



JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

October 23, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Note Taker: Celia Jefferson

Members Present: Faye Paige, Allen Lang, DeWarren Langley, Jennifer Rogers, Stephen Watson, Brenda Howerton, James R. Allen, Drew Cummings, Herman Scott, Angela Nunn, Tasha P. Jones, Nicole Jimerson, Gayle Harris, Arnold Dennis, Michelle H. Smith, Michael Grissom, Fungai Bennett, Stephanie Williams, Karen K. Thompson

Members Excused: Lauren Wright, Judge Patricia Evans, Georgette O'Mary,

Members Absent: Olivia Marks, Johnnie Foster, Umar Muhammad, Michael Becketts

Visitors Present: Cindy Porterfield, Anthony Smith,

Staff Present: Gudrun Parmer, Celia Jefferson, Oprah Keyes

Welcome and Introductions

Angela Nunn, chair opened the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

JCPC Meeting Minutes

Presented for approval: September 18, 2013 – Regular Meeting. **Motion:** The minutes to be accepted as presented. **Action:** Seconded & Approved.

DJJ Updates

Cindy reemphasized that the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) will continue the same way as in the past. There has not been any change to the Department of Public Safety mission nor JCPC to fund effective programs. The SPEP tool is designed to actually, compare our programs against programs in the research that was done by Mark Lipsy along with Buddy Howell. They have presented a new recalibrated tool to us. One of the things that have changed about the recalibrated tool is we are going to have to crosswalk programs into the new grouping of the primary and supplemental services. SPEP was actually designed based on a meta-analysis study database with over 500 researched programs based on a database with over 500 researched programs. From that meta-analysis study, he generated a tool that helps us guide programs of what type of program, whether or not they have a qualifying supplemental service that reduces recidivism, the frequency of the duration and the risk level of kids involved. This SPEP tool separates the quality of services delivered to this tool. A quality matrix will be used to guide programs on what they have in place now to address their delivery of service. The quality has to

do with staff retention, training of staff, and whether or not there is something in place that will bring programs back in line if they go out of the order of protocol in how they do business. It will also help up know if the program has a written protocol. They also want the programs to measure how they do things to keep the fidelity of the program not only in policy but how they treat clients when they come through the door. Within the quality of service measured, the programs will be rated on points that will be added in up to the maximum of 20.

Informal Monitoring Visits presentations by JCPC

Evidence Based Trauma Assessment and Treatment: Jennifer Rogers reported that she talked with Kelly Sullivan, the director of Mental Health Services. She commented that the program is based mostly on prevention. The program gets most of their referrals from DSS Food and Nutrition Services; some come from the police department, but not many. Their focus is trauma and treatment. One of its program barriers is they can't provide a lot of help when a kid is already involved in a higher level of care. They are trying to figure out how they can still be helpful, and if there is a way they can find out the different markers for kids that are likely to get involved in the juvenile justice system and start collecting data on kids that they see that meet those markers and figure out where they should go. They want to be able to give more data and figure out what they can do better on the prevention side. The kids that they are ages eight and above. When they have access to any child with an active safety problem, meaning still living in the home with the abuser they always will have to pull the child out of the home, and the problem with that is they would not want the child to get rid of any of their survival skills that they may be acting out through negative behavior that keeps them safe.

Teen Court & Restitution: Tasha met with Sabrina, director of Teen Court. Sabrina biggest barrier and concern are the limited amount of staff on hand. The majority of referrals are coming from the school, district court and the court counselor's office. The Teen Court program meets every Thursday during the school year from 6:00pm until 7:30pm. They have two court session on that day in a court room A & B. She does not have an office manager due to loss of funding. Sabrina serves as the office manager and director. Teen Court works with youth ages 11 – 17. A Teen Court Summit will be held in April. Students will participate in mock competitions and trainings. At least one hundred youth from different counties will be participating. Sabrina asked if some of the JCPC members could assist with the event, or donate promotional items or funding to the summit. When she has more details she might want to present at one of our JCPC meetings. Teen Court offers different workshops such as positive peers, staff mentors and educational workshops.

DMC Update

The Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) committee, started in 2011, and was triggered by a report done by NCCU on whether we had DMC in Durham County. Findings showed that the system was worst in the referrals and that most of the referrals were coming from law

enforcement and the schools. In 09/10 Durham's Relative Rate, Indices were 6.84. This was high in terms of the percentage of nonwhites who were going into the juvenile justice system. At this point, JCPC felt that it was something that needed their priority and from that an ad hoc committee was started along with people from the outside that was interested in working with us. We identified a couple of things we would do up front to try to educate the people in the community, and also be in contact with the two groups that was sending most of the referrals to the court just to be sure that these referrals were the kinds of referrals that needed to be addressed by the court.

The DMC committee has major agencies involved, Durham Public Health, Durham Department of Social Services, Alliance Behavioral Health, Durham Public School System, Durham Police Department, Durham Sheriff's Department, NCCU Juvenile Justice Institute, and the Division of Juvenile Justice. We are at the point now that we are re-organizing. Jim Ullman was hired by the Alliance Behavioral Health Care to work with us for a month to put our records in chronology order, work around possible training referrals with Durham Public Schools, and firm up a list of people from the DMC Conference held in January of 2012. A Juvenile and Family Resource Manual has been developed and sent to DSS, DPD, and the Durham Sheriff department that can be used to refer kids. Thanks to Michelle Smith, she has been consistent in some of the things that were done. Training has been lined up for all the administrators, social workers, guidance counselors, and SRO's within the Durham public school system. We are now working on a curriculum for the training. Marty Brown from the Division of Juvenile Justice is a DMC Coordinator throughout NC. He is helping our DMC committee on how to present the training to the public school system.

Dr. Barbara Fedders presented on the topic the School to Prison Pipeline at the August 28 JCPC meeting. Arnold commented that people are beginning to see that certain children are showing up in the juvenile justice system, but there are reasons for that way beyond the DMC committee ability to solve, but can begin to address some of the reasons. Tasha commented everything we submit for training or present will come before JCPC. The school executive team will organize a time to meet all the principals and assistant principals in the county to begin training with them. The follow up training will allow us to meet with all the support staff in the county, the SROs, Social Workers, and Guidance Counselor. We will follow our curriculum and come up with what issues or tailor the DMC more appropriately with Durham as it relates to what we are seeing in the school.

At our last DMC meeting, Lieutenant Aleem from the Sheriff Department presented the following program: Creating Healthy Opportunities Inspiring Children to have Everyday Success (CHOICES) Program. He has agreed to be part of training for the public school system. Arnold mentioned that Judge Morey has gotten involved and will be part of the first group to present.

JCPC Retreat

Angela stated that as a board, we will coordinate a retreat to be held in February during our regular scheduled meeting date for half of the day. More details will follow. The DMC issues do only affect the school system; it affects silos within the county and city. DMC plays a role in the county and city initiative strategic planning making sure we have safety and secure community. Angela asked the council to come up with some ideas, statistics, and let us know at the November meeting on where we should focus.

Durham Public School

Michelle Smith presented on DPS- At Risk Youth Programs. She will email Celia a detailed copy of her presentation. She briefly touched on the following: **School Base Support Program:** This program is in seven of the schools, has a license school social worker, direct services and a school psychologist to deal with the kids that have mental health challenges. **Lakeview Alternative School:** The alternative school program provides school for long term suspended kids ages six through the twelfth grade and an option for when a student's behavior management or academic performance needs cannot be met in a regular education setting. **Second Chance Academy:** This is a new program that is an alternative for short-term suspended students. The focus is on the twelve middle schools in Durham. The kids can attend 1-10 days. The school provides a supportive environment for students to complete classroom assignments and homework and engage in mentoring, conflict resolution, individual and group counseling as needed. **Red Mill:** Red Mill is a school within a center. It is a therapeutic program for kids that have been identified as seriously emotionally disabled. Red Mill covers six grades through twelfth grade students. The program is limited on the number of kids that can be served. There are 40 kids in the program. **Truancy Court:** The Truancy Court Program identifies kids that have issues with absenteeism and we bring them in the courts to find out what needs to be done to fix the issues. **Drop Outs for Prevention a 21 credit program:** High school graduation requirements for a student seeking a general diploma shall be the successful completion of the state minimum 21 units of credit earned in grades 9-12. Durham requirement is 28 units of credit. Michelle will email Celia a detailed copy of DPS positive initiatives.

DeWarren stated that when our youth are not in school receiving educational instruction, it is a disservice to our community and their future. He noted that the Board must follow up with specific and measurable action while engaging citizens throughout the process. DeWarren stated that in 2008, he participated in the Kitchen Table Conversation to discuss the outcomes of African-American males. Following an intense discussion, one follow up email was sent to participants, a grant was secured, a few programs were implemented throughout the school system, yet we have not garnered the results deserving of a district of distinction for African-American male students. He argued that we cannot allow this process to have the same result.

DeWarren urged the need for the Board of Education to have specific, measurable and articulate

goals about this process and ensure citizens are engaged and informed throughout the process. Further he urged that the police must be more responsive to the needs of students. DeWarren noted that the Board of Education permits some students to graduate with 21 versus 28 credits hours which creates a false impression of reality with respect to achieving benchmarks.

Michelle responded that she understood DeWarren's concerns and explained that the change in graduation requirements were to permit students who were substantially behind to graduate with a high school diploma. She explained that an 18 year old would not want to be in class with juniors or seniors struggling to graduate.

DeWarren noted that early academic intervention would be most appropriate to reduce the number of students reaching high school but substantially behind in their academic progress. He suggested that DPS need staff that monitor students who are falling behind make sure those students are receiving the support and resources they need.

Arnold noted the current complaint against DPS for suspension of African-American and special needs students. Nicole explained that DPS receives millions in federal funds for special needs students thus there should be adequate staff to provide the necessary support for those students.

James explained that the changes in the mental health system is a challenge at times to ensure students are receiving the necessary services, and supports they need because a lot of agencies outsource to call centers that may or may not be within the community.

Angela welcomed our new member, James Allen. He is a private attorney in Durham. He is serving in the juvenile attorney position. He works with a lot of kids in juvenile court the school system with a mental health component, and he does clinical assessments with a lot of the youth in Durham.

In the interest of time, Angela thanked members for the discussion and proceeded to announcements.

Announcements

DeWarren announced the Durham Youth Summit scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2013 from 8:30AM until 3PM at Holton Career & Resource Center, 401 N. Driver Street. He explained that the Summit was a free opportunity for youth, ages 14 to 21, and their parents to explore various options after high school, connect to multiple community programs in Durham, and get better prepared for the world of higher education or the workforce.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.