

Justice-Involved Youth Subcommittee Notes

March 20, 2026

The Justice-Involved Youth Subcommittee met to discuss ongoing efforts to strengthen employment, training, and supportive opportunities for justice-involved youth throughout Northeast Iowa.

The meeting included updates from subcommittee members and approval/review of the March 20, 2026 agenda and January 16, 2026 meeting notes.

Discussion focused on employment resources for returning citizens, including available tax credits and the Federal Bonding Program. The group reviewed how these resources can help reduce barriers for employers and encourage businesses to consider hiring individuals with justice involvement.

The subcommittee also discussed strategies for connecting employers with workforce programs to create additional opportunities for justice-involved youth. Conversation centered on strengthening partnerships between employers, workforce programs, and community organizations to provide career exposure, employment preparation, and work-based learning opportunities.

Members reviewed the Youth Strategic Plan and discussed how justice-involved youth initiatives and partnerships can continue to support the goals and strategies identified within the plan.

Planning also continued for the Northeast Iowa Youth Summit, including potential topics, partners, speakers, and opportunities to incorporate information relevant to organizations serving justice-involved and other opportunity youth.

The meeting concluded with discussion of next steps, including upcoming trainings and conferences, potential grant funding opportunities to support youth programming, and other opportunities for continued collaboration.