

**PASSAIC COUNTY YOUTH
SERVICE COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

- ☞ Youth Commission Administrator
Wayne E. Cozart
- ☞ Youth Services Coordinator
Glenis McCloud
- ☞ Acting Program Director
Pam Ferguson, MS, NCC, LPC
- ☞ Case Management,
Pam Ferguson, , MS, NCC, LPC
- ☞ Youth Drug Counselor
Michael Jackson, LCADC
- ☞ Administrative Assistant
Sheila Bullock
- ☞ Senior Mentor
Archie Burrell
- ☞ Youth Mentor
Chris Williams
- ☞ Youth Mentor
Raul Rojas
- ☞ Youth Mentor
Ana Mora
- ☞ Youth Mentor
Kevin Maketli
- ☞ Investigator
Randi Billie
- ☞ Site Education Supervisor
Claire Axelrod
- ☞ JJC Teacher
Vince Mayernick

**FUTURE LIVES
INITIATIVE
MISSION STATEMENT**



To strengthen students' social, cognitive and moral skills through education, mentoring, therapy, family involvement and role modeling so they understand and realize their self worth, and the skills necessary for successful interaction and involvement in their communities.

Hours of Operation

**Monday through Friday
8am-7pm**

**Saturday, (Community Service/
Restorative Justice)
8:00am-12:00pm**

**Future Lives Initiative Program
One West Broadway
Paterson, New Jersey 07505**

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**Passaic County Youth Service
Commission**

**Future Lives
Initiative Program**

**“Changing Lives One Day at a
Time”**



Future Lives Initiative Program

**Wayne E. Cozart-Administrator
waynec@passaiccountynj.org**

**Passaic County Youth Service
Commission**

Tel: 973-523-1200

Passaic County Youth Service Commission Future Lives Initiative Program

Introduction

The Future Lives Initiative Program, of FLIP is centrally located in the heart of down-town Paterson. The program first opened its doors in January of 2002. FLIP was created through the combined efforts of the Passaic County Youth Services Commission and the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC), and is a component of New Jersey's State Incentive Program (SIP).

The purpose of FLIP is to provide a community based program that serves as an alternative to placement in a JJC Correctional Facility for troubled youth that have involvement in the Passaic County legal system. FLIP functions to reduce the number of referrals to state adolescent facilities by implementing educational services and therapeutic treatment services for all participants. The structure of services at FLIP is divided between a Day Program and an Aftercare component.

Population Served

The population served includes male and female adolescents with a range between 13 and 17 years old. These adolescents must have been adjudicated and received a minimum of a one year suspended sentence to the JJC Correctional or Residential Programs and, characteristically for offenses of a 3rd degree and/or a 4th degree.

Day Program

The Day Program provides intensive monitoring and/or supervision seven days a week with a full day of program activities. Programming consists of education, intensive outpatient counseling services, probation reporting and supervision, and community service/restorative justice assignments.

The JJC Education Department insures that credits are provided to each youth for his/her participation in school. They also maintain responsibility for completed educational earned at FLIP and send them directly to the youth's home district.

Counseling services at FLIP includes individual, group, and family counseling, substance abuse treatment, anger management, life skills, gang prevention, and recreational activities.

The Day Program is a minimal of nine months. Participants are required to wear an electronic bracelet monitor for the first three months. The bracelet may be removed at the end of the third month if the participant's compliance with the rules and regulations of the program meet a consistent display of positive behavior, as measured by the point system.

The fourth through sixth month in the program participants should begin to display signs of behavior change in an overall positive progression. Demonstration of such change allocates the participant additional free time on weekends and possible permission to obtain part-time work.

In the final stages of the program, months seven through nine, participants should be able to authenticate and verbalize significant signs of behavior change. They are expected to act as role-models for participants with less time in the program. At this stage, preparation for discharge into the Aftercare Program begins with a Discharge Plan finalized in the eighth month. Discharge Plans include arrangement for services and reporting in Aftercare.

Aftercare Program

The aftercare program provides an additional three months of support to program participants, which are crucial to ensuring the juvenile's continued success. During the Aftercare period, the juvenile will maintain contact with once a week, or as needed, counseling sessions at the program.

Overall Services

- ☞ Education
- ☞ Individual, and family counseling
- ☞ Mentoring
- ☞ Social skills and Anger Management
- ☞ Vocational Classes
- ☞ Cultural Awareness
- ☞ Gang Prevention Group
- ☞ Substance Abuse Awareness, Assessment and Treatment
- ☞ Case Management
- ☞ Electronic Monitoring Bracelet
- ☞ Curfew Checks
- ☞ Intense Probation Involvement
- ☞ Community Service/Restorative Justice Assignments
- ☞ Recreational Activities

Treatment Philosophy

The treatment team of the Future Lives Initiative Program understands the need to treat out youth with dignity and respect, while simultaneously holding them accountable for their actions.

Staff engage adolescents using a cognitive behavioral approach, and encourages them to think consequentially about their choices of behavior.