



JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

May 28, 2025 JCPC Full Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Kevin McIver, Angela Nunn, Jonathan Wilson, Nicole Grant, Beverly (B. J.) Council, Seth Kandl

Members Online: Abigail Holloway, Duane Brinson, Sgt. Frederick Kearns, Eric Johnson (Proxy for Laylon Williams), Renee Hill, John Morris, Ramya Krishna, LiBria Stephens, Dr. Melissa Watson, Dorothy Hardin, Monica Burnette, DeWarren Langley, Quanesha Archer, Commissioner Stephen Valentine

Programs Present: Raquel Dominguez (Youth Mediation), Cynia Black (Parenting of Adolescents)

Programs On-line: Arkeem Brooks (Project BUILD), Yasmine Boone (PROUD Program), Quille Coath (PROUD Program), Gwendolyn Johnson (Teen Court & Restitution Program), Alvin Black (Teen Court & Restitution Program), Tiffany Swoope (GRACED Inc), Katherine Pettaway (EPIC)

Guests Present: Captain A. D. Hinton (Durham County Sheriff's Office)

Staff Present: Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Roshanna Parker, Viveca Deans, Janice Williams

Excused Absences: Laylon Williams, Sgt. Boudreault, Alex Hurdle

I. **Welcome & Introductions**

Chair McIver called the meeting to order at 4:05pm, welcomed everyone and asked all in-house attendees to introduce themselves. Roll call was done for those on-line.

Quorum was established.

II. **April 2025 (Funding Allocation Meeting) Minutes Approval**

- Mr. Langley noted a reconsideration in the amount of funding stated for the PROUD Program from \$135,000 to \$153,000.
- A correction was noted in the spelling of Ramya Krishna's name from 'er' to 'a'
- A motion to approve the April 23, 2025 minutes was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Crews stated that the JCPC County Annual Plan is now due for review by the State and will be completed by the JCPC Coordinator. Programs are required to adjust their budgets in NC Allies to reflect the actual amount of JCPC Funds awarded to them (not their requested amount). Programs were also instructed to annotate any budget revisions to avoid refunds and was reminded that Final Accounting is due in NC Allies by the end of July.

IV. **Chief Court Counselor Update:** *Nicole Grant, Chief Court Counselor*

Durham County Juvenile Justice Stats 2025

April/May 2025

- **April**= 20 complaints received; 4 violent, 9 serious, 7 minor
- **May**= 53 complaints received; 2 violent, 27 serious, and 24 minor
- Complaints YTD=558; LYTD=421
- Juveniles YTD=102; LYTD=123
- School related complaints YTD=30; LYTD=44

- Current number of youths committed to YDC = 4
- Current number of youths on probation = 77
- Current number of youths on diversion = 4
- Current number of youths on Post-Release Supervision = 1
- Current number of youths in detention=24
- Current number of youths on EM=25

Comments:

Top offenses: B/E MV, Fin card theft/fraud, Injury to personal property, and Felony Possession of Stolen Vehicles

Commissioner Valentine stated that he received an email suggesting that the criminal offenses for juveniles were up 100% and asked for clarification.

Mr. Langley stated that the email was referencing the 2025 1st quarter Crime Report which was presented by Chief Andrews at the Durham City Council Work Session. The report noted that offenses went up from 103 in the 1st quarter of 2024 to 207 in the 1st quarter of 2025. These offenses are being committed in large part by repeat offenders.

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

Dr. Watson reported that the Department of Public Schools is in the process of updating and looking into DPS Policy 4301 as it relates to becoming a restorative practice district with regard to suspensions. Anyone who has any feedback/suggestions for policy revisions to make restorative practices more transparent to the community can email Dr. Watson at melissa_watson@dpsnc.net. Dr. Watson also offered her assistance to all board members in facilitating communication with DPS personnel.

A request was made for data containing the number of referrals for restorative justice for short- and long-term suspensions broken down by gender, race and grade level. Dr. Watson replied that the current data for this requested information has not been verified by the school board and cannot be shared at this time. However, the data that has been verified will be shared at the June JCPC Board meeting as well as information requested by Chair McIver.

(Chair McIver emphasized that the ***June 25th JCPC Board Meeting will be in person, not hybrid.***)

VI. Program Updates:

- **PROJECT BUILD:** *Arkeem Brooks, Program Manager*

April/May 2025 Monthly Program Report

Current number of enrolled students: 95

Number of new referrals: April (3), May (6)

Number of successful completions: 3

Programmatic changes: Currently working with one 10-year-old

Programmatic issues: None

Programmatic achievements:

- 1 youth is employed by FedEx
- 1 youth is employed by Sam’s Club
- 10 youths completed the Bright Black course where they created their own body fragrance.
- 1 youth is connected to Inner City Boxing Class

- **DURHAM PROUD PROGRAM:** *Yasmine Boone, Intake Counselor*

April/May 2025 Monthly Program Report

Current number of enrolled students: April-28, May-25

Number of new referrals: 12

Number of successful completions: 14

Programmatic changes: None.

Programmatic issues: There's been an uptick in vaping and substance use by students. Due to the loss of contracts and funding, there has been a significant decrease in the number of students being seen.

Programmatic achievements:

- In the month of April, we had one young man who received a summer job and was going through the orientation process. During spring break, we also had one of our Lakeview students get a job going into the summer.
- PROUD staff and interns have continued in our outside trainings provided by outside local, state, and federal agencies and other organizations to stay up to date with the current trends and topics affecting our youth and in our field.
- PROUD was able to attend the Safe Minds-Safe Schools Summit held by the Superintendent in Durham Public Schools where we were able to connect with other agencies, parents, families, and community members to distribute our program information .

Mr. Coath explained that DEAC (Distance Education Accrediting Commission) is a two-week virtual program consisting of four sessions. In spite of budget restrictions, children are entered into the program as quickly as possible, and the PROUD Program is looking into other funding sources for a tutoring program (which will hopefully be in operation by this fall).

A question was asked has the information regarding the rising fentanyl use amongst juveniles reached the community outside of JCPC. Mr. Coath responded that they have been communicating with law enforcement and student resource officers as well as other programs informing them of any and all particulars regarding this increasing concern.

Ms. Nunn suggested having Dr. Wanda Boone give a presentation to the Board, given the work Dr. Boone does with the community on opioids, substance abuse, vaping - all things negatively affecting Durham children.

- **EPIC:** Katherine Pettaway, Director of Clinical Services
Agency: StandUp SpeakOut NC

April 2025		
Agency: StandUp SpeakOut NC-EPIC Report	#	Notes
Youth in Services:	6	Currently in service
Open Referrals:	4	4 open referrals (new clients waiting to be scheduled for intake or waiting for paperwork)
Active JCPC Clients:	4	4 of the 6 are active JCPC court referred clients.
JCPC Referrals this month:	1	1 youth referred this month from Project Build
Terminations	0	
Closed Referrals:	0	
Waitlisted Clients:	0	
Groups	0	
Outreach Group	0	
Total # of Clients for FY2024-2025		<i>17 youth total.</i>

In April, 2 new referrals were received. We have a total of 6 active youth clients in services and 0 youth clients on the waitlist.

6 youth with EvolveHER program completed a mini podcast series during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, to discuss consent and healthy boundaries.

- Ms. Pettaway noted a correction: there were ‘2’ new referrals, not ‘1’ for the month of April

May 2025		
Agency: StandUp SpeakOut NC-EPIC Report	#	Notes
Youth in Services:	6	
Open Referrals:	2	2 open referrals (new clients waiting to be scheduled for intake)
Active JCPC Clients:	4	4 of the 6 are active JCPC court referred clients
JCPC Referrals this month:	1	1 youth referred this month from DSS
Terminations	2	2 clients terminated (did not complete the program due to discontinued contact)
Closed Referrals:	0	
Waitlisted Clients:	0	
Groups	0	
Outreach Group	0	
Total # of Clients for FY2024-2025		<i>17 youth total</i>

In May, 1 new referral was received. We have a total of 6 active youth clients in services and 0 youth clients on the waitlist.

- **Parenting of Adolescents:** *Cynia Black, Program Manager*

April 2025 Monthly Report

Current number of enrolled students: 5 Students (3 MDFT cases, 2 TFCBT cases).

- 8 cases have been assigned and contacts/ attempts to begin services have been made.

Number of new referrals: 3 referrals were received in April

Number of successful completions: 2 cases were successfully closed during the month of April

Programmatic changes: 1 open therapist position

Programmatic issues: N/A

Programmatic achievements:

- Attended and assisted with HER Plan Laundry event
- Attended and assisted with UNC event in Chapel Hill
- Development of CAC to guide work with adolescent parents

May 2025 Monthly Report

Current number of enrolled students: 5 Students (3 MDFT cases, 2 TFCBT cases).

- 8 cases have been assigned and contacts/ attempts to begin services have been made.

Number of new referrals: 4 referrals were received in May

Number of successful completions: 1 case was successfully closed during the month of May

Programmatic changes: 1 open therapist position

Programmatic issues: N/A

Programmatic achievements:

- Attended and assisted with HER Plan Laundry event
- Attended and assisted with UNC event in Chapel Hill
- Development of CAC to guide work with adolescent parents

- **GRACED Inc.:** *Tiffany Swoope, Program Manager*

April 2025 Monthly Report

Current number of enrolled students: 17

Number of new referrals: 2

Number of successful completions: 0

Programmatic changes: N/A

Programmatic issues:

- Our 3rd party transportation rates have increased by 60% as we now only rely on rental vans. April was particularly demanding due to an intense fundraising push and a high volume of grant proposal deadlines, all critical to sustaining our operations. Our program support capacity was also impacted as one program intern required emergency surgery and did not return; and another concluded their service term earlier than anticipated trying to balance the workload, resulting in a gap during a critical period of activity.
- Additionally, the tragic loss of a key leader from our former affiliate partner, Youth Mentoring Collaborative, due to suicide, has deeply affected our community and operations. This devastating event has required immediate attention to untangle and restructure several collaborative efforts, creating a whirlwind of logistical, emotional and programmatic complications as we work to respectfully separate and redefine partnership roles moving forward.

Programmatic achievements:

1. We recently took eight students, ages 15 and older, on a college visit to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, coordinated through our HOLD Capstone partnership. A school guidance counselor joined the group, providing additional academic insight and support for the students. Our visit offered meaningful exposure to campus life and potential career paths. As a direct result, one youth expressed a strong interest in pursuing legal studies at UNC—highlighting the lasting impact of early college engagement and mentorship.
2. In recognition of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, we hosted a powerful community event at Weaver Street Recreation Center in collaboration with the VP of Cornwallis Housing Resident Council, a victim services civil officer from the police department, our partners at Art Post Durham, Board Members and a former Durham police chief. This event created a meaningful space to bridge the gap between the community and law enforcement, while educating our youth about their rights as victims. It was a beautiful and impactful gathering that successfully engaged 27 students, ages 7 to 18, fostering awareness, healing, and empowerment.
3. We took our youth to the Youth Opportunity Fair at the Emily K Center, where they connected with community-based resources and explored programs that align with our success sequencing framework. Exposures like this are a key part of our mentoring model, which not only reduces youth violence but also fosters emotional well-being, resilience and long-term success.
4. We took seven of our students, ages 15 and up, to an HBCU College Fair in Greenville, SC. Over 30 colleges were on site offering information, accepting applications and helping students complete financial aid forms. This experience supported our mentoring goals by promoting mental wellness, reducing violence, and encouraging academic and personal success through exposure to higher education opportunities.

May 2025 Monthly Report

Current number of enrolled students: 16

Number of new referrals: 3

Number of successful completions: 2

Programmatic changes: We are restructuring our summer programming to include more community service activities in response to decreased engagement during previous summers. This approach aligns with our teens’ enthusiasm for giving back and exploring their community while also promoting consistent participation. Additionally, this shift is designed to reduce mentor burnout and address the typical decline in mentor engagement during the summer months, ensuring sustained impact and support for both youth and mentors.

Programmatic issues: Our 3rd party transportation rates have increased by 60% as we now only rely on rental vans. As a result, we’ve been more strategic in planning outings and limiting them to high-impact opportunities. We are also actively fundraising to secure our own transportation, which will allow us to expand access, reduce long-term costs and increase program flexibility.

Programmatic achievements:

1. We have secured two psychology interns from NCCU; one is a second-year clinical psychology graduate student and an undergraduate student, who are currently being onboarded to support our program for at least one calendar year. Each brings a unique skillset that will enhance our ability to provide targeted support and strengthen the positive outcomes we’re working toward with our youth. In addition, we have retained a second-year master’s level student who previously interned with us and requested to remain involved. She is currently assisting with program delivery, which she finds deeply fulfilling, and has expressed interest in supporting our continued growth in other areas of the organization.
2. We successfully concluded our second year of tutoring services at Weaver Street Recreation Center provided in partnership with Barrett Educational Centers. Our tutoring program has made a meaningful impact on our students’ academic progress. We are excited to relaunch tutoring in September with enhanced support and expanded offerings to ensure even greater success in the upcoming year.

3. Sixteen of our students and mentors attended a City Council meeting to learn firsthand how local government operates and to understand the impact of civic advocacy. The experience supported our goal of helping our teens youth develop a strong sense of agency and the confidence to take charge of their lives and contribute meaningfully to their communities.
4. We proudly hosted our 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition and Youth Awards Ceremony, where Congresswoman Valerie Foushee delivered inspiring remarks to a gym filled with support from the Cornwallis community and beyond. The event concluded with our teens leading community service activities by offering face painting, snow cones and a jump house for younger children while five local collaborative organizations shared resources with the community. As a result, one of our higher-risk youth connected with and joined Swing Pals, a program that will support their continued growth and positive development.
5. Hosted the first in a series of Fireside Chats in partnership with NCCU's Psychology Department bringing together elected officials and faith leaders for an impactful, closed-door conversation focused on mental health, violence prevention and community healing. This initiative is part of our broader effort to bridge the gap between systems and communities by advocating for collaboration and shared accountability. This conversation will continue due to overwhelming demand and the urgent need to support our future leaders more effectively.
6. We provided direct support to one of our youths and their parent by participating in a referral call advocating for the student's placement in advanced courses. As a result of this collaborative effort, the student is now officially enrolled in Advanced Placement classes for the upcoming fall semester, an important step in their academic journey and continued success.
7. We supported a parent by providing guidance on how to effectively advocate for their child with a school-related conflict. As a result, the youth will be transferring to a new school with access to a culinary pathway, offering a more supportive environment that is expected to improve behavioral outcomes and increase academic engagement through hands-on learning and career exploration.

Mr. Coath offered Ms. Swoope possible assistance regarding GRACED's transportation issues.

- **Elna B. Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center:** *Raquel Dominguez, Program Manager*

April/May 2025 Monthly Report:

Current number of enrolled students: 77

Number of new referrals: We received 12 in April and 3 in May

Number of successful completions: We have not completed any cases yet.

Programmatic changes: On April 22, 2025, we hired a new Youth Mediation Program Coordinator.

Programmatic issues: N/A

Programmatic achievements:

- As of May 14, 2025, we have received a total of 77 referrals for truancy mediation.
- In the last month, we have conducted 15 truancy mediation sessions.
- **Success Highlight:**
 - Through mediation, parents were able to clarify questions and sign consent forms, allowing the school to communicate with doctors regarding students with complex medical needs.
 - A student that was referred to the program in October has improved attendance by 85%. A teacher noted positive changes in the student's involvement and attitude since participating in truancy mediation.
- Skill Development for youth: Upcoming Event: Summer Program: Girl PowHer for girls ages 11-14 from June 23-27. Dateline for registration: June 10, 2025
- One staff member began a certified trauma-informed care training this month to enhance service delivery for at-risk youth.
- Outreach Efforts:
 - April 16: Attended the **NCCAY Regional Meeting** in Raleigh. Connected with JCPC leaders and partners in juvenile justice.
 - April 26: CRC participated in the **Family and Community Engagement Day** organized by DPS at Southern High School alongside 30+ community partners.

- May 1: Attended one day of the **NC Juvenile Services Conference** in Greensboro.
- May 6: CRC participated at the Vendor/Partner Information Fair at the **Safe Minds, Safe Schools** Partnerships Event at Hillside High School— a community initiative organized by Superintendent Dr. Lewis to address social, emotional, and physical safety in Durham schools.
- May 15: Meeting with the Executive Director and School Counselor from a Charter School (**K-8**) to discuss implementing truancy mediation for the **2025–2026 school year**.
- May 17: CRC participated at community event organized by EPIC (Empowered Parents in Community) at Rogers- Herr Middle school.

- **Durham Teen Court & Restitution:** *Alvin Black, Teen Court Coordinator*

April 2025 Teen Court Monthly Report:

Current number of enrolled students: 19

Number of new referrals: 1

Number of successful completions: 2

Programmatic changes: 0

Programmatic issues: 0

Programmatic achievements: N/A

April 2025 Restitution Program Monthly Report:

Current number of enrolled students: 9

Number of new referrals: 0

Number of successful completions: 0

Programmatic changes: none

Programmatic issues: none

Programmatic achievements: N/A

May 2025 Teen Court Monthly Report:

Current number of enrolled students: 19

Number of new referrals: 4

Number of successful completions: 2

Programmatic changes: 0

Programmatic issues: 0

Programmatic achievements:

- 3 long term volunteers are graduating this year and will attend UNCC and UNCG and Vanderbilt University
- An Intern created completed hours and was able to recruit two new community service placements
- Teen Court previous participant has a job and is doing well in school

May 2025 Restitution Program Monthly Report:

Current number of enrolled students: 9

Number of new referrals: 0

Number of successful completions: 1

Programmatic changes: none

Programmatic issues: none

Programmatic achievements: N/A

VII. Chair Update:

- Chair McIver thanked the programs for their updates and commended them on the collaborative work that is being done in the community, especially at this time with the challenges being faced as summer approaches and parents/guardians are trying to find activities for their children.
- Chair McIver invited Commissioner Stephen Valentine to address the Board.

Commissioner Valentine stated that the work that this JCPC is doing is valued in the county and is looking forward to collaborating with this board's members over the next several years. In particular, addressing the trend in the numbers of juvenile offenses that were discussed previously.

- Chair McIver re-emphasized that **the June 25th JCPC Board meeting will be in person** in the Multi-Purpose Room on the 2nd Floor at 326 E. Main Street. This will be the last meeting for FY 24-25; there is no scheduled full board meeting for July 2025.
- Mr. Crews stated that there is \$20,000 in unallocated funds (originally allocated to Triangle Literacy) that the Board will reallocate. Programs interested in providing the GED/Educational services to their program can do so by incorporating an 'Enhancement' to their already existing services by either contracting an outside vendor or providing these services internally.
- Chair McIver stated that by the end of June, the BOCC will have decided on the County Match Funding, which is much needed in light of the needs of the programs i.e. addressing transportation issues and handling the overflow of the number of juveniles being served.

Commissioner Valentine stated that the BOCC is currently in the middle of a challenging budget cycle, however, he will be championing the budget requests that have been made by JCPC, and the budget should be in place by June 9th.

VIII. Other Business/Announcements:

- Mr. Langley commented that it is imperative for the Board to begin thinking about how to address the systems that are not serving our young people well. Mr. Langley went on to recommend that the BOCC make a robust investment in the My Brother's Keeper Initiative here in Durham.
 - ✚ Chair McIver stated that recommendations to the BOCC should be presented to the BOCC at their appropriate meeting times. All members were encouraged to submit any recommendations to the JCPC Coordinator or himself to be presented in a well thought out organized fashion.
- Seth Kandl mentioned that Jackie Green, Professor of Juvenile Law at UNC's School of Government posted an article in the UNC Solar Blog referencing a study of how different anti-juvenile crime programs impact recidivism. Mr. Kandl will email a link to members.

IX. Adjournment:

Chair McIver adjourned the meeting at 5:45pm