DURHAM JOINS TOGETHER
To Save Lives

Agenda

Thursday, August 27, 2026 (5:00PM-6:30PM) - **Via Zoom**

Co – Chairs: Dr. Wanda Boone, CEO of Together for Resilient Youth (TRY) & Wendy Jacobs, Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

	AGENDA ITEMS
5:00 pm – 5:05 pm	• Welcome and Introductions – Commissioner Wendy Jacobs Task Force Co-Chair
5:05 pm – 5:15 pm	• Update on Medicaid/HR1 Impacts, SUD Exceptions, and Planning Efforts– Carlyle Johnson, Alliance Health
5:15 pm – 5:20 pm	• Discussion/Q&A
	Updates on Policies Impacting Homelessness, Substance Use and Mental Illness
5:20 pm – 5:30 pm	• Legislative Update – Overview of HB 437: Implications for Homelessness and Substance Use – Representative Zack Hawkins, NC House of Representatives
5:30 pm – 5:40 pm	• Impact of the Strategic Framework to Make Homelessness Rare and Brief on People who use Substances – Anise Vance, Assistant Director Durham Community Safety Department, City of Durham
5:40 pm – 5:50 pm	• Impact of HUD CoC Funding Changes on People with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders – Anthony Henderson, Manager, HOPE Team (Housing Opportunities and Pathways Engagement) Durham Community Safety Department, City of Durham
5:50 pm – 6:00 pm	• Discussion/Q&A
6:00 pm – 6:10 pm	• Data Report Card – Dr. Wanda Boone, Task Force Co-Chair

6:10 pm – 6:15 pm	• Discussion/Q&A •
6:15 pm – 6:20 pm	• Announcements ○ Planning a Tour of Healing Transitions
6:20 pm – 6:30 pm	• Updates and closing – Dr. Wanda Boone, Task Force Co-Chair
	Next Meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2026, 5:00pm-6:30pm **Location: Zoom**

Schedule for Durham Joins Together Committees:

- Prevention/Education – 2nd Wednesdays, 10:30 AM Virtual
- Treatment and Harm Reduction – 2nd Tuesdays, 3:00 PM Virtual
- Housing – 4th Fridays, 1:00 PM Virtual

Committee Chairs:

- Prevention & Education – Dr. Wanda Boone
  wanda.durhamtry@gmail.com
- Treatment and Harm Reduction – Tremaine Sawyer & Lacie Scofield
  tsawyer@dconc.gov; lfscofield@dconc.gov
- Housing – Division Chief Helen Tripp
  htripp@dconc.gov

*Committee Reports due 1 week prior to task force meeting.

Durham Joins Together Goals and Objectives for 2028

Goal 1: Reduce and Prevent Substance Misuse Through Education and Community Collective Impact

Objectives:

A. Reduce ED overdose visits by 10% (from 136.5 to 122.8 per 100,000).
B. Reduce the percentage of ED overdose visits among Black residents from 55% to 45% of the total ED overdose visits.
C. Reduce self-reported vape use by 5% of the students surveyed in middle school (16%) and high school (29%).

Data Sources: NCDHHS Injury and Violence Prevention Branch (baseline 2024), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (baseline 2023)

Goal 2: Address Substance Misuse and Reduce Harm Through Intervention and Treatment

Objectives:

A. Increase the percentage of people who receive treatment for OUD from 0.4% to 0.5%.
B. Obtain comprehensive data on patient retention rates from SUD treatment providers to establish a baseline retention rate.
C. Enroll all eligible residents on Medicaid (100%) and retain those who are currently enrolled.

Data Sources: NCDHHS Injury and Violence Prevention Branch (baseline 2024), NCDHHS NC Medicaid Division of Health Benefits

Goal 3: Enhance Continuum of Care for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

Objectives:

A. Conduct an assessment to determine why the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center (ADATC) facility was not successful.
B. Conduct an inventory of existing services, the possibility of enhancing those services, and options to reduce use of emergency departments for detox.
C. Explore existing continuum of care models in other counties, define best practices, and identify an ideal continuum of care from detox to inpatient and long-term treatment.

Models to Explore: Healing Transitions, Anuvia Prevention and Recovery, McLeod Centers for Wellbeing, Hope Haven, Upcoming Medicaid-covered level of care

Goal 4: Support Stable Housing for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

Objectives:

A. Reduce the total number of chronically homeless individuals by 10% (from 399 to 359) and the total number of Black or African American individuals who are homeless by 10% (from 2,766 to 2,489).
B. Open a day center for individuals who are homeless that includes connection to harm reduction resources and treatment for substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders.
C. Add a total of 20 additional beds in recovery housing facilities with no restrictions on MOUD.

Data Sources: Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) via Durham County DSS's Coordinated Entry system (baseline 2024)