally, students' use of marijuana has also been a barrier that deters them from participating.

We currently have two students who submitted applications on 2/3/2025 and those were forwarded to City Hall for the next phase in the hiring process.

Youth and Family Coordinator Malone continues to attempt to recruit students and overcome barriers to increase their ability to participate in the program.

Young Women's Issues Group

The Young Women's Issues Group is a 22-week program that is facilitated by Youth and Family Coordinators Ashante Malone and Raven Cody. The group began October 23rd and is scheduled to run through April 30th. There have been about 8 students attending consistently. To date, 11 of the 22 sessions have been completed.

Topics that have been covered are Mental Health, Human Trafficking, and Goals and Personal Development through vision boards (shown in picture below). Kim Holley with Bristol Works has also presented to the group on the services the organization offers. That presentation ended with two of the students making appointments with Bristol Works to build and improve their resumes and look for employment opportunities in their fields of interest. Prudence Crandall has also presented to the group on Teen Dating violence. Group facilitators have also organized a Field Trip to Tunxis on February 26th, and a Team Building Field Trip to Pine Lake on April 9th.



This particular group of Prep Students appreciates the space for artistic creativity. Below is a picture of a canvas that one of the students painted during one of our groups. A paint along tutorial was shown and the students followed along, creating a canvas of a bed of Daisies.

Girls with a Purpose (GWAP)



The flyer is titled "GIRLS WITH A PURPOSE" in large, bold, brown letters, framed by a decorative floral border. Below the title is the Bristol logo, which includes a tree and the word "Bristol" in a stylized font, followed by "CONNECTICUT" in smaller letters. To the right of the logo are four circular icons: a tree, a person climbing a rope, a group of people, and a person on a surfboard. Below these icons is the text "PARKS, RECREATION, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES".

A FREE SUPPORT GROUP FOR BRISTOL MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS (AGES 11-14) CREATED TO INCREASE SELF ESTEEM, SELF- AWARENESS, & SELF- CONFIDENCE. WEEKLY TOPICS WILL INCLUDE THE EFFECTS OF BULLYING, PEER VIOLENCE, THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA, SUBSTANCE USE, AND MORE!

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS FROM FEBRUARY 5TH - APRIL 30TH, 2025
(EXCLUDING APRIL 16TH DURING SPRING BREAK)

TIME: 5:15 PM -6:45 PM

LOCATION: BRISTOL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES MAIN OFFICE
51 HIGH ST, BRISTOL, CT. 06010

IF INTERESTED...

EMAIL
ashantemalone@bristolct.gov or
ravencody@bristolct.gov

WEB
www.bristolct.myrec.com

PHONE
860-314-4690

At the bottom of the flyer, there is an illustration of four girls from behind, standing and looking towards the right. They are wearing red and pink shirts. There are also some purple flowers and green leaves on either side of the girls.

GWAP is scheduled to run from February 5th – through April 30 and takes place at the Youth and Community Services building on Wednesdays from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. with Youth and Family Coordinators Raven Cody and Ashante Malone facilitating the group. There are 11 students registered to date and recruitment was done through the Middle Schools and community events such as Family Night at Bristol Prep. The goal of this group is to increase self-esteem, self- awareness, & self- confidence. Weekly topics will include the effects of bullying, peer violence, the risks of social media, substance use, and more through planned activities and guest speakers from local organizations. We hope to have speakers and presentations from NAMI CT (National Alliance for Mental Illness), Miss Connecticut Teen and Prudence Crandall speak to our students as well.

Bristol Eliminating Substance Use Together (BEST)

Some of the BEST updates are as follows:

- We've been working on a spring break partnership with BEST, where we'll be offering prevention programming for an hour from Monday to Thursday (4/14-4/17). During this time, we'll be engaging participants in a variety of activities. On Thursday, in addition to our planned activity, BEST will host a pizza party for everyone.
- We are also in the early stages of presenting an exciting opportunity for our youth coalition members to attend a Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) training.
- We've been collaborating with Ryan on his idea from previous months regarding social media and its impact on students. We've recognized that many of the issues students face are either caused or worsened by social media. We are working on how we can bring something to the school(s) that addresses these concerns, but we're still determining what that will specifically look like.
- For your reference, I've included a Year 9 presentation that was shared with our adult coalition back in December. Feel free to review it to see what BEST has been up to so far this year, it highlights things in more detail.

Interns

Youth and Community Services currently has 4 interns on board:

- Savannah Watts, MSW student at Walden University (Youth Services Intern)
- Alfred Valero, BSW student at USJ (Youth Services Intern)
- Katelyn Jeroszko, BSW Student at CCSU (Youth Services Intern)
- Marissa Dube, Human Services student at TXCC (Community Services and BEST intern)

Youth and Family Coordinator Raven Cody is the intern supervisor, and provides each student with valuable hands-on fieldwork experience to guide them into becoming knowledgeable and empathetic social workers.

Upcoming Programs

Please see the attached flyers for two returning youth service programs that will be starting up shortly! Empower Hour is a social skills afterschool programs for youth in grades 4 and 5, and Man Up is a support group for middle school male students. Both programs are free and provide dinner each week. Please feel free to spread the word and refer families!



MAN UP

THIS 10-WEEK GROUP SERVES AS A CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR BRISTOL MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUNG MEN (AGES 11-13).

A GOAL OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO SERVE AS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR MEMBERS TO DISCUSS CONCERNS, RECEIVE SUPPORT, AND DEVELOP NEW SKILLS WHILE FORMING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEERS AND MENTORS.

Facilitators:
Anthony Johnson
Alfred Valero

FEBRUARY 26TH - MAY 7TH 2025

WEDNESDAYS, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

LOCATION: BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF BRISTOL
255 WEST ST, BRISTOL, CT, 06010

TRANSPORTATION & DINNER PROVIDED WEEKLY!

CONTACT US
PHONE: (860) 314-4690
EMAIL: ALFREDVALERO@BRISTOLCT.GOV

Bristol CONNECTICUT
PARKS, RECREATION, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



A free 8-week social skills group open to Bristol elementary school students in 4th and 5th grade (ages 9-11). This program will address topics such as self-awareness, impulse control, relationship building, emotion regulation, & responsible decision making through age-appropriate discussion and activities. An after-school snack is provided each week!

When: Tuesdays from March 4th, 2025 through April 29th, 2025
(excluding April 15th due to Spring Break)

Time: 4:15pm-5:15pm

Where: Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services Main Office
(51 High St, Bristol, CT 06010)



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:

www.bristolct.myrec.com | ravencody@bristolct.gov | 860-314-4690



Community Conversation

BPRYCS, with sponsorships from BEST and Wheeler Health, hosted One Degree of Separation for this year's Community Conversation held at Downtown Live- Rockwell Theater. The event had over 150 attendees with several vendors present to hand out valuable resources and information. Vendors included Wheeler Health, NAMI, BBHD, Hartford County Tattoo, Alt2Su, Root Center for Advanced Recovery, BEST and Alcoholics Anonymous.



Current Juvenile Review Board Statistics:

We currently have 4 open cases

Open Cases: Please note we have more charges than cases due to some cases having multiple charges.

Charge	Number of Charges
Breach of Peace 2nd	3
Assault	2

Pending Cases:

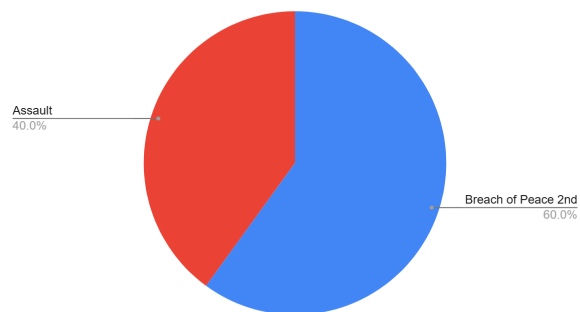
Charge	Number of Cases
BOP/Assault	2

Gender	Genders for open cases
Male	4

Genders for open cases



Number of Charges



YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
001 GENERAL FUND	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
0017025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES							
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432026-		YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU					
	-41,845	0	-41,845	-20,922.00	.00	-20,923.00	50.0%*
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432147-		ENHANCEMENT SERVICES					
	-12,995	0	-12,995	-6,496.00	.00	-6,499.00	50.0%*
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432157-		YOUTH SERVICES SUPPLEMENT					
	-18,385	0	-18,385	-9,191.50	.00	-9,193.50	50.0%*
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-450301-		WELFARE EVICTION RECEIPTS					
	-7,500	0	-7,500	-6,660.00	.00	-840.00	88.8%*
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-514000-		REGULAR WAGES & SALARIES					
	294,025	0	294,025	162,944.12	.00	131,080.88	55.4%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-515100-		OVERTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
	6,000	0	6,000	1,495.09	.00	4,504.91	24.9%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-515200-		PARTTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
	0	0	0	1,604.30	.00	-1,604.30	100.0%*
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-517000-		OTHER WAGES					
	1,700	0	1,700	1,677.88	.00	22.12	98.7%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531000-		PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES					
	25,000	0	25,000	3,607.50	4,892.50	16,500.00	34.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531115-		JRB COORDINATION					
	8,225	0	8,225	2,300.00	550.00	5,375.00	34.7%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531120-		PROJECT AWARE					
	41,845	0	41,845	5,358.17	15,731.00	20,755.83	50.4%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531135-		ENHANCEMENT SERVICES					
	12,995	0	12,995	5,479.85	580.00	6,935.15	46.6%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531136-		YOUTH SERVICES SUPPLEMENT					
	18,385	0	18,385	6,240.46	.00	12,144.54	33.9%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-553000-		TELEPHONE					
	680	0	680	370.96	309.04	.00	100.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-561800-		PROGRAM SUPPLIES					
	750	0	750	61.20	.00	688.80	8.2%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581120-		CONFERENCES & MEMBERSHIPS					
	2,400	0	2,400	1,105.75	225.25	1,069.00	55.5%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581240-		WELFARE EVICTIONS & AUCTIONS					
	9,000	0	9,000	3,826.80	300.00	4,873.20	45.9%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581745-		NONREIMBURSEABLE INCIDENTALS					
	2,300	0	2,300	198.70	300.00	1,801.30	21.7%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-587232-		RELOCATION COSTS					
	60,000	0	60,000	1,612.00	1,700.00	56,688.00	5.5%
TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	402,580	0	402,580	154,613.28	24,587.79	223,378.93	44.5%

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13								
ACCOUNTS FOR: 001 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	402,580	0	402,580	154,613.28	24,587.79	223,378.93	44.5%	
TOTAL REVENUES	-80,725	0	-80,725	-43,269.50	.00	-37,455.50		
TOTAL EXPENSES	483,305	0	483,305	197,882.78	24,587.79	260,834.43		

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13							
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	402,580	0	402,580	154,613.28	24,587.79	223,378.93	44.5%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **							

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
106 SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL

1067025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432150-25G08	0	JUV DIVERSION GRANT -21,000	-21,000	-10,500.00	.00	-10,500.00	50.0%*
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531125-25G08	0	JUVENILE DIVERSION 21,000	21,000	2,512.50	7,007.50	11,480.00	45.3%
TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	0	0	0	-7,987.50	7,007.50	980.00	100.0%
TOTAL SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	0	0	0	-7,987.50	7,007.50	980.00	100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	0	-21,000	-21,000	-10,500.00	.00	-10,500.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	0	21,000	21,000	2,512.50	7,007.50	11,480.00	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13								
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL	
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	-7,987.50	7,007.50	980.00	100.0%	
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **								

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
106 SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
1067025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES							
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-431007-25G10	0	MISC. FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT					
	0	-125,000	-125,000	.00	.00	-125,000.00	.0%*
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-514000-25G10	0	REGULAR WAGES & SALARIES					
	0	67,755	67,755	18,979.37	.00	48,775.63	28.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-515200-25G10	0	PARTTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
	0	15,552	15,552	.00	.00	15,552.00	.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-520700-25G10	0	F.I.C.A.					
	0	5,165	5,165	.00	.00	5,165.00	.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-520750-25G10	0	MEDICARE INSURANCE					
	0	1,225	1,225	.00	.00	1,225.00	.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531000-25G10	0	PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES					
	0	11,846	11,846	2,403.87	5,767.50	3,674.63	69.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-554000-25G10	0	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT					
	0	5,240	5,240	3,344.17	.00	1,895.83	63.8%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-561800-25G10	0	PROGRAM SUPPLIES					
	0	4,466	4,466	944.47	.00	3,521.53	21.1%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-589100-25G10	0	MISCELLANEOUS					
	0	0	0	10,692.90	4,500.00	-15,192.90	100.0%*
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-591500-25G10	0	TRANSFER OUT INTERNAL SERVICE					
	0	13,751	13,751	.00	.00	13,751.00	.0%
TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	0	0	0	36,364.78	10,267.50	-46,632.28	100.0%
TOTAL SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	0	0	0	36,364.78	10,267.50	-46,632.28	100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	0	-125,000	-125,000	.00	.00	-125,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	0	125,000	125,000	36,364.78	10,267.50	78,367.72	

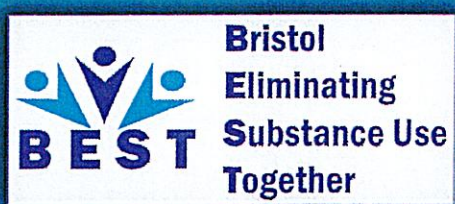
YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13							
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	36,364.78	10,267.50	-46,632.28	100.0%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **							

BEST YEAR 9

Bristol
Eliminating
Substance Use
Together

2024-2025



BRISTOL ELIMINATING SUBSTANCE USE TOGETHER

SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

VACANT

CHAD LAYTON

SARAH LARSON, MS

ANGELIKA KARWOWSKI, MPH

DC ROBERT OSBORNE

VACANT

ANICIA LOCKHART

VACANT

SARA HALE

DAVID RUELA

RENEE SINGLETON

JESSICA KILLEAN

SAMANTHA RAJOTTE

BUSINESS SECTOR

CIVIL ORGANIZATION SECTOR

GOVERNMENT SECTOR

HEALTHCARE SECTOR

LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTOR

MEDIA SECTOR

PARENT SECTOR

RELIGIOUS SECTOR

SCHOOL SECTOR

SUBSTANCE MISUSE SECTOR

YOUTH SECTOR

YOUTH SERVING SECTOR

YOUTH SERVING SECTOR

CO-CHAIRS

SAMANTHA RAJOTTE

ANICIA LOCKHART

PROJECT COORDINATOR

DEEDRA WILLINGHAM, MHS

AT A GLANCE

At the conclusion of year 8, we hosted *Prevention in the Park* for International Opioid Awareness. We provided a food truck where attendees could choose a meal and enjoy ice cream. We partnered with 5 local agencies, who set up tables during the event to offer resources. Additionally, we provided care bags for the unhoused population, which included gift cards to either McDonald's or Burger King, lip balm, socks, combs, mouthwash, facecloths, and information on local resources.

We also partnered with the Boys and Girls Club for their *Family Day*, distributing 200 ice cream tickets and 200 fried dough tickets to families during the event.

September 2024 officially marked the start of Year 9. We began our fiscal year strong by tabling at local events, as well as one non-local event, to network and raise awareness in the community. The youth coalition was officially launched early this month. We placed lawnsigns strategically throughout the town.

October was a super busy month. We sent four individuals to the 10th Annual Connecticut Prevention Summit, where they gathered valuable information and new ideas, which they brought back to share with the team.

We provided tabled and provided schools with Red Ribbon Week Swag. 2024 theme was, Life is a Movie, Film Drug Free.

We also participated in the city's first-ever Coffin Race at the Spooktacular event. On that same day coalition members attended Drug Take Back Day

In November, we donated gift cards to the prize winners of the 27th Annual Turkey Shoot.

In December, we sponsored four teenage youth for Christmas through the Holiday Gift Giving Program. We concluded the 4-Point Life Skills Program with 6 of the 11 participants. Each student received a certificate, notebook, and pen, while parents were sent a resource packet via USPS directly to their homes.

LOOKING FORWARD

We are looking forward to completing the Life Skills Program with more students, collecting important survey data, and providing a summary as part of a grant requirement. Additionally, we plan to offer training and resources during our coalition meetings and attend conferences, providing coalition members with the opportunity to participate. For midyear, we aim to bring at least two youth to these events.

We are partnering with Parks and Rec to offer a Spring Vacation Camp with cost sharing for the fee to parents, we are also offering transportation.

MEETINGS

Attendance

August 22nd- 11

September 19th - 8

October 24th - 10

*A November meeting did not take place due to the holiday.

**Bristol
Eliminating
Substance Use
Together**

A DRUG-FREE COALITION FOCUSED ON REDUCING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE



JOIN THE COALITION

2025 MEETINGS

January 16th	July 17th
February 22th	August 21st
March 20th	September 18th
April 17th	October 16th
May 15th	December 18th
June 19th	

Location: Bristol City Hall, Meeting Room 3-1
Time: 4:00PM - 5:00PM
For more information visit:
www.best4bristol.com

PURPOSE

The purpose of the coalition is to engage various sectors of the community to collaborate in an effort to reduce youth substance use in Bristol, Connecticut.

MISSION

Work toward unifying the community to promote wellness through increasing education, implementing strategies and enforcing policy to prevent substance use by youth.

VISION

Develop a culture of awareness and sustained action that will promote positive youth development and a healthier community.

- Highest attendance: August (11)
- Lowest attendance: September (8)
- Average attendance: 9
- Anicia Lockhart and Sandy Kamens had perfect attendance (every meeting from Aug - Sept)

ATTENDED AT LEAST ONE MEETING

Steve Bynum
Sandy Kamens
Nina Chanana
Angelie Karwowski
Josh Lamonte
Hope Allen
Christie Ganavage
Matt Norton

Sarah Larson
Chad Layton
Anicia Lockhart
Amaris Estrada
Josh Medeiros
Samantha Rajotte
Robert Osborne
Terence Burns
Antonio Lopes

BEST

WELLNESS SURVEY

WHO

The survey will target students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12.

10% of each grade

*Based on 2022-2023 enrollment numbers, approx. 250 responses

WHAT

Nina Chanana, our evaluator, will compile and analyze the data to make it more digestible for the average reader. She will also create a write-up that will be shared with the coalitions as well as Acting Superintendent, Iris White.

WHEN

We are hoping to disseminate the wellness survey in February 2025 during Health and or Advisory periods.

WHERE

- Chippens Middle School
- Bristol Central High School
- Bristol Eastern High School
- Bristol Prep Academy

WHY

Collecting survey data is crucial for not only grant requirements, but it is also good for: understanding risk factors, and evaluating programs. It helps track trends, promote health, and support adolescents

HOW

The survey will be distributed electronically to ensure broad accessibility and efficient data collection. We aim to administer the survey through school systems, with assistance from school administrators and teachers to facilitate participation during Health and or Advisory periods. Data will be anonymized to maintain student privacy, and participation will be voluntary to ensure ethical standards are upheld.

EVENTS

1. Prevention in the Park (8/13)
2. Mayor's Pencil Hunt (8/22)
3. BBGC Family Day (8/23)
4. Tabling at CCAR Recovery Walk (9/28)
5. Tabling at BBHD Community Health Fair (10/5)
6. Connecticut Prevention Summit (10/17)
7. Drug Take Back Day (10/26)
8. Bristol Spooktacular (10/26)
9. Table @ Bristol Central Lunch (10/28)
10. Table @ Bristol Eastern Lunch (10/30)
11. 27th Annual Turkey Shoot (11/23)
12. Bristol Eastern Pep Rally: (11/27)
13. Bristol Central Pep Rally: (11/27)
14. Community Conversations (1/25/25)



PRESENTATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL

Mykee Fowlin - 3/18/2025

NARCAN TRAININGS

I am looking to receive training next year and also plan to train coalition members to become trainers



2025 CONFERENCES

CADCA Maryland

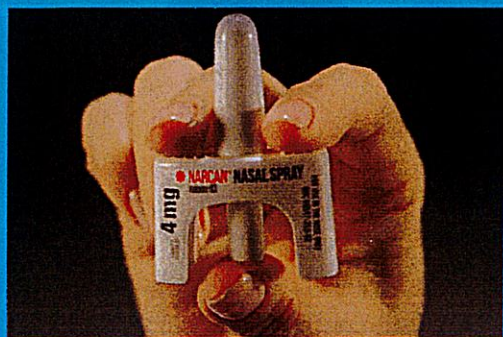
(February 3 - 6, 2025)

CADCA Mid-Year Tennessee

(July 20-24, 2025)

Harm Reduction Conference Colombia

(April 27-30, 2025)



LAWN SIGNS

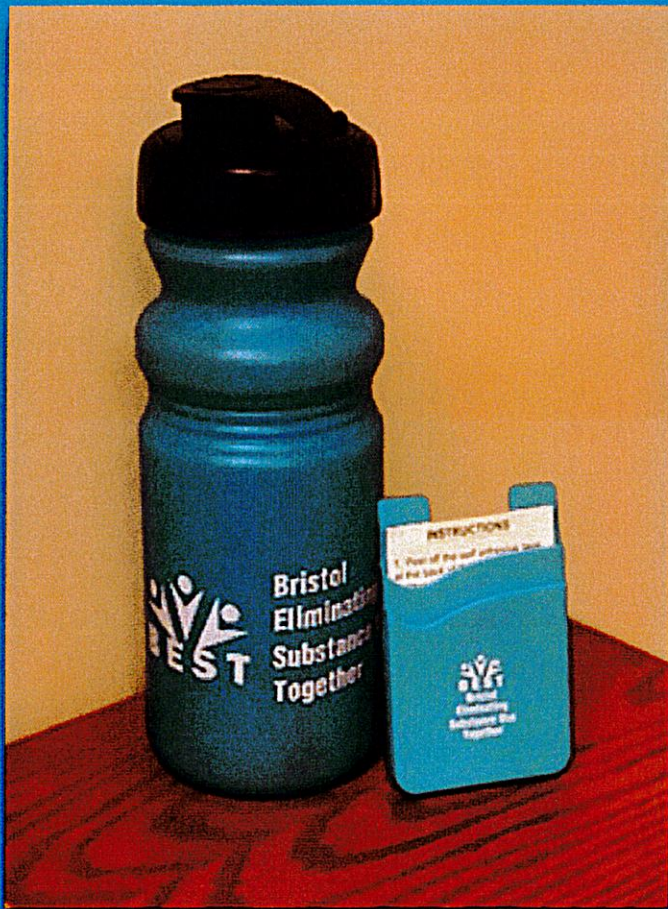
OVER 10 SIGNS PLACED IN:

Rockwell Park
Brackett Park
Page Park
Seymour Park
Peaceful Minds
Pinelake
PrimoPress



BEST SWAG

Pop Its
Pens
Tumblers
Shirts
Toothbrush Squeezers
Button Pins
Strap Bookbags
Sticky Pads
Mini Coloring Books
Stress balls
Color-changing pencils

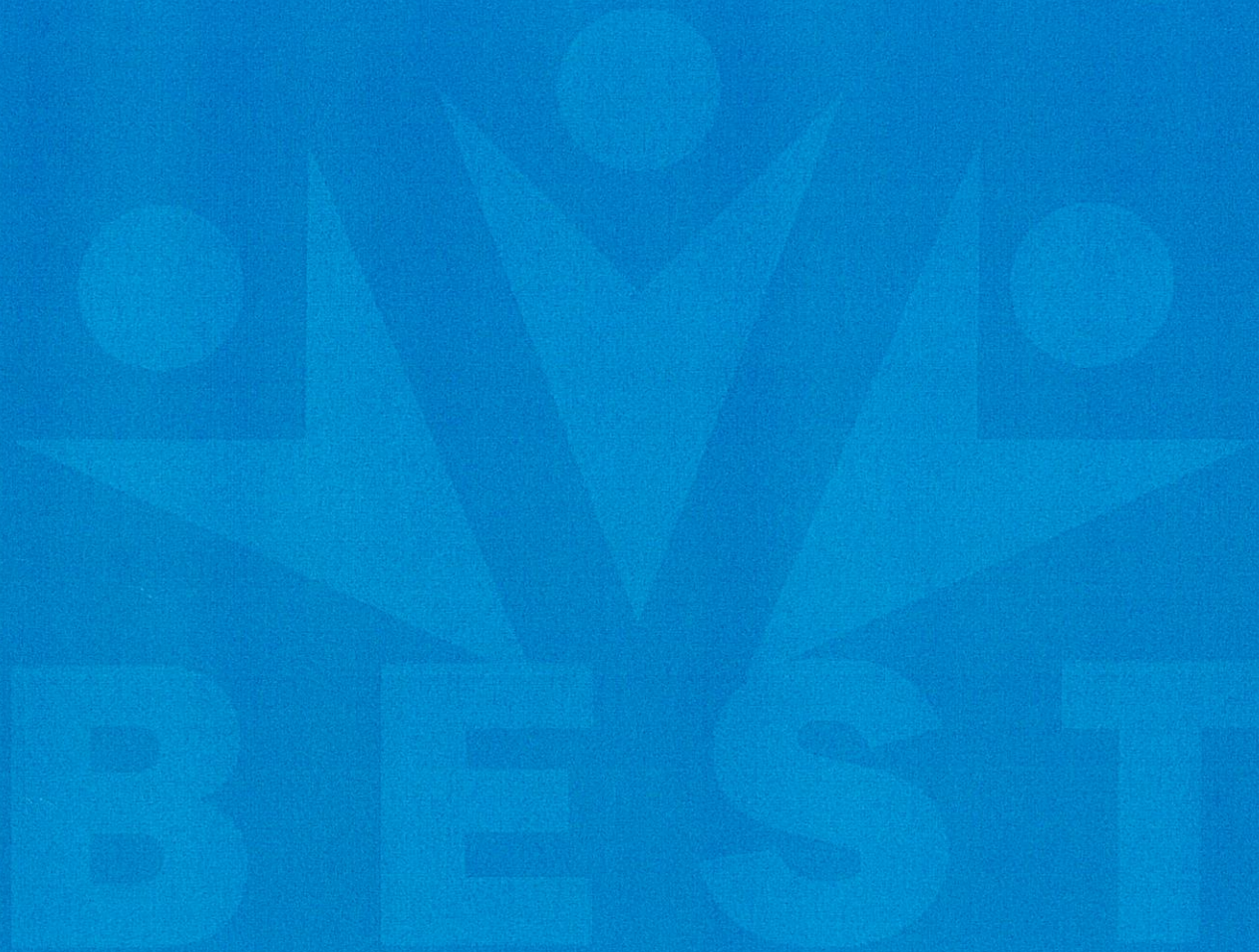


RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED

These were some resources given out at tabling events, resource packets. The resources came from Connecticut Clearinghouse and various sites online.



**THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT
YOU DO!**



January we will conduct sign ups for the sub-committees

SFY25 QUARTER 1

YSB DATA REPORT

STATEWIDE ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Quarter 1 of SFY25 saw an overall submission rate of 95% of YSBs reporting data. Individual categories varied in submissions dependent upon activity seen in the July thru September time frame.

PROGRAMMING 68%

NON JRB YOUTH DATA 71%

JRB DATA 70%

OVERALL DATA 69%

YSB REPORTING 95%

DATA REPORTING REMARKS



DEVELOPING SUCCESS

The vast majority of YSBs submitted on-time reporting in Quarter 1.

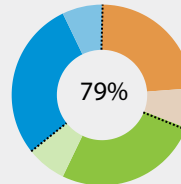
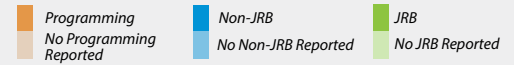


ROOM FOR GROWTH

Some YSBs are continuing to submit data fields that do not align with the standard formatting required by DCF for submissions. This is an issue that is isolated to YSBs on their own systems. If an organization collects fields outside of what DCF collects, they should be translating them to the accepted fields and format prior to submission to ensure they are submitting usable data.

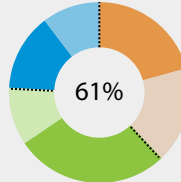
CHAPTER ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Reporting percentages are based on data submitted per YSB versus the number of YSBs that reported collecting data in that category in SFY24.



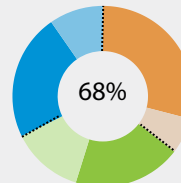
EASTERN

PROGRAMMING: 77%
NON JRB YOUTH: 79%
JRB: 80%
OVERALL: 79%
100% YSB REPORTING



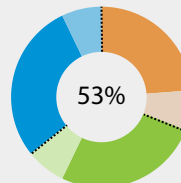
FAIRFIELD

PROGRAMMING: 55%
NON JRB YOUTH: 73%
JRB: 57%
OVERALL: 61%
92% YSB REPORTING



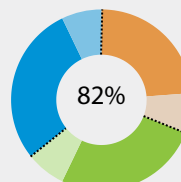
MIDDLESEX

PROGRAMMING: 82%
NON JRB YOUTH: 60%
JRB: 64%
OVERALL: 68%
100% YSB REPORTING



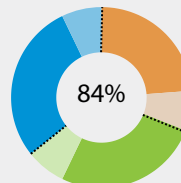
NEW LONDON

PROGRAMMING: 50%
NON JRB YOUTH: 67%
JRB: 43%
OVERALL: 53%
90% YSB REPORTING



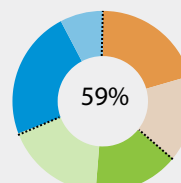
NORTH CENTRAL

PROGRAMMING: 83%
NON JRB YOUTH: 79%
JRB: 83%
OVERALL: 82%
96% YSB REPORTING



NORTHWEST

PROGRAMMING: 73%
NON JRB YOUTH: 91%
JRB: 89%
OVERALL: 84%
100% YSB REPORTING



SOUTH CENTRAL

PROGRAMMING: 57%
NON JRB YOUTH: 46%
JRB: 75%
OVERALL: 59%
86% YSB REPORTING

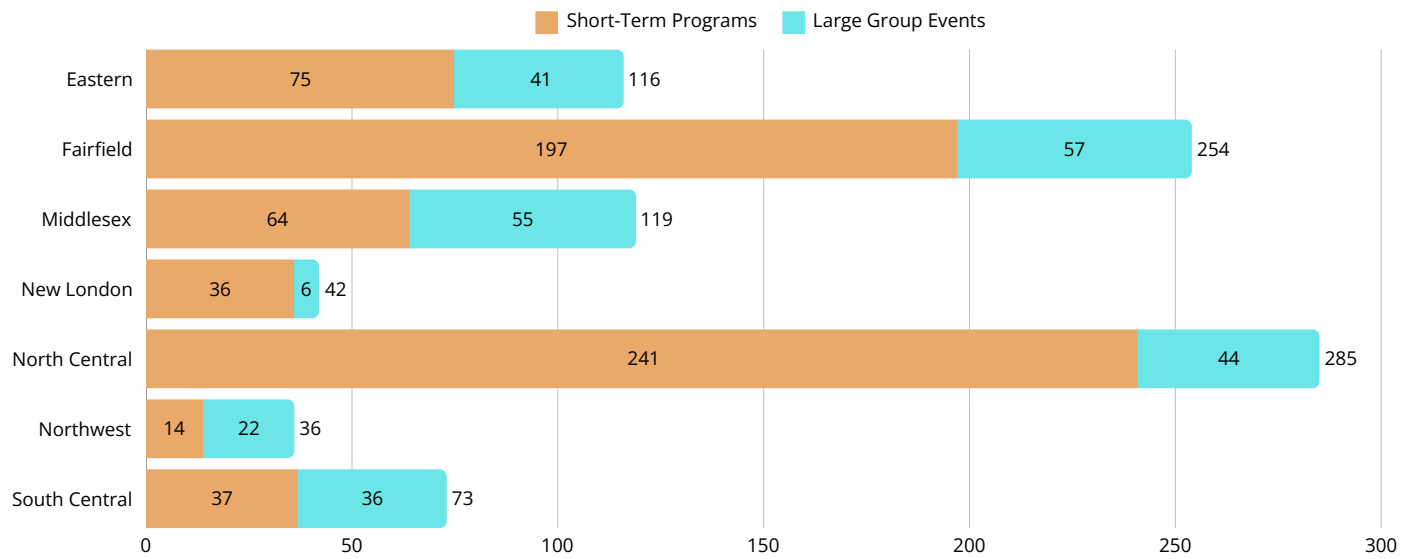
PROGRAMMING

SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS AND LARGE GROUP EVENTS (TIER 1 ENGAGEMENT)

Statewide, 925 Short-Term Programs and Large Group Events were reported for SFY25 Quarter 1. North Central reported the most with 285 programs and events, while Fairfield Chapter held the highest calculated average reported at 21 events and programs per YSB.



TOTAL PROGRAMMING REPORTED BY CHAPTER



LARGE GROUP EVENTS

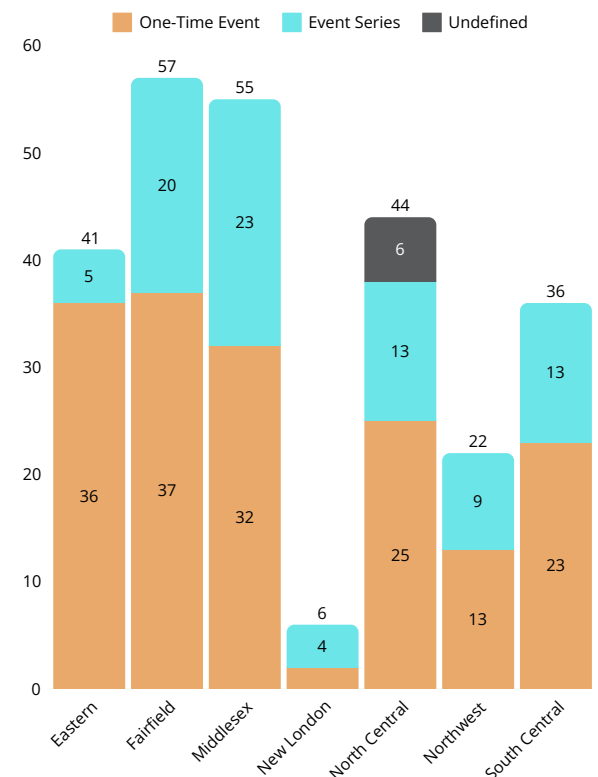
STATEWIDE THERE WERE **261**

TOTAL REPORTED LARGE GROUP EVENTS

53,204 REPORTED PARTICIPANTS

Statewide the calculated average of Large Group Events per YSB was 7, while the median was 14 events. Middlesex Chapter reported the most Large Group Events in Q1 with 55 Large Group Events comprised of 23 Event Series and 32 One-Time Events. The largest reported number of Large Group event participants came from the Fairfield Chapter. Fairfield reported 13,142 total participants which made up nearly 25% of the statewide reported total.

CHAPTER: LARGE GROUP EVENTS



CHAPTER: LARGE GROUP EVENT PARTICIPANTS

CHAPTER	ONE-TIME EVENTS	EVENT SERIES
EASTERN	6,349 PARTICIPANTS	93 PARTICIPANTS
FAIRFIELD	12,307 PARTICIPANTS	835 PARTICIPANTS
MIDDLESEX	8,978 PARTICIPANTS	648 PARTICIPANTS
NEW LONDON	400 PARTICIPANTS	1,275 PARTICIPANTS
NORTH CENTRAL*	6,309 PARTICIPANTS	2,033 PARTICIPANTS
NORTHWEST	3,064 PARTICIPANTS	309 PARTICIPANTS
SOUTH CENTRAL	9,079 PARTICIPANTS	768 PARTICIPANTS

*North Central Chapter had an additional 757 Large Group Participants in undefined categories



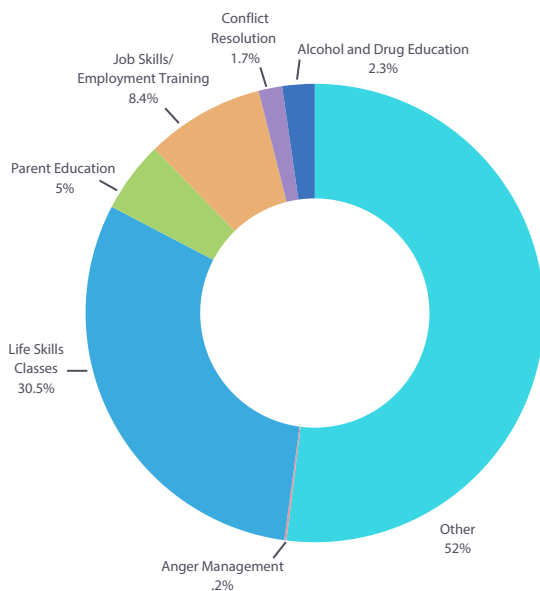
PROGRAMMING

SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS

STATEWIDE THERE WERE **664** TOTAL REPORTED SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS
WITH **11,619** REPORTED PARTICIPANTS

Statewide, the median number of Short-Term Programs per YSB was 7. The majority (52%) of reported programs were categorized as "Other" and 56% of the reported total 11,619 Short-Term Program participants were those engaged in "Other" programming.

STATEWIDE: SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS



STATEWIDE: SHORT-TERM PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

342 OTHER PROGRAMS /
6,515 PARTICIPANTS

201 LIFE SKILLS CLASSES
PROGRAMS / 3,161 PARTICIPANTS

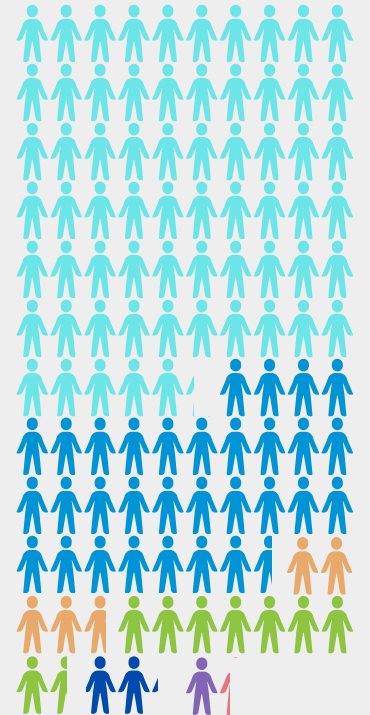
55 JOB SKILLS/ EMPLOYMENT
TRAINING PROGRAMS /
480 PARTICIPANTS

33 PARENT EDUCATION
PROGRAMS / 846 PARTICIPANTS

15 ALCOHOL AND DRUG
EDUCATION PROGRAMS /
208 PARTICIPANTS

11 CONFLICT RESOLUTION
PROGRAMS / 96 PARTICIPANTS

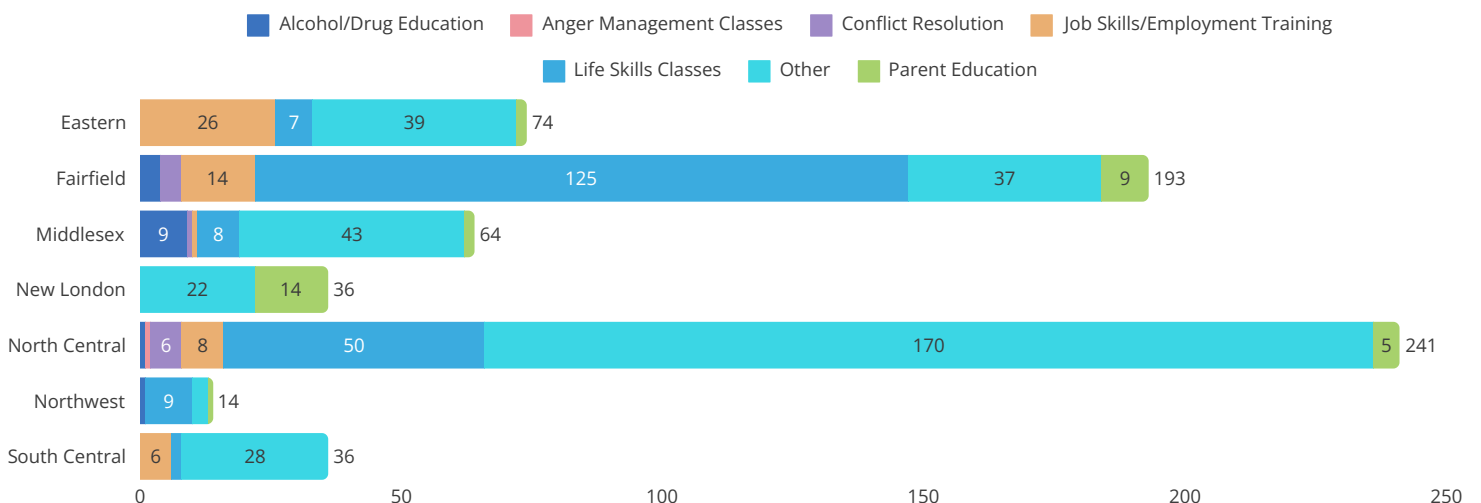
1 ANGER MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM / 30 PARTICIPANTS



1 icon = 100 Ps

CHAPTER: SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPANTS

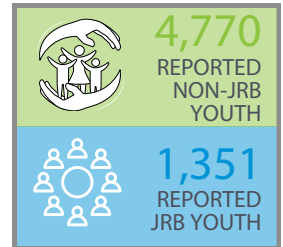
Approximately half of the "Other" categorized programs were reported by the North Central Chapter, which reported roughly 36% of the overall Short-Term programs, higher than any other Chapter. Life Skills Classes were the second highest reported programming with 3,161 participants; 62% of these programs were reported by the Fairfield Chapter.



YOUTH

STATEWIDE THERE WERE **6,121** YOUTH SERVED AS **NON-JRB PARTICIPANTS** (TIER 2 ENGAGEMENT) OR **JRB PARTICIPANTS**

Statewide, YSBs serviced 6,121 youth in Q1 with more extensive services and programs like therapy, summer programs, and other engagements that generally lasted more than 20 hours. Of the 6,121 youth served, 1,351 youth were JRB process participants.



PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



The majority of non-JRB Youth reported were between the ages of **11 to 16 years** (57%)



The majority of JRB Youth reported were between the ages of **14 to 16 years** (56%)

52%	2,466	GENDER	556	41%
46%	2,201	FEMALE	757	56%
< 1%	22	MALE	5	< 1%
< 1%	20	TRANSGENDER	6	< 1%
1%	61	NON-BINARY	27	2%
		DNR		
		ETHNICITY		
22%	1,026	NOT HISPANIC	484	36%
65%	3,126	HISPANIC	749	55%
13%	618	DNR	118	9%
		RACE		
60%	2,840	WHITE	626	46%
15%	700	BLACK/AFRICAN	391	29%
8%	360	MULTIRACIAL	115	9%
4%	175	ASIAN	21	2%
< 1%	36	AMERICAN INDIAN	4	< 1%
< 1%	10	NATIVE HAWAIIAN	1	< 1%
12%	549	DNR	193	14%
		SUSPENSION		
46%	2,178	NO	360	27%
4%	206	YES	788	58%
50%	2,386	DNR	203	15%
		EXPULSION		
50%	2,364	NO	1,045	77%
< 1%	20	YES	111	8%
50%	2,386	DNR	195	14%
		SPED		
41%	1,968	NO	324	24%
9%	415	YES	726	55%
50%	2,387	DNR	281	21%

FAMILY CONSTELLATION AND HOUSING STATUS

Statewide, neither non-JRB youth nor JRB youth were reported as experiencing high levels of housing instability in Quarter 1. However, the Northwest Chapter reported the highest percentage of housing instability among their reported youth in both service categories.

NON-JRB YOUTH
53% live with Two
Birth/Adoptive Parents

15% DNR

JRB YOUTH
26% live with a Female
Single Parent

33% DNR

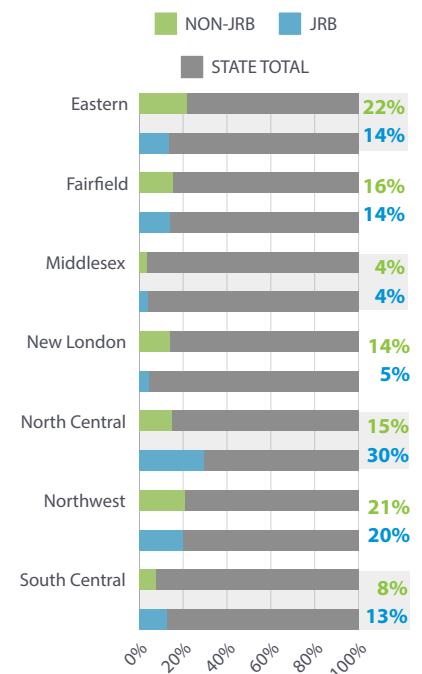
CHAPTER REPORTING

The Eastern Chapter contributed the highest percentage of Non-JRB participant reporting at 22% of the reported state total. North Central reported the majority of the JRB participant data covering 30% of the reported state total.

Statewide, the median per YSB reported non-JRB participants was 45. Among the Chapters, the highest median per YSB was 86, reported by the New London Chapter.

Statewide, the median per YSB reported JRB participants was 10. Among the Chapters, the highest median per YSB was 29, reported by the Northwest Chapter.

CHAPTER REPORTING VS STATE



STATEWIDE: NON-JRB AND JRB REFERRALS AND SERVICES

 NON- JRB	 JRB
TOP REASONS FOR REFERRAL	
1.Positive Youth Development	1.Delinquent Behavior
2.Parent/Family issues	2.Defiance of School Rules
3.Non school issues	3.Truancy*
4.School issues	4.Substance Abuse
5.Depression	5.Other
TOP REFERRAL SOURCES	
1.Parent / Guardian	1.Police
2.Self	2.Court
3.School	3.School
4.Police	4.Other
5.JRB	5.Parent / Guardian
*Truancy should be reported under non-JRB Youth	

Statewide, reported referral activity in quarter one for non-JRB and JRB youth alike were in line with previous quarter reports. Truancy/FWSN referrals continue to be reported in the JRB process despite directives to refer those cases to be handled through the YSB. Additionally, many unique data fields continue to be submitted by organizations in youth categories, which inhibits accurate analysis and reporting.

TOP SERVICES PROVIDED

NON- JRB	JRB
1.Summer Programs	1.Individual Therapy
2.After School Programs	2.Community Service
3.Individual Therapy	3.Positive Youth Development
4.Employment/ Job Training	4.Apology Letter
5.Leadership Development	5.Essay

Top SFY25Q1 services also aligned with previous quarter reporting trends for both non-JRB and JRB youth categories.

STATEWIDE: JRB

Statewide, there were 1,351 reported open JRB cases in SFY25 Q1. Open cases refer to any JRB case that has had an intake and not yet closeout, regardless of what school fiscal year the case originated. Reported quarterly activity refers to intakes, panels and/or closeouts that have occurred within the designated quarter, as indicated by the dates reported.

REPORTED QUARTER 1 ACTIVITY

234 REFERRALS MADE **970** PANELS HELD
664 INTAKES PERFORMED **365** CLOSEOUTS COMPLETED

INCIDENT CATEGORY

- 1.Arrest - 48%
- 2.No Arrest - 33%
- 3.FWSN - 6%*
- DNR - 14%

INCIDENT LOCATION

- 1.School - 53%
- 2.Community - 41%
- DNR - 6%

INCIDENT TYPE

- 1.Breach of peace - 37%
- 2.Assault - 17%
- 3.Disorderly Conduct - 12%
- 4.Larceny - 8%
- 5.Other - 7%

SUCCESSFUL CLOSEOUT?

- 1.Yes - 75%
- 2.No: Noncompliance - 10%
- 3.No: Other - 7%
- 4.No: Arrest - 4%
- 5.No: Moved - 2%
- DNR - 2%

CLOSEOUT TYPE

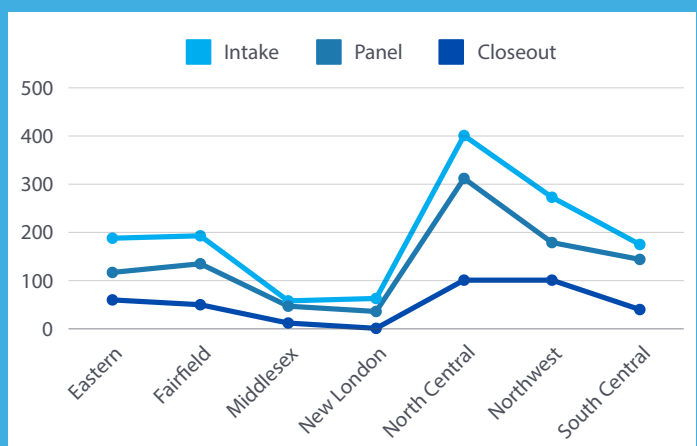
- 1.Face-to-Face Full Board - 27%
- 2.Letter/Email - 26%
- 3.Face-to-Face Other - 17%
- 4.Phone call - 16%
- 5.No Communication - 8%
- DNR - 5%

*FWSN should be reported under non-JRB Youth

CHAPTER : JRB

Statewide, the calculated average of open cases per YSB was 19, the median cases per YSB was 10. While the North Central Chapter contributed the highest percentage of JRB cases statewide (30%), the Northwest Chapter had the highest calculated average of cases per YSB (29) and highest median per YSB (34).

JRB PROCESS REPORTING BY CHAPTER



The North Central Chapter contributed the highest percentage of reported Q1 JRB case activity at every step of the JRB process. The Middlesex Chapter boasted the highest percentage of multiple reported successful closeouts at 83%.

Bristol School Readiness Council

For Bristol Youth Commission

February 12, 2025

Agenda

- What is School Readiness?
- School Readiness and Bristol Early Childhood Alliance Collaboration and Successes
- BIG Upcoming Changes
- Questions

What is School Readiness?

- State statute – grant program established in 1997
- Provides spaces in high-quality preschool programs for eligible children in priority school districts or competitive grant communities
 - Parent access and choice
 - Coordination of programs and services
 - Flexibility to meet local needs
 - Minimize developmental delays and reduce need for special services
 - Programs must be NAEYC Accredited or Head Start Approved

What is School Readiness cont.

- Funding comes from CT Office of Early Childhood (OEC) to communities
- School Readiness enrollment:
 - Three- and four-year-old children (recently included infants and toddlers)
 - Mostly Bristol residents
 - No working requirement for families
 - 60% of enrollment must be at or below 75% of SMI

Bristol School Readiness “Slots”

Bristol has:

- 164 part-day/part-year pre-K spaces at Bristol Board of Education (Edgewood Pre-Kindergarten Academy)
- 129 full-day/full-year pre-K spaces at Bristol Child Development Center (BCDC), and BCDC also has 64 infant/toddler Child Day Care spaces
- 119 full-day/full-year pre-K and 8 infant/toddler spaces at Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center

Total of 248 full-day/full-year, 164 part-day/part-year year pre-K spaces and 72 infant/toddler spaces for approx. \$4.7 million/year

What is School Readiness?

11 Quality Components

11 Quality Components outline the expectations for School Readiness Councils

- Develop plan for collaboration with other community programs and services including public libraries
- Coordinate resources to facilitate FD/FY programs for children of working parents and parents in training programs
- Encourage Parent Involvement
- Provide Referrals for Health Services immunizations and screenings
- Provide Nutrition Services

What is School Readiness?

11 Quality Components cont.

- Provide referrals for promotion of family literacy
- Develop admission policies that promote diversity
- Develop plan for transition to Kindergarten
- Develop plan for staff professional development
- Use the OEC sliding fee scale
- Develop a plan to ensure integration of children with disabilities
- Implement an annual evaluation of effectiveness of the program

School Readiness Council Collaborations

- The SRC is a collaborative network charged with planning to serve all young children in high quality programs, and collaborates with:
 - Bristol Health, Pediatricians and WIC
 - Bristol Housing Authority
 - Bristol Public Schools, including Adult Education, Family Resource Centers and McKinney-Vento Homeless Coordinator
 - City of Bristol Departments, including Bristol-Burlington Health District, Library, PRYCS, Police and Fire
 - CT Office of Early Childhood
 - Head Start and OEC Funded Programs
 - Local Businesses
 - Tunxis Community College
 - United Way of West Central CT and 2-1-1

School Readiness Council Successes (a few)

- Partnership with Bristol Early Childhood Alliance (BECA)
 - Infant and Toddler Committee (pilot with WIC to screen new mothers for post-partum depression resulted in statewide screening by all WIC offices)
 - Health Committee (pilot with pediatrician helped to decrease childhood obesity in her patients, and numerous organizations continue to offer parent education related to this)
 - Outreach Committee (Family Fun Day; new Special Education HUB for parents)
 - Transition to Kindergarten Committee (Appetite for Reading and first Little Free Libraries; pushed to streamline Kindergarten processes across the district)
 - Shared Facebook page MakingBristolBetter has 2,200 followers and had 20,271 views in last 28 days

BIG Upcoming Changes

- State combining 3 funding streams (School Readiness, Child Day Care and State Head Start) into Early Start CT on July 1, 2025
- New Council will have some different and additional responsibilities
- Bristol combining School Readiness Council and Bristol Early Childhood Alliance into one new group, **Bristol Early Childhood Collaborative**, and will rebrand
- Governor just called for Universal Pre-K while keeping stable the current system

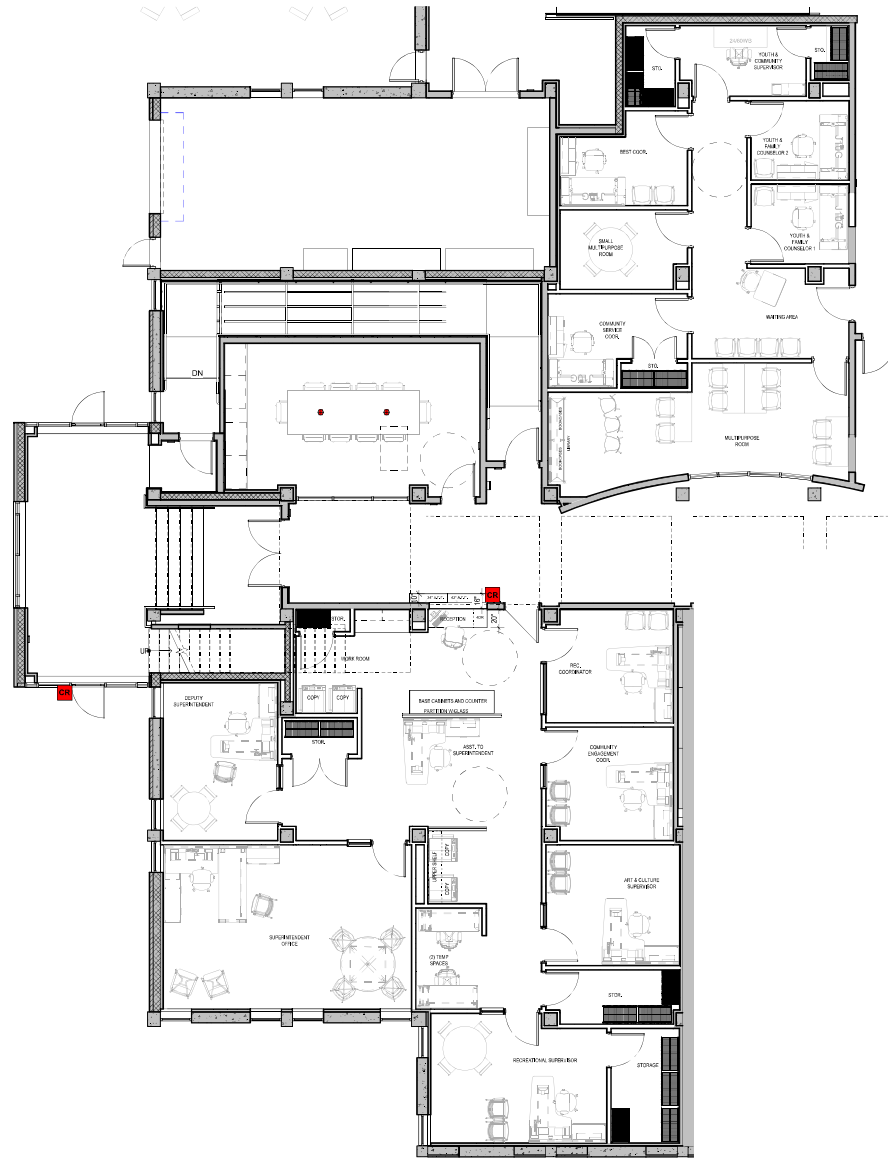
Questions?

Thank you!!

Donna Osuch, School Readiness Liaison

donnaosuch@bristolct.gov

860-584-7828, ext. 411154



1 GROUND FLOOR - PARKS & REC
13 3/16" = 1'-0"

Giving in Numbers

2024 Holiday Gift Giving Program



473

Bristol
Children
Served



100%

of assistance
goes toward
Bristol residents



One Stuff-A-Cruiser

in partnership with the City
of Bristol Police Department



Over 55 Donors



Adopted One or
More Family with
Multiple Children



184 Families
provided with
Assistance



9 Residents
Participated
in Shop-with-a-Cop



Dropoff Locations
and Collection
Partners



5 Bristol Fire Station
Donation Collection
Locations



**2 Collections at
Downtown Live**

46%
Increase
in number
of children
served over
the past
five years



33%
Increase
in number
of sponsors
from 2023

Thank you to all of the donors, sponsors, partners,
and the community for a successful 2024 Holiday
Gift Giving Program!

Thank You!