

DURHAM COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

September 26, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Note Taker: Jonie Coss

Members Present

David W. Addison
Michael A. Becketts
Herman Scott
James R. Allen
Michelle H. Smith
DeWarren K. Langley
Fungai M. Bennett
Jennifer Rogers
Umar Muhammad
Calvin Vaughan
Karen K. Thompson
Anna Lee Mosley
Olivia Marks
Georgette O'Mary
Arnold Dennis
Drew Cummings

Excused Members

Lauren Wright
Patricia Evans
Angela Nunn
Gayle Harris
Brenda Howerton

Others Present

Cindy Porterfield, DJJ
Jim Stuit, CJRC
Jonie Coss, CJRC
Gudrun Parmer, CJRC
James R. Allen, Fidelity CSG INC
Stephanie L. Wms, ABHealthcare

Absent

Johnnie Foster
Julie Linehan

Welcome

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

Cindy Porterfield briefly reviewed a letter sent from Reuben F. Young, Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, regarding the movement of Community Programs from the Division of Juvenile Justice to the Division of Administration. She stated that legislation passed two years ago called for consolidation of three state departments effective January 1, 2012. The three departments that were consolidated were the Department of Corrections, Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency and Prevention. With consolidation came loss of positions within the former Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention including positions in human resources, court services, and facility services. The following divisions were clearly recognized under the new Department of Public Safety: The Division of Adult Corrections, the Division of Juvenile Justice and the Division of Administration. The letter formally announced the legislative directive to move the community programs from under the Division of Juvenile Justice to the Grants Management Section under the Division of Administration. Cindy clearly stated that JCPC is still in the Department of Public Safety, but in a different division. She stressed that the letter indicated that Juvenile Crime Prevention Council activity will remain intact and continue to function in the same manner including disbursement of the county allocation to counties through monthly disbursement to county finance offices. Clear emphasis was placed on the JCPC fund as an "allocation" to counties not grant funds.

Karen stated that the letter did not mention prevention. Cindy stated that our former secretary of DJJDP/ now Deputy Chief Secretary for the Division of Juvenile fought very hard in keeping the language of “and Delinquency Prevention,” with the Division but was unsuccessful. Cindy stated that we will continue to recognize that prevention services are valuable and supported.

Arnold Dennis stated that he has concerns in regards to the letter. He noted that he will be available if help is needed in the future if the community speaks out.

Approval of Minutes

David asked the council to review the minutes. **Motion:** David motioned that the minutes be accepted with the correction of adding Karen Thompson name as present. **Action:** Seconded and Approved.

JCPC Subcommittee Assignments

David asked all members who have not volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to do so at this time. David presented a detailed summary of each subcommittee.

Needs Assessment/Strategic Planning Committee

Umar Muhammad
DeWarren Langley

Public Awareness/Publicity Committee

Umar Muhammad
Arnold Dennis

Youth & Crime Community Indicator Report

Jim Stuit presented on the 2012 Youth & Crime Community Indicator Report. This report comes out every two years. The last one was done in 2010. The Comprehensive Gang Model was implemented about five years ago when the community was concerned about the presence of gangs and youth crime. Jim stated that we now want to know if the model chosen is the right one. Are we making progress, is it doing what it is designed to do. Overall, the report indicates that the model is doing well. Please refer to the attached report for more details regarding this report.

Tracking Long Term Recidivism

Drew Cummings informed the council that he met with Cavlin Vaughan and Kedrick Lowery of Project BUILD to talk about tracking long-term recidivism. Drew stated that Project Build has good data on their youth while they are in the program. But it is surprisingly difficult to keep track of youth after a year out on where they are and are they staying on track. Drew knows that the state is working on a program that will get us this kind of data for all agencies in the future, but we should be able to figure out access to our own local court records here in Durham for all agencies we consider funding. The long-term outcome of youth after they leave the program is very important.

Arnold stated that Drew brings up a good point in terms of juveniles versus adults because they are so young in NC. Had we been successful in pushing for increasing the juvenile age, then that information would have been available to the Division to the age of 18. Many times young people are out of the program by 18. If they get into the adult system, and unless you can make the connection with the juvenile system then you break that barrier. Juvenile records are sealed and because they are sealed, we are not always clear what is happening with them.

Drew stated that the transition from youth to adult, one would have to know if you are talking about the same person to gather good recidivism data. On a program level, you might be able to get a list of students who graduated from the program in the past year and should be able to get back some non-individual specific recidivism data for that group. This might be a way around some of the barriers.

Cindy stated that reports that are supposed to come from NC Allies will give a non-identifiable percentage. Program participants will be queried against NC Join. The weakness is that we would lose the data after the age of 16. Until our legislators increase the juvenile age to 18, we will not be able to query with NC Join for that data. Arnold stated that we have hit at the crux of our being able to evaluate our juvenile system not only in terms of services but what happens to our juveniles after they turn 16. Arnold worked in a task force with representation across the state for a year looking at a lot of negative and positive concerns that needed to be studied. Arnold informed the council of a report that made recommendations to the legislators at no cost about the State of NC need to consider increasing the juvenile age.

Reports – Informal Visits to Programs

Calvin stated that the new program JCPC funded this year, Family and Academic Mentoring Empowerment program is up and going. Court Counselors have identified the kids in those areas. We have called the CFT in so that we can do the introductions because it is a new program. Everything seemed to be going well. Cindy stated that she and Celia will be going out next week to do an orientation.

Announcements and Community Concerns

Calvin stated that they just finished a training for graduated sanctions and rewards. They were able to complete two grids, Winston Salem and Rowan County. They will get the templates that Durham will use. Once Calvin gets the information back, he will present it to the needs committee and come up with our own rewards and sanctions, then bring it to the larger committee and judges to sign off on.

Arnold stated that Jane Volland of DMC will make a presentation to JCPC about the DMC Conference. The committee has asked JCPC to sign off on a letter of solicitation to various businesses and individuals to raise \$2,500 for the conference. With Gudrun's help, a Wal-Mart grant application was submitted on August 17 and we will not get a response until 90 days or after. At this point, we need funds for the conference. When JCPC formally approves the letter, we can begin to send it out. Gudrun stated that the donations we are asking for is not for profit. Drew stated that he knows that you can make donations to the county. He will check on details about collecting funds.

Meeting adjourned