



Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

May 2nd, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Present: Jason McGuirt, Trisha-Ann Hoskins, Jordon Whaley, Penny Thorne, Jesse Dowe, Michael Hooker, Earlean Rivers, Nancy Hodges, Nikita Newkirk, Diane Herring, Jasmine Williams, Ashley Reiger, Lance Turner, Darryl Mcaster, Erica Bostic, Stacy Jones, & Lauren Tucker.

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

Invocation was offered by Nancy Hodges.

Introductions followed.

The Chairman entertained a motion for Approval of the April Minutes: A motion was made by Lance Turner, seconded by Commissioner Jesse Dowe to adopt the JCPC meeting minutes with corrections; motion carried.

Stakeholder Updates

- Sheriff's Office- Lance Turner reported that SRO's positions are accepting applicants for the multitude of vacancies. The schools are performing lockdown drills, and there have been school threats that have motivated some of these instances.
- District Attorney's Office & Court – Jason McGuirt reported that there has been shootings county wide, and the suspected reasonings are: drugs, alcohol and relationships. The Sheriff's office has the most recent suspected shooter in custody. Community members refuse to cooperate when they are a victim of gun violence. A lot of the issues arising today are fentanyl and drugs confiscated or tested are often laced with it.
- County- Trisha Hoskins reported that the county manager is retiring in July and the Commissioners held a closed session n regarding the options they may have for interim county manager until they can find a qualified replacement. Jordon Whaley reported for cabin Lake that the swim beach is opening up and they are transitioning to a reservation system.
- Eastpointe- Michael Hooker reported for Eastpointe about bridging the gap between mental health and coordinating client services, collaborative for Duplin/Sampson held on the first Friday, and are working on events with the youth. Lauren Tucker reported for Eastpointe about possibility of Narcan kits, there is a “sticker shock” campaign on May

14th, a resource fair on May 22nd from 3:30 to 6:30, other virtual mental health training by Melissa Harrell, and providing suicide prevention care for youth and adults.

- Juvenile Justice—Erica Bostic reported for the program that they have been busier than usual, pulling shifts in facilities, and half of those in the Detention unit at Dillon in Butner are in there for murder.
- District 4 report – Nancy Hodges reported that the House has entered a bill, House 848 (converted); purpose is to sponsor the step pay and compression increases for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention certified positions to include court counselors and other juvenile facility staff. The adult system has had these increases since July of 2021 This bill supports the funding level that was the same as what was lost in 2021 when they gave all the DPS salary funds for certified staff to Department of Adult Corrections positions when the new Department was created. The bill refers to the \$11 million that was originally meant for juvenile staff. This funding is for a “step pay plan” to fund pay based on time-in/experience, as well as attracting and retaining new staff.

Old Business

April Commissioners presentation regarding budget approval. Jason MGuirt discussed what questions he was asked regarding the commissioners meeting.

New Business

Ms. Earlean reported that there will be a field trip to Charleston South Carolina in June, they will be taking 25 adults and children for an educational trip to teach them about what their ancestors fought for to gain the freedoms they have now. Funds were provided through a Discretionary request that was funded by DJJDP. Revision/funding plan due May 5.

Misc.

Flier went out for a campaign was regarding safe storage of firearms.

Darryl Mcaster reported that Jessica Harper has resigned.

Foster kids have no where to go and the children can not be unattended at home. Potential ideas were discussed for the kids during the summer months.

Mentoring is having a skating outing coming up for the children.

Program Reports

Building Peace—Dianne Herring reported for the program.

DNA Structured Learning—Earlean Rivers reported for the program.

Mentoring—Nikita Newkirk reported for the program.

Teen Court & Restitution— Nikita Newkirk reported for the program.

Psychological Services— Nikita Newkirk reported for the program.

Conclusion

Motion was made to conclude the meeting and meet June 6th by Trisha Hoskins, seconded by Penny Thorne, to close the meeting, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Trisha-Ann Hoskins