

**JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL March 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:Nisha Williams, Angela Nunn, DeWarren Langley, Frederick Kearns, Jennifer Meade, Leah Selvy, Tasha Jones Butts, Shannon Teamer, Kevin McIver, Judge Evans, Solina Richards, Andre Hinton, Drew Cummings, Chenelle McInnis, Kelvin Allen, Lindsey Spain**

**Members Absent:**

**Program Providers: Nicole Moore, Arkeem Brooks, Quillie Coath, Courtney Crawford, Blair Frazier, Shepeara Williams, Alana Peterkin, Gwendolyn Johnson, Kerry Brock, Sabrina Aguilar-simon, Raquel Dominguez, Amber Burch**

**Guest: Megan Raymond**

**Staff:** Gudrun Parmer, Jim Stuit, Kelley Waggy, Eddie Crews

**Welcome & Introductions**  Chairperson Nisha Williams called the meeting to order at 4:05pm. Chairperson Nisha Williams welcomed all attendees and introduced the Boards newest member; Linsey Spain. Lindsey Spain introduced herself along with the rest of the Board.

**Review of February Minutes**

Chairperson Nisha Williams presented a motion to accept the minutes. Angela Nunn moved to accept the February minutes, Leah Selvy seconded the motion, the board voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

**Youth Mediation Presentation**

Raquel Dominguez presented for Youth Mediation and Restorative Practices. Raquel shared that this program offers different programs and combines different tools such as: Community Mediation, Family Mediations, Group Facilitations, Trainings, Truancy Court and Juvenile Justice Programs. Youth Mediation brings the offender and victim to a safe space in an effort to resolve conflict. Peacemaking Circles is a community-based diversion program that follows restorative justice practices and members of the community decide on how the offender should take responsibility for his/her actions, at the end of the circle an action plan is created. Raquel shared that due to COVID-19 they had issues receiving referrals as a result they had to do revisions and added Parent-Teen Mediation. This addition is for kids 13-18 years old, this follows their traditional model however it involves their families instead of victims. Raquel shared that they also added Conflict Coaching/Conflict Management Training. This training provides youth with skills and strategies to engage in conflict in a constructive/productive way. This training last 4-6 weeks and is held virtually. Raquel shared that she is meeting with El Centro and Durham Public Schools Social Workers and hope to receive referrals after spring break. Raquel shared that as of March they had only received 4 JCPC cases which is far less than prior, pre-Covid, years.

**Teen Court & Restitution Presentation**

Alana Peterkin, the Teen Court Coordinator, presented on behalf of Teen Court. Alana Shared Teen Court is a diversion program that serves first time misdemeanor offenders ages 12-17 in a mock trial setting. Traditionally the receive referrals from schools but, due to COVID, most referrals have come in via shop lifting cases. Currently Teen court takes place every other Thursday from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Communication between Teen Court staff and volunteers is done via calls, texts and emails. Alana shared that since COVID all of their meetings have transitioned to virtual platforms. While they have encountered a few obstacles, they have been able to adapt and overcome to serve their community.

Shepeara Williams, the Restitution Coordinator, presented on behalf of Restitution. Shepeara shared that the restitution program offers payback to the community or individual that has been harmed. This is done via monetary restitution or community service. At this time Restitution only works with the Department of Juvenile Justice. Shepeara shared that since COVID, Restitution has made a lot of changes. Restitution has seen a reduction in referrals due to courts closing and community sites closing. Restitution has adapted by holding virtual community service workshops, social skills work packets, increase family contact virtually and focusing on documenting chores and localized community involvement.

Alana shared that Teen Court is projected to serve 120 youth, so far they have served 57. Referrals have been received primarily via law enforcement. With schools opening back up there is anticipation of increased school-based referrals.

The backbone of Teen Court is their volunteers, both adult and youth. While there has been a decline in volunteers since COVID their latest training saw an increase. Volunteers come from the School of Math and Science, City of Medicine, LIFT program, and Riverside Highschool.

Shepeara shared that Restitution is projected to serve 60 youth, so far, they have served 18. As courts reopen, they are seeing increases in referrals.

**Review of Updated Funding Rules and Processes**

Treasure, Kelvin Allan reviewed the Funding Rules and Processes. Kelvin read through the entirety of our Funding Rules and Processes. Kelvin shared that Kelley Waggy would be sending out the Funding Rules and Processes again with the funding meeting invite.

**COVID-19 Program Updates**

Youth Build has resumed classes. Jaqueline also shared they had a new Director. Mr. Morris introduced himself and shared that he would be sending out contact information shortly.

Dr. Royster gave a brief update on behalf od Durham Public Schools. All new information is on the website, and robocalls. Elementary School teachers started back 3/15, Middle and High School Teachers returned 3/24 students will return 4/8.

**Chief Court Counselor Report**

Tasha Jones Butts sent the report out via email. Tasha shared that 99 youth were on some level of supervision, 15 youth had complaints filed on them, 33 complaints received, 2 youth appeared, 2 youth were diverted, 19 admitted to detention, 0 YDC, 7 violent offenses, 13 serious offenses, 13 minor offenses, 13 black youth, 1 white youth, 1 biracial youth, 13 males, 2 females, 7 youth aged 11-15, 8 youth aged 17 and up. Tasha asked that if there were any questions they be sent via email.

Nisha Williams shared an article by Virginia Bridges in the chat. Nisha stated that kids as young as 6 can be charged in juvenile court and the NC Assembly is working to raise that age. Nisha wanted to ensure that it was understood that while the article reads in a way that makes it appear this is happening in Durham County, no children that young are being tried in Juvenile Court.

**Chair Report**

Nisha Williams reminded the programs that the Durham County has just over $20,000 dollars for reallocation. Nisha notified the programs that the deadline for requesting those funds has been extended to March 31, 2021. Walter Crews shared that the transfer deadline is May 1, 2021. Walter shared that the programs releasing the funds have already created a revision. The program(s) receiving the funds will also need to do a revision if approved by the board.

**Announcements**

Nicole Moore shared that POA has a laptop to dispose of. Per JCPC policy Nicole asked if there were any other programs interested in acquiring it. Nicole stated she would email the information on the laptop for programs that may be interested. Nicole also shared that POA is hosting a multitude of events throughout April, the information on this will be sent out via email.

Nisha Williams reminded the Board that the JCPC sweatshirts have come in and are ready to be picked up, the board was asked to arrange pickup with Kelley Waggy.

Sgt. Andre Hinton shared that he would be adding to his family and his son would be here within the month.

Shannon Teamer shared that there will be programs this summer with DPR for youth 13-18. Shannon will be sending an email about these programs/camps.

Nisha Williams reminded the Programs that the next meeting is a closed session, The RFP closes March 31, 2021 and 3rd quarter is due March 26, 2021.

DeWarren Langley inquired about the statutory authority allowing the funding meeting to be held closed to the public. Walter Crews explained that this is done as a curtesy. Most counties hold a closed funding meeting for privacy during funding discussions. If a program were to request attendance, they would be allowed to attend. Nisha explained while this meeting is not closed to the public, it is closed to the programs.

Full body meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm

**Closed Meeting-Reallocation of Funds Discussion**

Nisha Williams shared that this closed session was originally scheduled with the expectation programs would request funds available, as no programs have requested those funds as of yet, we have extended the deadline.

DeWarren Langley asked for information on the two Programs that were releasing funds and why. Nisha Shared that both BUILD and Youth Mediation were releasing funds for reallocation. These two programs have released these funds due to COVID and an inability to follow through with program plans and lack of referrals.

Walter Crews shared that Youth Mediation has worked with him to find ways to operate as a program with the lack of referrals due to school closures in light of COVID. Youth Mediation is releasing $9,877.00, Youth Mediation has submitted their budget revision and it is pending. BUILD had a contract for vocational enhancement via a cosmetology program, this contract was cancelled due to COVID. BUILD is releasing $10, 662. BUILD has submitted their budget revision and it is pending. Walter shared that the JCPC Board needs to vote to release to funds for reallocation.

Drew Cummings made a Motion to approve the requested revisions, Tasha Jones Butts seconded the motion. The JCPC Board voted unanimously to approve. The Motion carried.

Closed body meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm