

# DURHAM COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

## October 24, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Note Taker: Celia Jefferson

### Members Present

DeWarren K. Langley  
Jennifer Rogers  
Angela Nunn  
Drew Cummings  
David Addison  
Olivia Marks  
Gayle Harris  
Calvin Vaughan  
Johnnie Foster  
Herman Scott  
Ann Oshel  
Arnold Dennis  
Georgette O'Mary  
Anna Lee Mosley  
Michelle H. Smith  
Karen K. Thompson

### Excused Members

Julie Linehan  
Patricia Evans  
Umar Muhammad  
Lauren Wright  
Fungai Bennett  
Brenda Howerton

### Others Present

Cindy Porterfield  
Stephen Watson  
Gepmieka Torrence  
Amy Elliott

### Staff

Jim Stuit  
Vinicius Vial  
Gudrun Parmer

### Welcome

David Addison, chair, called the meeting to order, and welcomed everyone.

### DJJ Update

Cindy Porterfield reported that her office has not been moved. She is still functioning with a processing assistant splitting their time between the Piedmont and the Western part of the state. She thanked Celia for turning the final accounting in on time. She has already reviewed and mailed billings and they should be coming back to Celia; Celia stated that they were received.. Cindy is a part of the state committee to develop response and reward grids and they worked on the sanction piece of the grid. The outcome is service planning goals with sanctions and graduated sanctions when youth do not respond to the grid. As an outgrowth of that we will need to form a committee from this JCPC to work on incentives. We actually saw some of that happen in the forum that was held last November. Since our last meeting we also had a community forum for Level II programs. Durham has a level II program through Young Warrior. Feedback was given from Durham's court counselors and they gave valuable information to the Young Warrior program on how to take the programming and enhance it. Durham's Parks and Recreation Department partnered with Young Warrior and offered them space for their program. They will move from their downtown site to a Parks and Recreational site located in the middle of the area they will be serving.

Arnold informed Cindy that the council had questions about our Risk/Needs Assessment on how they came up with some of their answers. Cindy will schedule a meeting through Celia to review this year's Risk/Need Assessment report. She informed the council about an article in the News and Observer that highlighted some of the community programs. She stated that overall, violent crimes have decline by 14% in the state since 2002. The number of teens under 16 charged with violent crime has dropped nearly 37% and overall property crime has dropped by 4.5% during the same period. The arrest of teens under 16 has dropped 40%. Juvenile Crime has a reduction of 73%. Arnold stated that many times when trends like this happen, that means there is an increase somewhere else.

We have been quoted as the national model. Cindy informed the council that Calvin now has tools to pull a district data report, which has the demographics to assess the county and our offenders' profile.

### **Approval of Minutes**

David asked the council to review the minutes. **Motion:** David motioned that the minutes be accepted as presented. **Action:** Seconded and Approved.

### **JCPC Funds / DMC Conference**

Gudrun reported that the DMC committee is working on a conference to be held on January 25th. She submitted a Wal-Mart grant on August 17<sup>th</sup> to cover the food expense for the conference. It will take 90 days to receive a response. At the JCPC Executive Committee meeting last week, Karen Thompson, JCPC treasurer suggested that \$2,500 of the funds in the JCPC administrative budget could be used for food expense for the DMC conference if they are not awarded the Wal-Mart grant. David stated that since DMC is a subcommittee of JCPC, we should vote on supporting their efforts. **Motion:** David motioned that JCPC will fund the food expense in the amount of \$2,500 for the DMC Conference to be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>. **Action:** Seconded and Approved.

### **Presentation – Amy Elliott (Duke Center for Civic Engagement Restorative Justice Studio)**

The vision of the Duke Center for Civic Engagement (DCCE) seeks to create, sustain, and exemplify an ethos of civic engagement at Duke by connecting university education to public service, promoting reflection on the values of civic engagement, and cultivating synergy among Duke's diverse efforts to make the world a more equitable place. Amy stated that Duke is looking at how they can partner with the community and how they can be more engaging in working with projects that Durham is interested in doing and bring some resources to the table. You can visit their website (DCCE) to see the many projects they are working on.

Amy summarized the two studios' projects at DCCE. One studio project is named None of the Above (NOTA). This studio is built around two themes: concern about the impact of long-term suspension on students, schools, and communities (the "school to prison pipeline"); and a consideration of public pedagogies at the intersection of arts, activism, and the university. NOTA is an interdisciplinary, multimedia collaboration investigating the intersection of race, poverty, education, and incarceration through the words, maps, self-portraits, and experiences of those affected by this school-to-prison pipeline.

The second studio project is the Restorative Justice Studio (RJ), which will engage and activate the civic imagination around RJ among Duke University affiliates and people who live and work in Durham. RJ interrupts the seemingly natural response to crime and wrongdoing that uses authority figures to punish and remove the problem "warehousing" crime, albeit temporarily and at great human and monetary cost. RJ is not a panacea. However, it offers a critique of how the U.S. arrived at its stunning incarceration and school suspension rates, while simultaneously enacting promising alternatives. They hope ultimately to insert RJ into the standard menu of options used by families, neighborhoods, public schools, universities, and the criminal justice system as a more authentic, effective, and affordable response to conflict and wrong doing.

Amy has been reaching out to a middle school in Durham looking at the potential to do a project with them. In the past she has done school projects in the charter schools with a grant through CJRC from GCC. Amy taught the prevention part of RJ, relationship and community building at Riverside in the class room. She had 125 high school students from all over NC to UNC for the summer. They worked on connecting people through their values, personal stories, things that they like and do. People are less likely to hurt or harm each other when they know each other. This is a very effective project in the schools.

Amy, along with co-workers, will visit New Zealand next year. New Zealand has been practicing RJ for 10 years. RJ is not a program; it is a philosophy, a set of values, and principles. One of the main principles is meeting people where they are at. There are practices you can use and integrate into a program like Teen Court; Motivating Interviewing.

## **Reports – Informal Visits to Program – JCPC Members**

### **The P.R.O.U.D. Program**

Jennifer Rogers and Umar Muhammad visited the P.R.O.U.D. program two weeks ago. Jennifer stated that the program is very organized. Quillie, program director, talked with them about other programs they are trying to start, but not with JCPC funds. Jennifer and Umar talked to Quillie about other resources. Quillie has trouble with our fiscal year because they go by the calendar year so it is hard to get a youth started in a session and then not know how much funds will be set aside for that youth to finish out the session. Overall, the program is very positive.

### **Teen Court & Restitution**

Olivia Marks and Gayle Harris visited Teen Court & Restitution program. The program was closed the day of the visit. Sabrina gave a review of their services. They had a program in session and were dealing with mediation and anger management.

### **Young Warrior Athlete Scholarship Program**

David Addison visited the Young Warrior program. David talked about their moving due to their present building had been purchased by someone else. The new owner was able to rent at a higher price than Nathan could afford. As Cindy reported earlier, Parks and Recreation offered them a site at the East Way Parks and Recreation Center on the corner of Alston and Liberty. Nathan wanted to know how the council determines the level of funding. David explained to him that JCPC likes to fund programs that give opportunities to kids that are on our Risk/Needs Assessment report. Also, just because you receive funding at a certain level does not mean you will always receive the same level of funding from JCPC. Nathan's goal in two years is that he will not need JCPC funding. Hopefully, partnering with Parks and Recreation will help him out financially. They also talked about undeserving youth. David stated that we have to make sure all the youth we provide funding for are being served. David also asked about the youth that are funded by JCPC who have tenure in this program, what happens when it ends. Nathan couldn't give a percentage, but he stated that some of the kids have been in the program 5-6 years. David asked Nathan to send him some hard data in regard to this. This is something that has been discussed with Cindy, area consultant.

### **Juvenile Court Psychologist**

Anna Lee Mosley and Georgette O'Mary met with Dr. Vandevusse. Unlike the programs, what he does is an integral part of working with DJJ. He works directly with the court counselors and provides assessment for youth that are referred to him. Anna Lee stated that they learned a lot about the referral process in regard to how the youth are referred and what type of assessments are used. The question was asked once assessments are done, what is the follow up with the court counselor? Do they give feedback on how youth are doing? It was disappointing to hear that it was low. Dr. Vandevusse's caseload is steady and he does not have any issues or problems. Calvin stated as for the follow-up, once they get the assessment from him there are referrals. The court counselor usually does the follow-up, not necessarily with the parent. Dr. Vandevusse always asks the parent if they want to talk about the assessment, but they normally say no, and ask that the referral be made to DSS.

### **Juvenile Justice Project**

Herman Scott and Celia met with Grace Marsh, director. Grace gave them a thorough review of what the program does. A concern was if she was keeping her data current. She indicated that she is on top of it. Cindy stated that she should serve court kids, not school kids with JCPC funds.

### **Project BUILD**

Michelle Smith and Celia met with Kedrick Lowery, director. Michelle questioned him about how many youth his program is serving. One of the things we found out about Project BUILD, in the past they had anywhere from 60 – 70 youth and a lot of them were DPS students and collaborated with them on supporting the students with their academic issues as well as trying to keep them out of trouble. In talking with Kedrick, we learned

that he had to terminate youth who had been with the program more than a year. This was a concern because if they were doing well and still had needs, we needed to stay connected with them. Michelle thinks that there is a way to continue to make sure Project BUILD does serve youth who are in the program more than a year.

**Durham Housing Authority – Family and Academic Mentoring Empowerment (FAME)**

Calvin Vaughan visited the FAME program. The program is up and going and we have started identifying more youth in those areas. Calvin stated that we might have to reduce the number of youth they are already serving. The youth identified in those areas are not all on probation. The preventive part can be done and that will help the program meet the number we had set (15).

**News and Announcements**

Arnold Dennis announced that the Juvenile Justice Institute Presents a Seminar on: Restorative Justice: Its Impact on Juvenile Justice...

**Date:** Monday, November 12, 2012 - **Time:** 6-8pm - **Place:** Whiting Criminal Justice Building Room 201. The **Presenters** are: Dr. Masamba Sita, Fullbright Scholar, Jon Powell, Attorney, Campbell School of Law, Grace Marsh, Director Durham Conflict Resolution Center.

Meeting adjourned.