



JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

February 25, 2026 JCPC Full Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Kevin McIver, Alex Hurdle, Layton Williams, Renee Hill, B.J. Council, Sgt. Larry Watkins

Members On-line: Abigail Holloway, Frederick Kearns, John Morris, Jonathan Wilson, LiBria Stephens, Dr. Linda (L.A.) Cutler, Dr. Melissa Watson, Quanesha Archer, Monica Burnette, Ramya Krishna, Seth Kandl

Programs Present: Raquel Dominguez (CRC)

Programs On-line: Yasmine Boone (PROUD Program), Quille Coath (PROUD Program), Tiffany Swoope (GRACED, Inc.), Cynia Black (Parenting of Adolescents), Arkeem Brooks (Project BUILD), Krystal Harris (Project BUILD), Cory Rawlinson (Project BUILD), Gwendoln Johnson (Teen Court)

Guests Present: Ebony Reid, (CRC)

Guests On-line: Sheila Bowen-Bratts – Youth Home Assistant Director, Jennifer McRant (Youth Home Program Manager), Amer Young (GRACED, Inc. Intern), Jaden Faunteroy (CRC Youth Mediation Program Coordinator), Sophia Williams (GRACED Program Coordinator)

Staff Present: Walter ‘Eddie’ Crews, Roshanna Humphrey, Viveca Deans, Janice Williams

Excused Absences: Commissioner Stephen Valentine, Nicole Grant

Absences: Angela Nunn, Judge Clayton Jones, Duane Brinson, Maggie Clapp

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair McIver called the meeting to order at 4:05pm and welcomed everyone.

All in-house attendees introduced themselves; roll call was conducted for on-line attendees.
Quorum was established.

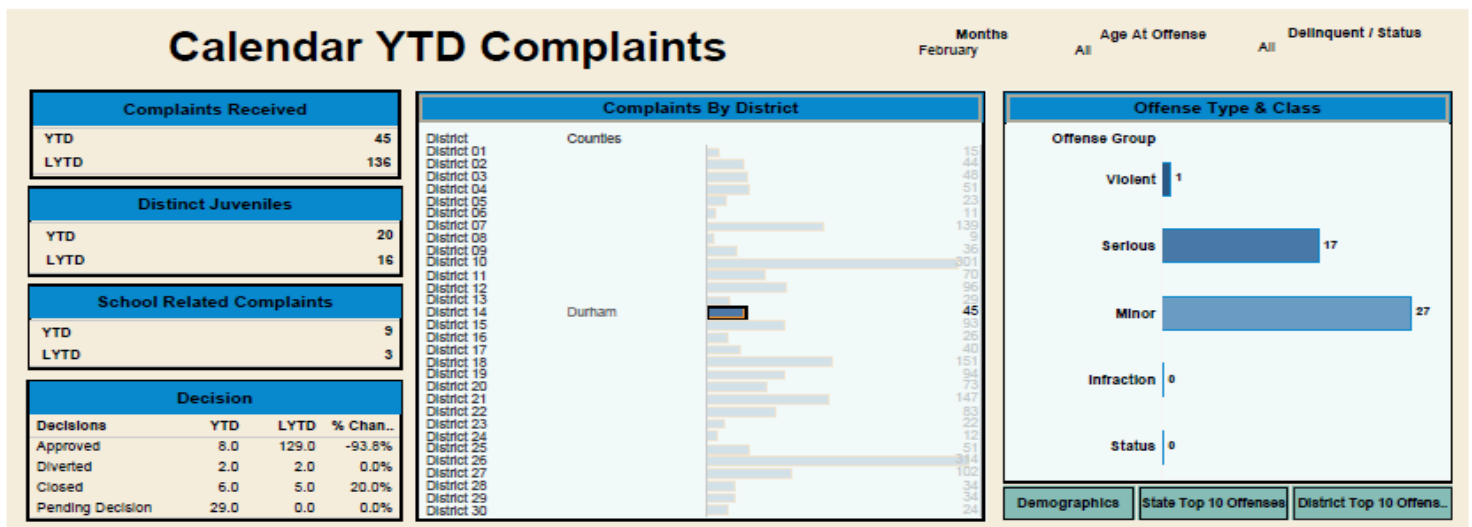
II. January 28, 2026 Minutes review/approval

Chair McIver called for a motion to approve the January 28, 2026 minutes. Ramya Krishna moved to approve the minutes as presented; Abigail Holloway seconded the motion. The motion carried to approve the JCPC January 28, 2026 minutes by unanimous vote.

III. Area Consultant Update: *Walter ‘Eddie’ Crews, Central Area Consultant*

a. February Calendar YTD Complaints Report: reflects February 1st – 25th, 2026 data

- ‘Complaints Received YTD’ decreased significantly from 136 in February 2025 to 45 in February 2026.
- ‘Distinct Juveniles YTD’ (juveniles who committed the 45 complaints received) slightly increased from 16 in February 2025 to 20 in 2026.
- The ‘Violent’ offenses are significantly low due to the change in legislation where 16- and 17- year-olds are now being tried in adult courts. When 16- and 17- year-olds are charged with an A - E Felony, contact is maintained with them through their admission to a juvenile detention center until the age of 18.



➤ Mr. Crews reported on the February 2025 District & County Top 10 Complaints report as follows:



- 'Larceny of motor vehicle' and 'Misdemeanor Larceny' = 8 complaints received (each)
- Although the numbers are low, gun-related and minor offenses are still taking place in Durham which are continuous concerns and need to be addressed on an ongoing basis.

? Is there a database tracking mechanism in place to keep up with youths who progress from committing minor offenses to more serious A-E Felonies?

Answer: Mr. Crews replied to some extent, JCPC's measurable objectives, where 12-month follow-ups with the juveniles being served, would determine recidivism. Perhaps the JCPC could start to look at repeat offenders to determine the reasons for the progression to higher levels of crime if/when this data is obtainable.

- Both Mr. Crews and Chair McIver agreed that the major objective is to utilize preventative measures by providing treatment and community support for juveniles committing misdemeanor offenses before escalation to committing felonies occurs.

? Is there a way to determine how much of these crimes are being committed due to truancy?

Answer: Mr. Crews stated that there is a correlation between truancy and crimes committed by juveniles. There is speculation that these numbers are under reported, however, through the JCPC Truancy Mediation Program, this issue is being addressed.

- Monica Burnette stated in chat that Juvenile Court is open and welcomed everyone to attend and observe proceedings for further understanding. Jayden Faunteroy echoed Ms. Burnette's offer and added, by observing these proceedings, one can ascertain the time crimes are being committed to determine whether or not juveniles

are truant. Ms. Faunteroy also added that there are limited 'third' spaces available that are affordable to parents, guardians, and caretakers, which results in leaving children unsupervised to engage in activities that foster deviant behavior.

- ? Sgt. Watkins, is there a tracking mechanism in place at the Sheriff's Office that identifies current incarcerated individuals who have prior juvenile crime histories?

Answer: Sgt. Watkins responded that this information is not being tracked, but it is available in the Sheriff's Office database and the possibility of collecting that information will be explored. Sgt. Watkins also stated that the SROs' build such great rapport with the youths to the point where they feel safe communicating reasons for their behavior i.e., being in school provides a protective environment for them; when they return to their home environment, there's a lot of peer pressure to engage in criminal activities.

- ? Are there any identifiable trends or common denominators that juveniles are being diverted from?

Answer: Sgt. Watkins responded that drug use and gang pressure/involvement are the behaviors that are frequently addressed and diverted by referring the juveniles to appropriate community programs to get the help that they need.

b. 3rd Quarter Accounting Update:

- Mr. Crews explained:
 - The 3rd quarter accounting is a yearly report which tracks programs' expenses through the end of February and is due on Thursday, March 26, 2026 in NC Allies.
 - If the programs are on schedule with their expenditures, then a request can be made for the remaining 4th quarter budgeted amounts that were initially approved for them.
 - If the programs are not on schedule with their expenditures, then the programs will notify the State, and a budget revision will need to be submitted.
 - Discretionary funds are available for programs who have one-time needs such as laptops, vehicles, or if programs are serving over capacity and need more hours to service the needs of juveniles. The awarded amount will be determined at a later date.

IV. DPS Update: Dr. Melissa Watson, Director of Student Alternatives and Supports

- Dr. Watson reported that DPS recently conducted their Rise Together in-person event. DPS representatives visited all scholars and their parents who have returned to their respective schools from Lakeview..
- Dr. Watson went on to state that addressing truancy alone is not going to resolve the juvenile crime issue. DPS has greatly increased efforts to maximize The Conflict Resolution Center's resources in addressing truancy issues.

Once a scholar is in school, there are a number of supports that have to be in place such as parental engagement and responsiveness to scholars' socioeconomic needs in order to keep that scholar in school. This is a long-term community investment that has been demonstrated by JCPC Programs which is evidenced in ongoing resolve of reducing juvenile crime in Durham. Unfortunately, there isn't a single data point that is going to identify the root cause of scholars' challenging behaviors. Any support given has to be personalized to each individual scholar.

V. Monitoring Reports:

Chair McIver requested that Team Leads present an overview of their findings during the monitoring process as follows:

① Project BUILD Monitoring Team: Alex Hurdle-Team Lead, LiBria Stephens, Nicole Grant; Jalen Pettiford - JCC Liaison

Mr. Hurdle reported that Project BUILD:

- has met and exceeded their targeted goal of served 100 juveniles as of mid-December having served 101 youths.
- has added a component for 10-12-year-olds to expand the program's prevention efforts and keep the youths in the program longer with sustainable assistance.
- was slightly under budget, however with upcoming expenditures, compliance with the Program Agreement expenditure goals will be met.
- has positive feedback from all court counselors.

Mr. Brooks added that the program has contracted with Stand Up Speak Out and Bull City Woodshop to engage the youths in extra-curricular activities.

② **PROUD Program Monitoring Team:** Renee Hill, Abigail Holloway; Angela Thompson – JCC Liaison

Ms. Hill reported that the PROUD Program:

- has an extremely well-organized operation; evaluation documents are comprehensive and organized.
- collaborates well with other organizations.
- is proactive in determining new and innovative ways to meet the needs of the youths served and is contemplating implementing a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program; juveniles have access to podcast and radio production technology via the use of a sound room.

Abigail Holloway reported that there were no organizational concerns; the Program is on track with their target goals and is doing extremely well.



Chair McIver congratulated Mr. Quille Coath of the PROUD Program for celebrating 30 years of service in the Durham Community! 🍷 🎉

③ **GRACED Monitoring Team:** Ramya Krishna-Team Lead, Angela Nunn, Frederick Kearns; Tayla Jones-JCC Liaison

Ms. Krishna reported that the GRACED program:

- faces many challenges due to its Cornwallis location –major issues being transportation for the program's clients, maintaining clients due to increased gun violence and staffing issues.
- expenditures were noted to balance with a budget revision for supplies, materials, fixed expenses and personnel services which results in compliance with the Program Agreement financial goals.

- ✦ Chair McIver commended Ms. Swoope on a recent podcast done by the Program's youth despite the many challenges currently being faced in the Cornwallis community area.

④ **Elna B. Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center Monitoring Team:** BJ Council-Team Lead, Kevin McIver, Monica Burnette; Jazmyne White-JCC Liaison

Ms. Council reported that the Conflict Resolution Center:

- has met the Program Agreement's estimation of expenditures and revenues for both program components (Youth Mediation and Truancy).
- agreed to serve 50 juveniles for Truancy Mediation and year-to-date has served 57; Youth Mediation has met their goal of serving 25 youths.
- had all documentation in order and available for review.
- has collaborated with DPS in truancy training which has increased the program's referrals for mediation.
 - ✦ Chair McIver added that the Program does an excellent job in mediation which is instrumental in the prevention of youths escalating to further deviant behavior.
 - ✦ Ms. Hill commented that a more in-depth analysis of qualitative data denoting the socio-economic derivations of truancy should be looked at in order to further assist at-risk youths.
 - ✦ Ms. Dominguez stated that this information is gathered when a juvenile is referred to the program, however there are no qualitative or quantitative tracking mechanisms in place.

- ↳ Ms. Faunteroy noted that, in addition to identifying and addressing the underlying causes of juveniles' challenging behaviors—such as mental health issues and bullying—many of the parents, guardians and caretakers need support as well with meeting basic needs such as laundry, food, and transportation assistance, to help prevent continued negative behavioral patterns.

⑤ Durham Teen Court & Restitution Program Monitoring Team: John Morris-Team Lead, Laylon Williams, Maggie Clapp; Ashia Robinson-Floyd- JCC Liaison

Mr. Morris reported that Teen Court:

- financials are believed to be aligned with the Program Agreement based on Ms. Johnson's hand calculations.
- Court Counselors' reports were favorable except one (1) where a client is still waiting for intake.
- has served 35 out of the 80 clients denoted in the Program Agreement (which meets approximately 44% of the 'Clients Served' goal). It was established that Teen Court is not meeting their target goal due to lack of referrals.
- one (1) of the four (4) Measurable Objectives have been met.
- is under-staffed, and the following recommendation was made:
 - implementation of an assessment tool to determine how effective this program is or can be, and whether or not the program is meeting the needs of its participants

Mr. Morris reported that the Restitution Program:

- financials are believed to be aligned with the Program Agreement based on Ms. Johnson's hand calculations.
- is also challenged with not receiving enough referrals to meet their Program Agreement goals which was set at 55; to date, 15 have been served with three (3) completions.
- two (2) of the five (5) Measurable have been met.
- is also under-staffed, and the following recommendations were made:
 - implementation of an assessment tool to determine how effective this program is or can be, and whether or not the Program is meeting the needs of its participants
 - implementation of Post-Assessment Tools
 - having a system in place where the program's financials are easily accessible

Mr. Williams stated that Ms. Johnson has been doing this work in the Durham community for 20+ years which is indicative of a successful program. Another recommendation that was made is to have signage placed on the building clearly identifying the program's location.

- ↳ Dr. Watson commented that DPS partners with Teen Court and that the limited number of referrals may be due to a need for greater awareness and understanding of the program's services and referral process across all Durham schools.
- ↳ Ms. Johnson, Teen Court Program Director, stated that most referrals for Teen Court come from DPS SROs, and since meeting with Eddie (Area Consultant), Nicole (Chief Court Counselor), and other DJJ staff in January, the numbers have doubled.

⑥ Parenting of Adolescents Monitoring Team: Seth Kandl-Team Lead, Melissa Watson, Jonathan Wilson; Jaquel Mungo-JCC Liaison

Mr. Kandl reported that the Parenting of Adolescents Program:

- is a very unique organization where intense in-home counseling is provided through multiple modalities.
- services are not targeted towards prevention but address clearly identified and assessed issues.
- provides very expensive testing services at no cost to families.
- at the time of monitoring received 27 referrals, however there were only three (3) to five (5) completions.
- staff members are working unconventional hours to meet the needs of the juveniles and their families .
- has statistically low numbers due to the fact that clients who need the most assistance are unable to meet the program's testing requirements due to having to work multiple jobs and also, having multiple children in one household who need assistance.

- is working with DPS and other organizations on becoming a DPS approved provider and getting more referrals.
- ♦ Chair McIver commented that due to the intense nature of the testing services and the limitations families have in committing to and continuing with the process, perhaps ancillary help can be offered to clients as well i.e., transportation and supplying meals.
- ♦ Ms. Black, POA's Program Manager stated that in addition to the aforementioned, the stigmatism surrounding therapy still exists, which adds to the difficulties in serving juveniles with mental health issues.

VI. Program Updates: January *(due to time constraints, Chair McIver omitted this agenda item)*

- Monthly Reports were submitted by all programs and emailed to all Council members for review.

VII. Chair Update:

Chair McIver:

- ❖ reminded all program directors to submit all required documentation for 3rd Quarter Accounting and Program Proposals in NC Allies timely.
- ❖ Announced in light of Angela Nunn's retirement, the JCPC Executive Board Parliamentarian seat is now vacant; any voting members who are interested can submit their names or nominate another voting member for this seat.

VIII. Other Business/Announcements:

- ❖ Mr. Crews commended the Monitoring Teams on a thorough job done in monitoring/assessing the programs and stated that the programs are doing an excellent job in working with the at-risk youths in Durham. Mr. Crews also commended the SROs for their diligence in diverting juveniles from entering the justice system and referring them to our JCPC programs.

IX. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. Chair McIver adjourned the meeting at 5:35pm.

The Funding Committee met for a Closed Session.