



Criminal Justice
Resource Center

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee
24 May 2016

Members Present: Sherry Honeycutt Everett, Lawrence M. Campbell, Brenda Howerton, Clarence Birkhead, Candace Rashada, Judge Marcia Morey, Lao Rubert, Gudrun Parmer, Vernon O'Mar Taylor, Jackie Brown, Shannon McCabe, Raheem Aleem, Eric Ireland (for Gayle Harris)

Members Absent: Michael Becketts, Clarence Maynor, Umar Muhammad, Celeste Kelly, Ann Oshel, Damion Moore, Kristen Rosselli, Marcia Owen

Guest: Jodi Miller

Staff: Roshanna Parker, Celia Jefferson

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Lawrence M. Campbell opened the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Review and Approve May Minutes

Mr. Campbell asked the committee to review the minutes. It was moved that the minutes be accepted as presented with one correction that Jackie Brown was not absent from the March meeting. Gudrun Parmer properly seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Subcommittee Reports

Stepping Up Initiative

In Peter Baker's absence, Gudrun Parmer reported that the committee received a presentation on Care Coordination by Alliance staff at the last meeting. They also discussed making progress in discharge planning through a direct link between the Public Defender's Office and jail mental health staff identifying cases and sharing information which assists in better coordination. Gudrun noted that CJRC did not receive the Governor's Crime Commission Grant that was submitted for a mental health court. Progress has been made at the Recovery Response Center (Formerly Durham Center Access). Recovery Innovations took over the crisis center in January and has been out in the community making connections, sharing their approach to providing services. They have been very open to amending policies, accepting more people and turning away very few people. Regular reports are sent to stakeholders.

Budget Items

Gudrun shared that the County Manager presented his budget to the Board of County Commissioners on May 23rd. Several items in the recommended budget came out of the Stepping Up Initiative recommendations. CJRC requested a Peer Specialist to work with the jail discharge planner to connect inmates working with the mental health team to outside resources. The peer

specialist will help them until they get connected to a provider and get their meds picked up from Gurley. Gudrun noted since CJRC did not get the Governor Crime Commission grant, the County Manager's Office is proposing local funding for a court based diversion program as well as some funding for transitional housing. Judge Morey, Gudrun Parmer, Lawrence Campbell, and Rogers Echols have met to begin planning for the mental health diversion program. Gudrun noted that she did not see any funding for a high acuity pod in jail. Jodi Miller responded that there have been discussions with the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff had requested a jail review from the National Institute of Corrections and there might be recommendations in the report. The County Manager's Office hopes those recommendations can be reviewed in during the budget process.

Reentry

Lao Rubert reported that the Reentry Subcommittee's major priorities are employment, housing and service coordination. The employment issue is being coordinated by the Adult Provider Collaborative. DWDB has submitted a federal grant to target reentry issues. Housing is a big concern and they are pulling together a lot of housing concerns. Service coordination will focus on how Durham would connect to people in the prisons prior to release. Lao noted that NC DPS plans to identify prison units targeting releases to Durham, Johnson, Orange, and Wake County. Lao shared that the committee will host another Provider Networking Event on June 2nd to let program providers in Durham know that CJAC is establishing a Local Reentry Council. Roshanna Parker asked CJAC members to attend the event and serve as floaters in the room as providers come in from the community and talk about their services and to learn about CJAC. The committee will also need donations for door prizes.

Domestic Violence

Sherry Everett reported that the Domestic Violence Subcommittee met on April 6th. The committee is looking at resources for people with prior justice involvement as a result of domestic violence. Two independent providers were invited to present at the meeting, Strong Fathers and True Care of the Carolinas. The Governor's Crime Commission Grant for a Family Justice Center submitted by Durham Crisis Response Center was successful and will provide \$875,000. Nine positions will be created and the group is hoping to use space on the 2nd floor in the courthouse. The subcommittee will meet again on June 16th at 8:15am.

Partner Agency Presentation

Candace Rashada, Program Coordinator in the Continuing Ed Division at Durham Tech noted that the best entry point for formerly incarcerated and justice involved persons would be around skill training. Candace noted the Continuing Education department incorporates Human Resource Development (HRD) and Workforce Development which is mandated in 58 community colleges around the state. Most of the courses offered in the department are fee waived to people that are unemployed or underemployed. DTCC creates classes to address employability skills and soft skill development, as well as some technical awareness and computer skills. Last fall, DTCC implemented a program for persons receiving food stamps including nutritious services. They have also created workshops around the city, resume cover letter development, marketing skills, help people register for NCWorks online and offer free training classes to get people ready for the career readiness assessment that is recognized by employers in NC. Support services are listed on their website. Candace distributed information flyers to the committee.

Review CJAC Membership Roster and Attendance

Gudrun distributed the membership roster. Gudrun and Celia had met with the Clerk to the Board to review the CJAC roster and learnt there are some positions that are not properly appointed. Among the positions appointed by the Commissioners are two citizen appointments but there are currently five appointees listed. The remaining positions are intentional relationships that the advisory committee is seeking. Gudrun asked the committee if they knew anyone that fit the open positions to have a conversation and gauge their interest to serve on CJAC.

Public Comments

Lao shared that she had emailed the committee an invitation to a celebration on June 5th from 4-6pm.

The next meeting will be held on July 26th.

Meeting Adjourned