

Orange County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting
Friday, October 4, 2024 (12:00noon – 2:00pm)
Hybrid Teams Meeting
113 Mayo Street, Hillsborough NC 27278

Proposed Minutes

Attendees: **Sharron Hinton, Kysha Thompson, Gayane Chambless, Tami Pfeifer, Lateef Mitchell, Joal Broun, Amanda Farris, Phyllis Portie-Ascott, Rachel Donovan,** David Carter, Timeka Harper-Purcell, LaDanna Strong, Angela Thompson, Christy Watson, Lucy Battles, Nicole Hunter, Valoree Hanson, CJ Suitt, Scott Dreyer, Kassi Dadufalza, Caraina Edwards
(*Members in bold)

Absent: Rachel Gessouroun, Tina Sykes, Paul Bell, Crista Collazo, Joal Boan, Hugh Miles

Excused: Bernard Miles

Welcome

The meeting opened with a welcome from Consultant, David Carter, and introductions.

Minutes Review and Approval

The Council reviewed the minutes from August 2024 meeting. Kysha Thompson motioned for minutes to be approved and was seconded by Phyllis Portie-Ascott. Motion passed unanimously.

JCPC Business

Program Budget Revision – Dispute Settlement Center: A budget revision was needed due to staff changes. They are still working within their original allocation, so no extra funds, just rearranging their budget line items. Amanda Farris moved for the budget revision to be approved and was seconded by Gayane Chambless. The motion passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee/Election of Officers: Sharron Hinton accepted the nomination for Chair and Dana Crews accepted the nomination for Vice Chair. The committee asked for nominations from the floor and received none. The Nominating Committee is presenting the following slate of officers to the Council: Sharron Hinton as Chair and Dana Crews as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Sign-up/Chair Selection/Appointment – Committees are Assessment (Formerly Risk and Needs), Funding, Monitoring, Membership/Nominating, By-Laws, Publicity/Special Events, Racial Equity Diversity (RED), Advocacy

- Assessment (Formerly Risk and Needs): Amanda Farris (Chair), Gayane Chambless, Paul Bell, Tami Pfeifer, Christy Watson
- Funding: Kysha Thompson, Amanda Farris (no chair selected)
- Monitoring: need volunteers and a chair.
- Membership/Nominating: Kysha Thompson (Chair)
- By-laws: need volunteers and a chair.
- Publicity/Special Events: need volunteers and a chair.

- RED: Lateef Mitchell, Tami Pfeifer, Gayane Chambless, Timeka Harper-Purcell (no chair selected)
- Advocacy: Caitlin Fenhagen (Chair), Crista Collazo

Conflict of Interest Forms – Please complete the Conflict-of-Interest form and return to Caraina if you have not already done so.

Program Updates

Dispute Settlement Center – During the past month they had 4 referrals, 1 over age 17. The only challenges are reaching out and getting in touch with parents. The measurable objectives for FY23-24 were just under their goal for “clients will enter into a mediation agreement”. It means that it didn’t make sense for some particular youth they were working with to have some form of written agreement. All other measurable objectives were met.

The Exchange Club – For the month of September they received 2 referrals for PTS, which came from DSS. They currently have 1 family enrolled in the program. They have not had any groups because they have not received any referrals. Started working with a team to do more marketing. They meet with Truancy court every month and get a lot of referrals from them. Many of the FY 23-24 measurable objectives numbers were low for in-home due to the lack of compliance from program participants. For PTS Group, they met all their measurable objectives except they were hoping to serve 14 youth and only served 8. They have received 1 referral for the ASAT program.

Reintegration Support Network – For the month of September, they received 4 referrals within the last week or two of the month, so they did not get to engage them yet. They are still in the works of assigning them a mentor and should have some matches in the next week or so. They did not have any terminations, so they still have 6 currently enrolled in services. Of those 4 referrals, 2 identified as male from DJJ referrals and 2 as female from their therapists. They onboarded a new program manager who will be the point person for all referrals. The biggest challenge is the lag time between referrals and setting up that communication with the parent or guardian and then with the participant. They met all of their measurable objectives for FY23-24.

Volunteers for Youth – For the month of September, CSR had 2 referrals, 1 admission, and 1 successful completion. They began and ended the month with 5. There were no concerns or challenges this month. Teen Court did not have any referrals for Orange County in September. They currently have 1 admission and no completions. The biggest concern with Teen Court is the lack of referrals for Orange County. They have met with local police departments and SROs to figure out how to get more referrals. For CSR, they met their measurable objectives for FY23-34. Some of their numbers were affected by youth moving, being transferred, put in placement, or dismissed by the court or judge. All of the goals were met for Teen Court. The number of referrals coming in for Teen Court are very low.

Wrenn House – They received 2 referrals for Orange County in September. Both referrals were recommended for admission, however, neither came to stay at Wrenn House. For last fiscal year, their target estimated served was 10 and they actually served 8. The measurable objectives

were on track. There were 2 runaway youth early in last fiscal year, but they learned from both of those experiences.

JJ Update

There was no specific data to report. Any data sharing or data request must now go through the chain of command and have all that information go through the research department. Formal requests must be submitted for data. For the last two months, a handful of youth have come into the office each month. We are seeing significantly lower complaints right now. We are seeing simple assaults, vehicle crimes, that sort of thing. The complaint numbers are more of the older youth. Misdemeanor first time offenses and sometimes second time misdemeanor offenses are being diverted to appropriate resources. They are saving court related cases for the cases that truly need to be there. House Bill 834 is taking effect on December 1st. Youth 16-17 years old with A-E felonies will go straight to adult court. There's also some increased punishment for soliciting minors to commit crimes.

Consultant Update

The NC S.A.F.E. campaign is still going on which focuses on keeping firearms stored safely. Eckerd provides residential placements for youth ages 12-17. The Eckerd Caswell site opened September 1st and they will accept up to 40 males. As they hire more staff, they will add more youth to the facility. Right now, there might be 15-20 youth there and as they hire more staff, the capacity can go up to 40 males. There are now 4 Eckerd sites across the state and one is an all-female facility in Kerr Lake, Vance County. Methodist Home for Children in Raleigh has multipurpose group homes. They also have crisis assessment centers and some transitional programs. AMI Kids is a non-residential contractual service, and they provide functional family therapy. It's a very intense home model and they will work with youth for 3-6 months. Then, we have TASK through the Children's Home Alliance, and it is a treatment program for youth who have identified problem, sexual behavior or who has had a sex offense charge. Referrals come from court counselors for those youth who have those high-risk conditions. There are new transitional living programs that just opened in Guilford and in Raleigh.

The teen court evaluation completed last month showed that there is a very low recidivism rate for youth that are completing teen court. The report showed that 49% of youth who complete teen court are less likely to recidivate than those that are diverted through other programs and 46% are less likely to recidivate than those processed through juvenile court. In regard to referrals to teen court, 70% come from SRO's and 30% come from juvenile justice.

NCJSA Fall Conference is next week in Greensboro at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Announcements

The next JCPC meeting is February 7th at noon.