



JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

August 27, 2025 **JCPC Full Board Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Kevin McIver, Angela Nunn, Jonathan Wilson, Nicole Grant, Beverly (B. J.) Council, Seth Kandl, Laylon Williams, Sgt. Frederick Kearns, Renee Hill, Ramya Krishna, LiBria Stephens, Dr. Melissa Watson, Monica Burnette, DeWarren Langley, Quanesha Archer, Commissioner Stephen Valentine, Alex Hurdle, Sgt. Larry Watkins, Jr., Dr. L. A. Cuttler

Programs Present: Raquel Dominguez (Youth Mediation), Arkeem Brooks (Project BUILD), Yasmine Boone (PROUD Program), Quille Coath (PROUD Program), Tiffany Swoope (GRACED Inc)

Guests Present: Captain A. D. Hinton (Durham County Sheriff's Office), Beyonnshea Lucas (GRACED), Kee'shon Brooks, Parenting of Adolescents Family Therapist, DeWayne Harvey-Gatewood, Parenting of Adolescents Family Therapist

Staff Present: Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Robin Heath, Viveca Deans, Janice Williams

Excused Absences: Duane Brinson, Roshanna Humphrey, Abigail Holloway, John Morris, Maggie Clapp, Cynia Black (POA), Krystal Harris (Project Build)

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair McIver called the meeting to order at 4:05pm, welcomed everyone and asked all attendees to introduce themselves. New member, Dr. L. A. Cuttler, Substance Abuse Professional was introduced.

Quorum was established.

II. Chair Update

Chair McIver began by announcing that the meeting agenda is being restructured to meet the JCPC's 'call-to-action' needs and to incorporate this JCPC's members' actual knowledge of and experience with justice-involved juveniles so as to formulate comprehensive correspondence and communication to entities such as the Board of County Commissioners and Durham's Department of Public Schools. The changes are as follows:

- **Program Updates** will no longer be presented at the meetings. Updates are to be sent to the JCPC Coordinator, Janice Williams, the 1st of every month in order for Board members to receive an electronic copy of the monthly updates prior to each full board meeting for review. Board members can bring any questions or concerns to the meetings to be addressed by the Program Directors/staff. This will allow more time for the in-house presentations and addressing the JCPC 'call-to-action' issues.
- **Announcements** will be sent via email to Chair McIver and/or the JCPC Coordinator, Janice Williams. The announcements will then be forwarded the JCPC community. This will reduce the amount of repetitive emails received by members.
- **Community Presentations** will be replaced with JCPC member presentations. The members of the JCPC who represent organizations that work directly with justice-involved juveniles can present data, concerns, and views that are causing issues with juveniles for discussion/resolution. A program presentation schedule will be developed and distributed to appointed board members.
- **Court Counsel Updates** will be presented quarterly at September, January, March and June's full board meeting by Chief Court Counselor, Nicole Grant.

Mr. DeWarren Langley commented that the monthly reports were started with the primary purpose of presenting trends the programs were seeing and experiencing while working with the youths served in their respective programs. Recommendations were to be brought to the board's attention so that plans of action/system changes could be put in

place based on those trends. This information can also be utilized to make recommendations to the City Council, Sheriff's Department, and Police Department. Mr. Langley went on to urge the council to ask questions when feedback regarding these trends are not provided.

Mr. Langley went on to state that through the urgency of this JCPC, a robust referral process was formed with SRO's. As a result, Durham is the leading county with this relationship. It was reported by the Durham Police Chief that there was an increase of serious juvenile crimes in Durham this year.

Chair McIver reiterated that the information Mr. Langley shared is the strategy that is now being implemented to formulate accurate letters of support from this JCPC to the BOCC and DPS.

III. June 2025 Minutes Approval

Hearing no corrections, a motion to approve the June 25, 2025 minutes was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Durham County JCPC Bylaws:

Chair McIver made a motion to approve the Durham County JCPC Bylaws. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Approval of the FY '25 –'26 Workplan/Calendar:

Chair McIver noted the following change in the workplan:

- The New Member Orientation has been moved from August 27th to September 24th at 3pm.

Chair McIver made a motion to approve the FY '25 – '26 Workplan/Calendar. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved

Chair McIver revisited the approval of the Bylaws.

- Mr. Crews noted that there are seven (7) citizen appointments by the County Commissioners' office and,
- There is a second statutory position that needs to be listed in the Bylaws for a youth under the age of 21 or a member of the public representing the interests of families of at-risk juveniles.

Mr. Crews' changes were recognized and accepted.

V. Approval of remaining JCPC and County Match Funds allocation to The Proud Program:

Chair McIver stated that the Funding Committee met and unanimously approved the funding amount of \$24,950 to be allocated to the PROUD Program as follows:

- ✓ \$20,000 - JCPC State allocated funds
- ✓ \$3,000 – 15% County Match Funds
- ✓ \$1,950 – Additional County Match Funds (originally allocated to JCPC Administration)

\$24,950 Total

Mr. Coath stated that since the PROUD Program has a tutorial and educational component in place, once the call was received that Triangle Literacy was closing, the PROUD Program was willing to fill in that gap for the current displaced students to be able to continue the journey of obtaining their GED. The educators employed by PROUD developed a pre-GED prep program to accomplish this goal. It was discovered that these students were in dire need of tutorial assistance in order to take the GED due to inconsistent attendance. While Mr. Coath is working on getting the GED component in full swing, the students are receiving this much-needed tutorial services.

A motion to approve the allocation of the \$24,950 JCPC and County Match Funding to the PROUD Program was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

**At this time, Commissioner Valentine made a motion that Mr. Crews' updates to the JCPC Bylaws be approved. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

VI. Appointment of Sub-Committee Members:

a. Funding Committee Members:

- i. Kevin McIver
- ii. Jonathan Wilson
- iii. Angela Nunn
- iv. DeWarren Langley
- v. Renee Hill
- vi. Seth Kandl
- vii. Alex Hurdle
- viii. Walter 'Eddie' Crews

- b. Risk & Needs Assessment Committee:** Mr. Crews explained that this committee looks at the emerging juvenile risks and needs of Durham County. When the statistical data is received from the juvenile court (for the previous fiscal year), trends are looked at to ascertain the needs of the youths and how to address those needs through the services that the Programs provide. This data feeds into developing an RFP. Since this is a two-year funding cycle, it is anticipated that an RFP will not be published this fiscal year (providing the programs are meeting their obligations). Law enforcement, DPS and DSS data are needed as well to make these assessments.

- i. Walter 'Eddie' Crews
- ii. Kevin McIver
- iii. Angela Nunn
- iv. Monica Burnett
- v. BJ Council
- vi. Nicole Grant
- vii. LiBria Stephens
- viii. Ramya Krishna
- ix. DeWarren Langley

Chair McIver stated that the Monitoring Committee will be selected after review of board members' conflict-of-interests.

VII. Area Consultant Update: *Mr. Walter 'Eddie' Crews*

Mr. Crews thanked the Chair and Coordinator for their service and mentioned the following administrative reminders as follows:

- Conflict-of-Interest Forms: members must complete and disclose any conflict-of-interests with any programs. Members who have conflicts will not be able to vote on funding and cannot be part of the evaluation of the program with which there is a conflict.
- The JCPC New Member Orientation will take place on Wednesday, September 24th at 3:00pm.
- NC Safe Storage of fire arms initiative is still being strongly pushed by the state. If Durham would like to host an event for this, Mr. Crews will assist by reaching out to Deputy Secretary Lassiter.

VIII. DPS Questions: *Dr. Melissa Watson, Director of Student Alternatives and Supports*

Dr. Watson opened the floor up for questions/concerns regarding the start of school and stated that meetings are held every day during the start of this school year at 4pm to review any trends/patterns that may surface.

Concerns were raised pertaining to transportation issues, lack of communication from school staff to parents and the recognition of cognitive challenges in students.

Dr. Watson received the concerns and requested that a direct email be sent to her at Melissa.Watson@dpsnc.net in order to forward those concerns to the appropriate DPS personnel for resolve.

Dr. Watson offered this contact information: Darneise Massey, Coordinator of Special Programs darneise_massey@dpsnc.net 919.560.2672. Also, information on how to download the DPS mobile app will be forwarded to everyone via email.

IX. 12-Month Measurable Objectives:

(Actual reports can be accessed via NC Allies and was sent via email to all board members on 8.28.25)

X. Other Business/Announcements:

- Ms. Raquel Dominguez announced that the Youth Mediation Program is in the process of recruiting mentors and is hosting a management training session on September 12th
- DeWarren Langley announced:
 - The North Carolina Juvenile Services Association is having their Fall conference, October 29th -31st in Greensboro, NC
 - The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services published a report on a 5-year strategy to prevent suicides and suicide attempts (this report will be forwarded to board members by Mr. Langley)
- My Brother's Keeper's Initiative is being pulled from Durham County. Mr. Langley is requesting this JCPC to write a letter in support of reinstating the steering committee and the work that was being done by this initiative – the creation of local action plan.
- Ms. Nunn suggested that based on the nature of the current political climate, Mr. Langley should reach out to Krystal Harris, the Director of Community Intervention, and the county regarding Durham's obligations to following the president's DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) policy.

After further discussion, a motion was made to draft a letter for My Brother's Keeper and was seconded. The motion was lost by majority vote.

XI. Adjournment:

Chair McIver adjourned the meeting at 5:51pm