

# Youth Services Network Meeting

May 11, 2026 – 9:15am

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County

## 1) Introductions/Welcome

Introductions and welcome were made.

## 2) Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

No edits or changes were suggested to the previous meeting minutes.

## 3) Guest Presenters

Zoo New York – Kathryn Allen, Curator

Kathryn Allen shared information on year-round volunteer opportunities available for both youth and adults at Zoo New York. Volunteer opportunities include diet preparation, butterfly and barn attendants, petting zoo support, community outreach events, and informal on-site education. These opportunities provide valuable experience in communication and public speaking skills for youth participants. Volunteer opportunities are available for both individuals and groups, with flexible scheduling options for days and times.

Give TALLER Campaign – FynePr1nt Williams

FynePr1nt Williams presented on the Give TALLER campaign, which encourages youth and adults to give Time, Attendance, Love, Loyalty, Effort, and Respect to themselves and others. FynePr1nt provides motivational programming for youth and adults through music-based presentations and assembly-style events. A variety of services and program options are available, and programming can be tailored to meet the needs of individual organizations and groups.

## 4) Program Updates/Announcements

CCE Jefferson – Shared that several youth programs and opportunities will be offered throughout the summer. Members were encouraged to watch for upcoming flyers and program information.

Q-Center – Provided updates on upcoming PRYDE Month programming throughout Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties. Upcoming events include:

- Syracuse PRYDE Prom – June 5
- Watertown PRYDE Prom – June 27
- Lewis County PRYDE Day – June 7
- Jefferson County PRYDE Day – June 20
- St. Lawrence County PRYDE Day – June 13

NCPPC – Was awarded funding from the Jefferson County Youth Bureau to support a Red Cross Babysitting Course. Eligible organizations will be contacted with dates and registration information soon.

Planned Parenthood – Is supporting the various PRYDE events being organized by the Q-Center. They now have a Program Coordinator supporting LGBTQ individuals and are partnering with Prism in Albany to provide counseling and healthcare support services. Several summer volunteer opportunities are also available.

CAPC – Is celebrating its 60th anniversary and will host a family fun day at their office on May 27 for the community.

YMCA – Will host its annual Healthy Kids Day on June 13. The YEP (Youth Empowerment Program) is concluding for the school year and will resume in the fall. The program is open to youth ages 14–21.

Encompass Recreation – Shared updates on several spring and summer programs and events, including Track and Field programming on Sundays in Carthage, a Learn to Ride bike program in Lowville, South Jefferson Baseball programming, horseback riding opportunities, a Sensory Friendly Movie Night in Lowville, indoor soccer and football programs, a bowling league, and their annual Family Fun Day at Camp Wabasso.

Victims Assistance Center (VAC) Child Advocacy Center – Shared information on their upcoming 4th Annual Open and Closed Door Event.

Access VR – Announced a new virtual reality career exploration program that will debut at this year's Career Jam event.

Youth Alliance – Shared that the Watertown youth group recently received an award from the Mayor of Watertown in recognition of their work in the community. The group is currently working with youth to better understand what they observe and experience when going by local smoke and vape shops and plans to share their perspectives with store owners in an effort to reduce youth appeal and access. Youth Alliance is also facilitating a workshop at Belleville Henderson where youth will gain experience educating the community on these topics. In addition, they will be hosting a Glow-in-the-Dark Volleyball Night at Sackets Harbor Central School District.

## **5) Other – Meeting Planning and Discussion**

Members were encouraged to continue sharing upcoming youth services network meeting dates with others who are working with youth in Jefferson County.

## **6) Remaining 2026 Meeting Dates – West Room at CCE, 9:15am**

- September 14, 2026
- November 16, 2026