



## JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

### August 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Brenda Howerton, Faye Paige, Nicole Jimerson, Tasha Jones, Arnold Dennis, Stephanie L. Williams, Gayle Harris, Michelle H. Smith, Georgette O'Mary, Michael Grissom, Olivia Marks, Umar Muhammad, Herman Scott, DeWarren K. Langley, Angela Nunn, Fungai M. Bennett, Judge Marcia Morey (standing in for Judge Patricia Evans), Allan Lang, Karen K. Thompson

**Members Excused:** Jennifer Rogers, Michael Becketts, Drew Cummings

**Members Absent:** Johnnie Foster, Jr., Stephen Watson

**Visitors Present:** Cindy Porterfield, R. D. Fountain IV, Barbara Fedders

**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 Administrative Budget**

Angela informed the council of training funds in the JCPC Administrative budget and asked the council for suggestions on how the funds could be spent to benefit our funded program providers or nonprofits in the community. The following suggestions were given: summer programs for youth, sustainability training for our funded program providers, more marketing ideas, and a retreat for the youth, hire an intern to coordinate, hold a youth summit in November.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Angela asked the council to review the minutes. Motion: Umar moved that the minutes be adopted as presented. Action: Seconded and Approved.

### **JCPC Member Orientation**

Cindy Porterfield from the Division of Juvenile Justice presented a general overview of JCPC.

- Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 1998 established for the first time in the State of NC an exclusive child/family serving cabinet – level represented Department.

- Merged the division of youth services of DHHS and the Juvenile Services Division, AOC.
- Revised juvenile code to place greater emphasis on community protection and graduated sanctions.
- Established Juvenile Crime Prevention councils in each county for comprehensive planning of service to children.
- In 2012, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention merged with the following: Department of Corrections, the Department of Crime Control, and Public Safety to become the Department of Public Safety. We are now the Division of Juvenile Justice, Community Programs Section.

**The Legislative Intent for JCPC** is to develop community based alternatives to youth development centers; to provide community-based delinquency and substance abuse strategies and programs; to provide non-institutional dispositional alternatives that will protect the community and juveniles; planning by a local representative.

More detailed information can be found in the attached PowerPoint distributed at the meeting.

Presentation - Barbara Fedders: School-to-Prison Pipeline in Durham County Barbara Fedders, Clinical Associate Professor at UNC School of Law, presented an overview of Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Durham County. The definition is a system of laws, policies, and practices that push students, especially our most at risk children, out of schools and into the juvenile and criminal system. It is also known as: “Cradle-to-Prison Pipeline”, “Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track”, and “School Push Out”. It is one of the most urgent civil rights crises known today. Statistics from City Data.com shows that in NC, 22.2% of children live in poverty, and in Durham, 25.7%. Black and Latino children are disproportionately poor, and poor children come to school less able to learn; experience frustration, and act out. Causes of academic failure: Students who are failing academically lose incentive and motivation to follow school rules and norms; students who are not engaged in the educational process are more likely to misbehave and be subjected to suspension, expulsion, arrest, and adjudication; students who fail standardized tests and who are retained are more likely to drop out of school.

More important statistics according to NC Division of Juvenile Justice, 41% of all juvenile complaints received in 2009 were for “school-based” offenses; in Durham, Black students make up 80% of the total number of school-based delinquency complaints; in Durham, 79% of school-based complaints were misdemeanors. Data from a research project conducted by Judge Morey indicates significantly disparate numbers of school-based delinquency complaints from school to school. In 2012-2013, 22 from Southern H.S., 2 from Jordan; 9 from Neal M.S., 1 from Lowe’s Grove. To learn more about the above information and about prevention, interventions other than

policing, alternatives to suspension, school resource officer's reform and other detailed information, please read the detailed PowerPoint that was distributed at the August 28th meeting, or request an electronic copy from Celia. DeWarren will follow up with soliciting input and suggestions from members to generate viable recommendations for keeping students in school.

### **JCPC & the Rescue Mission**

DeWarren gave feedback on partnering with the Durham Rescue Mission Back to School Party Youth Resource Fair that was held in August. Over 2,000 adults and youth were served. The event reaffirmed the need for a core agency to enhance and promote partnerships between public and private youth-serving agencies to strengthen coordination and collaboration of programmatic goals and activities for the comprehensive development of youth in Durham. JCPC program providers and other agencies were in attendance. He stated that we should anticipate partnering with the Durham Rescue Mission again next Year. Additionally, if we are going to serve, we must use traditional means of outreach in the community to connect with those absent from the internet and social media.

Umar thanked JCPC for their support with his 1st annual Bull City Hoop & Hang a USPORTS event held in Durham. The event was well attended.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10.