

Orange County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting
Friday, April 9, 2021 (12:00noon – 2:00pm)
Virtual GoToMeeting

Proposed Minutes

Attendees: **Bernard Miles, Gayane Chambless, Amanda Farris, Carol McClelland, Sharron Hinton, Tina Sykes, Maren Hardin, Amy Fowler, Stephanie Jones, Meg McGurk, Megan Johnson,** Lucy Brown, Val Hanson, Susan Worley, Jarrell Jones, Stacey Allred, Kelsey Mosley, Keith Bagby, Gregory Rouse, Tova Hairston, Sarah Black, Pam Weiden, Lateef Michell, Denise Briggs, Rebekah Rapoza
(*Members in bold)

Absent: Sherita Cobb, Luke Dennis, Blair Nell, Charlos Banks

Excused: Jay Cole, Donna King, Robyn Glass

Welcome

The meeting opened with a welcome from Chair, Bernard Miles and introductions.

Minutes Review and Approval

The Council reviewed the minutes from February 2021. Amy Fowler motioned for minutes to be approved and was seconded by Gayane Chambless. Motion carried unanimously.

Agency Roundtable

Boomerang – They continue to offer programming virtually, at least for now. Currently they have two active students in the STRIVE program, the virtual equivalent of Alternative to Suspension (ATS) program, and have five students in the Leadership Academy (not ATS related). They anticipate returning to in-person programming sometime before month of May is out and is working with school partners to determine the best way to make this happen.

Dispute Settlement Center – Referrals have been way down the last couple of months and haven't worked with many youth. To date they have worked with 10 youth and expect that will increase by the end of the fiscal year. They are not currently working with any youth.

Exchange Club – The program has received several referrals over the last couple months and have recently admitted three youth into the group component. They have also discharged several youth successfully. Everything right now is exactly how it should be; both components are occurring in person and operating by program design.

Volunteers for Youth – Everything is the same as it was at the last meeting; numbers are still low as it is with many of the programs. They continue to encourage Community Service kids to do work virtually. With weather warming up, they are hoping to be able to offer outdoor activities. All the worksites have been closed due to COVID and they are hoping they will open back up with the warmer weather.

Wrenn House – Referrals have started to pick-up across the board and they currently have one Orange County youth in care; seven youth have been served to date. They still continue to limit the number of visitors in the house but with restrictions easing, they are able to have more kids in the house and have started doing outings in the community again.

JJ Data Report

January – 8 juveniles at intake, 38 complaints received, 2 undisciplined petition, 3 school-based complaints*, 4 approved for court, 4 juveniles diverted, 0 closed, 0 placed in detention, 0 at Wrenn House, and electronic monitoring data not available.

February - 4 juveniles at intake, 8 complaints received, 1 undisciplined petition, 4 school-based complaints, 3 approved for court, 1 juvenile diverted, 0 closed, 2 placed in detention for a total of 17 days, 1 at Wrenn House for 21 days, and 5 youth on electronic monitoring for a total of 84 days.

Raise the Age (calendar) YTD (February): 4 juveniles (projected 8) at intake with 8 complaints (projected 19)

Q: What does EM stand for?

A: Electronic Monitoring. They try to use this as an alternative to detention.

Q: What types of offenses were the school based for January and February?

A: Amanda will get more information because this category appears to be reporting fiscal year-to-date, not just for the particular month. She will inquire into whether this category can be reported monthly to match with the rest of the chart.

*column appears to be the only one that is reported FY to date; will check on this for next time

JCPC Business

Request for Letter of Support – Bernard received a request from Sarah Black with Exchange Club for a letter of support from the JCPC for a new program, Youth Healthy Sexuality Treatment Program. The application is for funding for intensive intervention services for youth with a background of sexual offense, ranging from mild offenses up to assault. They are looking to work with this population to help rehabilitate, ensure safety back in the community and to prevent recidivism. The programming would be two-pronged: in-home counseling and group. They are working with an evidence-based program invented in Canada but applied here in the US working with teens with this history and also victims of sexual assault. The in-home counseling will involve both the youth and parents, and will focus on the history of the offense, why the risk factors are present and what is going on in the family system that caused the youth to have those potential risk factors. The group sessions are for the youth and topics will include healthy skills on communication and negotiation, understanding healthy sexuality, peer pressure, and family violence.

Denise clarified that the funding source is not JCPC, but rather a separate RFP for Department funds. However, because programs are going into the community to provide services, the Department likes to get buy-in from the local partners, including the JCPC, and to also make sure there is no duplication of services.

Gayane Chambless motioned for JCPC to provide a letter of support for the Youth Healthy Sexuality Treatment Program and was seconded by Amanda Farris. Motion carried unanimously.

Funding Committee Report – Funding presentations occurred virtually this year. Applications were received for the following programs: Boomerang, Parent Teen Solutions, Wrenn House, Restitution/Community Service, Teen Court, Mediation/Conflict Resolution, and JCPC Admin. The Funding Committee met and is making the following recommendations: JCPC Admin - \$14,157; Mediation/Conflict Resolution - \$62,400; Teen Court - \$74,625; Restitution/Community Service - \$83,655; Wrenn House - \$16,475; and Parent Teen Solutions - \$60,760. Today the Funding Committee is not in a position to offer a recommendation on Boomerang's application and Denise will continue working with agency.

- *JCPC Admin:* Sharron Hinton made a motion that JCPC Admin be funded at \$14,157 and was seconded by Meg McGurk. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Mediation/Conflict Resolution*: Meg McGurk made a motion that Mediation/Conflict Resolution be funded at \$62,400 and was seconded by Sharron Hinton. Motion carried unanimously.
- *Teen Court*: Sharron Hinton made a motion that Teen Court be funded at \$74,625 and was seconded by Meg McGurk. Motion carried unanimously.
- *Restitution/Community Service*: Meg McGurk made a motion that Restitution/Community Service be funded at \$83,655 and was seconded by Sharron Hinton. Motion carried unanimously.
- *Wrenn House*: Sharron Hinton made a motion that Wrenn House be funded at \$16,475 and was seconded by Meg McGurk. Motion carried unanimously.
- *Parent/Teen Solutions*: Meg McGurk made a motion that Parent/Teen Solutions be funded at \$60,760 and was seconded by Sharron Hinton. Motion carried unanimously.

A special meeting is being called by JCPC Chair, Bernard Miles, for May 14 at 4:00pm to vote on a funding recommendation for Boomerang. Denise encouraged as many JCPC members as possible to join the meeting; this will not be a full meeting and the only order of business will be to vote on funding for Boomerang.

PY 21-22 Officer Nominations – JCPC is in need of a member to volunteer to Chair the Nomination process. This is one time commitment that would involve emailing JCPC members asking for nominations for officers (Chair and Vice Chair) for next fiscal year. Upon receiving nominations, you would then confirm with the JCPC member their acceptance of the nomination. At the next JCPC meeting you will present the slate of nominations. Carol McClelland volunteered to Chair the Nomination process.

PY 21-22 Membership Review – As part of the annual JCPC Certification process, we need to submit a membership list to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. If any member knows that they will not be able to continue to serve on the JCPC for next fiscal year, please let Rebekah know. Additionally, we have a couple seats that are vacant and would like to find representation for: District Court Judge (recently vacated due to Judge Scarlett’s retirement), Member of the Faith Community, Juvenile Defense Attorney, and Member At-Large (with Amanda’s promotion to Peggy’s position).

Q: Who would reach out to potential candidates? Council members or Bernard/Rebekah?

A: Over the years, it has been a combination of both. However, if members can identify and speak with candidates to determine their interest, they can then turn over the names to Bernard and Rebekah for final confirmation before adding to the proposed membership listing for FY 21-22.

Continuum of Services Chart – This is included as part of the Annual Plan. It identifies available and needed services within the county. It is not a listing of only JCPC funded program, but should also include all youth serving programs. If members can review the list for accuracy, possibly help identify if there are missing programs, and email Rebekah with any changes.

Consultant Update

Programs are finishing up Third Quarter Accounting and those are moving through DocuSign. There is a bill that is being proposed to raise the lower age of juvenile court from age 6 to age 10. If a youth is under the age 10 there would be other services available to them. This is something the Department has been working on for a while and more information will be coming as things move along.

Announcements

There will be an Operation Medicine Drop this month. Gayane will send information to Rebekah to distribute.