

Orange County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting
Friday, February 5, 2021 (12:00noon – 2:00pm)
Virtual GoToMeeting

Proposed Minutes

Attendees: **Carol McClelland, Maren Hardin, Jay Cole, Meg McGurk, Robyn Glass, Beverly Scarlett, Sharron Hinton, Stephanie Jones, Amy Fowler, Tina Sykes, Amanda Farris, Blair Nell, Donna King, Gayane Chambless, Megan Johnson,** Dana Brinson, Jarrell Jones, Keith Bagby, Lia Kaz, Pam Weiden, Susan Worley, Suzanne Hitt, Val Hanson, Bre Powell, Patricia Cardoso, Denise Briggs, Rebekah Rapoza (***Members in bold**)

Absent: Sherita Cobb, Luke Dennis, Charlos Banks

Excused: Bernard Miles

Welcome

The meeting opened with a welcome from Vice Chair, Donna King and introductions.

Minutes Review and Approval

The Council reviewed the minutes from December 2020. Carol McClelland motioned for minutes to be approved and was seconded by Meg McGurk. Motion carried unanimously.

Agency Roundtable

Boomerang – Boomerang continues virtual programming and has transitioned from their traditional alternative to suspension programming to academic and mentorship support. They are still accepting referrals if students are being suspended. YTD they have served 9 students, 6 who have completed, 1 pending completion, 2 or 3 who are pending, and another 2 students who are scheduled to join next week. All students have come from Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools; none from Orange County Schools yet but they have a new MOA going into effect around mid-February. YTD they have had 1 court-involved youth.

Dispute Settlement Center – Currently they have no open referrals. Since December meeting, 1 case was terminated; YTD, 11 cases were terminated. One additional client was referred but had to cancel the admission because of inability to meet and ultimately even to contact due to Covid difficulties. They continue to be in communication with the court counselor to see if they will be getting a re-referral. Of the 11 cases, 7 were male and 4 were female; 4 were white/non-Hispanic and 7 were black/non-Hispanic; 2 were white males and 5 were black males; 2 were white females and 2 were black females; offenses included communication of threats in school (1), fighting in school (3), monetary theft (3), breaking and entering (3), and destruction of property (1).

Exchange Club – Things are going good for them. They continue to work hard in the county promoting the program to obtain referrals. They are close to meeting their goal for the Group program and are still a few off for the In-Home program. They are hoping to meet with a few different agencies in the coming weeks.

Volunteers for Youth – Numbers continue to be low but have picked up in the last couple months. They had a Teen Court session a week ago and are having another one on Monday. The recent one was virtual and went really well. Staff continue to be creative with figuring out Community Service options.

Wrenn House – Wrenn House is still operating and accepting referrals. Covid protocols remain in place and there has been an increase in calls. YTD they have served 4 (admitted 3) Orange County youth for a total of 51 days. Compared to this same time last year the number of days has doubled from 25. They are seeing good utilization of the Orange County bed. They may be working on a new Orange County admission over the next couple days.

JJ Data Report

This data is from the new system and was pulled for the months of November and December.

November – 5 juveniles at intake, 13 complaints received, 1 undisciplined petition, 0 school-based complaints, 5 approved for court, 0 juveniles diverted, 0 closed, 5 placed in detention for a total of 92 days, 0 at Wrenn House, and 6 youth on electronic monitoring for a total of 75 days.

December - 6 juveniles at intake, 34 complaints received, 1 undisciplined petition, 0 school-based complaints, 1 approved for court, 2 juveniles diverted, 0 closed, 3 placed in detention for a total of 49 days, 1 at Wrenn House for 16 days, and 6 youth on electronic monitoring for a total of 154 days.

Q: What are undisciplined youth?

A: Youth age 6-18 (truant is up to age 16) who aren't following rules at home and/or running away.

JCPC Business

Program Monitoring report – Sharron and Rebekah conducted the monitoring visits this year and was a little challenging due to the pandemic. No significant issues or problems were identified but one program is being referred to Denise for follow-up because their cost centers were significantly under expended (related to pandemic). They are being referred because a check “yes” requires automatic referral. Across the board the numbers served are all low because of the pandemic but all programs have done an excellent job being creative and shifting programming.

During the monitoring with Dispute Settlement Center a topic came up about at least starting a conversation as it relates to social injustice and racial disparity. It would be good to have a conversation as a JCPC about the impact this is having on the youth we serve and looking at how the agencies are structured to make sure we aren't having any adverse effects on the youth. This can be discussed a little later during Hot Topic session.

Risk & Needs Committee report – The committee met on February 3rd to look at data from the Department of court-involved involved and get input/feedback from community programs. One of the tasks of the committee is to develop a RFP based on this information. The anticipated allocation and match requirement remain unchanged from last year. The dates for advertisement are February 8 to March 11 (the wrong year was typed; Denise will revise before posting). They types of programs that the committee identified as being needed are listed on the RFP (an attachment will also be included that describes each program type), along with risk factors and identified needs.

There will be a voluntary, applicant workshop on February 10 hosted by some of the Area Consultants that will be especially beneficial for new applicants. Topics will include policy and reporting requirements, how to get NCID and get into NCALLIES and complete an application. Since it's such a tight turnaround, Denise will work one-on-one with any new applicants who are not able to attend.

Q: Will the workshop be recorded?

A: They typically do record them but the Consultants down east will be the host. Denise will make sure to get link.

RFP Review & Vote – Amanda Farris motioned to accept the RFP with the amended closing date and include the program description attachment and was seconded by Carol McClelland. Motion carried unanimously.

Funding Committee – Volunteers are needed to serve on this committee. This would require a half to full day commitment to hear presentations from applicants and then make a funding recommendation to the full council. Documents will be sent in advance for review and to identify questions. This would be a good opportunity for council members who haven't had a chance to participate in a committee yet. Volunteers include: Carol, Jay, Amanda, Donna, and possibly Gayane. Denise has already participated in some virtual funding cycles this year and it hasn't required a full day commitment. In similar sized counties, they have been able to complete it in an afternoon (12:30/1 to end of day). If anyone else decides they'd like to participate, please email Rebekah.

April meeting – April meeting falls on Good Friday holiday and will need to reschedule. Would the following Friday, April 9, work for most? This meeting is important because we will need to vote on funding recommendations and will need a quorum. Most members indicated via chat feature that April 9 date will work for them.

Consultant Update

Emails will be coming out in February about Third Quarter Accounting. This is an opportunity for all programs and the Admin budget to be reviewed to determine if the budgeted amount is the amount of funding that they will need for the remainder of the fiscal year. If you have funds that you will not use, please let Denise know so that they can first be offered to other Orange County programs before being returned back to the State. A program agreement revision will need to be completed in order to reduce those funds. If you have any questions, please call Denise. She will also help Boomerang through this process as it is new to their new staff.

Hot Topics

Sharron circled back to the topic of racial equity and social justice that was briefly mentioned during the Monitoring Committee report. She is wanting to pose to the group to see if there is an interest in further conversation or training. Gayane expressed interest in being part of the conversation. Donna mentioned that the Health Department has been working on this for the last couple years and they found the REI training was very beneficial and helpful. Perhaps Gayane, Donna, and other interested parties can have a conversation and make some recommendations to the JCPC. Stephanie stated (via chat box) that Cardinal is also working on this issues. Since the Health Department, Healthy Carolinians, and Cardinal are all working on this issue, maybe something can come out of that to the JCPC. Sharron volunteered to pull a group/sub-committee together for a follow-up meeting to get things started. It can be expensive to host a training, but maybe joining with another group could help keep costs down. Lia stated DSC went through Phase 1 training with REI and tried to join Orange County OAR but wasn't able to connect with them. She was able to connect with Durham County and learned that there may have been some leadership change within Orange County and so it may be helpful to connect through Durham or Wake County. Lia also would like to volunteer for this group. It may be most beneficial to deal directly with REI if they are the chosen trainer.

Announcements

Paul Atherton has resigned and has taken a job with UNC. A new Juvenile Court-School Liaison will be starting on the 15th and will be at the next JCPC meeting.

Orange Partnership just conducted an alcohol purchase survey this past week and they found that 40% of the stores in Orange County (rural areas) did not check ID. If mental health is being compromised due to Covid, and youth are turning to substances, it is concerning that there seems to be a lack of ID checking in some parts.

Upcoming JCPC Meetings
April 9, 2021 · 12:00p – 2:00p
JCPC Meeting
Virtual GoToMeeting