



Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

December 7th, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Present: AJ Connors, James Crayton, Ashley Reiger, Diane Herring, Erica Bostic, Nancy Hodges, Trisha-Ann Hoskins, Jasmine Williams, Jason McGuirt, Jesse Dowe, Juan Jimenez, Lance Turner, Darryl McCaster, Melissa Reese, Nikita Newkirk, Earlene Rivers, and Penny Thorne.

Excused: Mario White.

Jason McGuirt, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the December 2021 meeting of the Duplin County JCPC.

Invocation was offered by Mayor AJ Connors.

Quorum was confirmed.

The Chairman entertained a motion for Approval of the November Minutes: A motion was made to adopt the November 2nd, 2021 JCPC meeting minutes by Mayor AJ Connors, seconded by Mr. James Crayton; motion carried.

Stakeholder Updates

- Sheriff's Office- Lance Turner reported there is a small spike within psychological outbursts with the juveniles ranging from tantrums to sexual behavior.
- District Attorney's Office- One more court session by the end of the year. Inmates and jails are backed up due to overcrowding.
- Courts- Nothing to Report.
- County- Nothing to Report.
- Eastpointe- Melissa Reese- Substance Use Coalition data collection still in process for 6th, 8th, and 10th graders.
- DJJ, Chief Court Counselor- One juvenile for council.
- Area Consultant- Summary of YDC's serious mental health and behavioral issues in area juveniles.

Old Business

- **Funding Committee Summary--** Lance Turner reported; he discussed need for an increase in funds for psychological services because the service cost increased

\$200 per evaluation, JCPC elected to move \$2400 from JCPC budget to cover the additional cost until July 2022.

- Membership Update: Jason McGuirt reported for Erica Bostic—There are three students who are interested in attending the JCPC council who can offer a different perspective on the interests of juvenile offenders who are subject to the criminal justice system. The goal is to get three more candidates under 21 years of age. One student contacted but was not able to meet at this meeting.

New Business

- Membership Update: Jason McGuirt reported that we are trying to get the meeting catered at \$10 per person with different items from Mae's catering. Motion was made by Lane Turner, seconded by Commissioner Jesse Dowe, carried unanimously to approve the catering from Mae's.
- RFP: Program applications are due by February 14th to give committee two full weeks to review; review is open to participants. Motion for RFP approval (with the addition of Vocational Skills/Education to be added) was made by Mayor Connors and seconded by Lance Turner. Motion carried.
- Grant Writing workshop is February 9th.
- Need a program that focuses on job preparedness and workforce preparedness.

Agency Reports

- **Psychological Services** – Juan Jimenez reported for the program; She explained the department establishes care and they are on schedule for assessment but the service charge for psychological assessment has changed to \$700 per assessment. Psychological Assessments has served 6 year to date.

- **Teen Court** – reported for the program; Teen Court had 6 admissions in November; 2 between the ages of 10-13 and 4 between the ages of 14-17. Total year to date is 25 and they have an ending count of 17.

- **Restitution program** –Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; Community Service had 2 admissions in November and has served a total of 9 year to date. They also added a new worksite in November.

- **Building Peace**– Diane Herring reported for the program; Building Peace reported a total of 13 served year to date; and they need volunteers to assist with sessions. Please let Diane Herring know if you know of someone that might be interested. Training is provided and sessions are supported by staff.

- **Mentoring program**– Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; Mentoring has served 5 year to date with two admissions in the month of November. They too need volunteers.

- **DNA Structured Learning** – Earlean Rivers reported for the program; DNA Structured Learning has served a total of 4 year to date with one that's showing "referred" that will be admitted shortly. Three were referred by DJJ and one by parent/guardian but has a pending charge.

Conclusion

Other Announcements – Chief Crayton advised the group that the Wallace PD is providing an Alcohol/Drug Seminar in collaboration with Street Safe to high school teens. To register, there's a link on their Facebook page that Chief Crayton emailed out to the JCPC. There is no fee for this. Reminder from Jason McGuirt that there is NO January meeting; see everyone on Feb. 1.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Melissa Reese, seconded by Deputy Lance Turner; carried unanimously by the JCPC Council to adjourn the meeting until February 1st, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. in the Williams Room 100 at James Sprunt Community College, 133 James Sprunt Dr, Kenansville, NC 28349.

Respectfully Submitted:

Trisha-Ann Hoskins