



Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

November 1, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Present: Trisha-Ann Hoskins, Jesse Dowe, Penny Thorne, Earlean Rivers, Jordon Whaley, Dianne Herring, Nikita Newkirk, Jasmine Williams, Kimberly Wickline, Lance Turner, Lauren Tucker, Nancy Hodges.

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

Invocation was offered by Jason McGuirt.

Introductions followed.

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

Stakeholder Updates

- Sheriff's Office- Lance Turner reported that the gunshot at the ball game created a need to vamp up security measures. Vacancies are still prevalent at the Sheriff's office in the position of SRO so sufficient security at school functions make it difficult with less officers. They are investing in more security technology and the Sheriffs office has more devices in route. Vaping is still an issue but children are communicating more threats of mass violence in recent reports. Discussion ensued.
- District Attorney's Office & Court – Jason McGuirt reported school ball game shooter suspect is in custody from the game who shot off fire arm. Suspect is on probation and a recent grad from James Kenan.
- County- Trisha-Ann Hoskins reported that the county was working toward a funding solution to help within this crisis that Duplin County Schools could benefit from such as assistance in grant funding.
- Eastpointe- reported for the program about a mental health meet from 6-7:30pm and Cody Kinsley and a psychiatrist will be there to answer questions and discuss thoughts.
- DJJ, District 4 report – Jessica Harper reported that her Division of public safety has become its own division and is back to being called the Department of Juvenile Justice. They hope it will help with funding, but are focusing on organization because they want to be self-sufficient.

- Area Consultant- Nancy Hodges reported that about the Yazi Training and inquired about who would be interested.

Old Business

Risk & Needs Committee—Jordan reported for the program summary from the meeting and a copy was given at this meeting. Nancy discussed the assessment process for these students. Employment and school involvement incorporate into the student’s assessment rating. It was suggested to recruit someone from the schoolboard. It was suggested to recruit someone from the Daisy Committee Advisory Board.

While some of the data points were elevated over the state, the majority of the aggregate assessment data provides a more positive picture of justice involved youth in Duplin County: Juveniles with some risk but also having low needs and moderate to high strengths should mean most will respond positively to appropriate local programming

- o Most remain in school
- o A significant portion are either participating in school-based activities or are interested in doing so
- o While some tend to act out in a way that results in “person crimes,” the overwhelming majority have not demonstrated use of a weapon in criminal behavior, are not gang-involved, and the majority demonstrate fairly healthy attitudes toward aggression which may lead to future offending

Elevated factors related to Disproportionate Minority Contact:

- Actual Adjudications are nearly double the 1/1000 rate that is the desirable target
- It appears adjudications occurred more often for minority youth than non-minority (white youth), but the rate is slightly elevated 1.78/1000

New Business

Membership Update –There is no pending joins or appointments.

Agency Reports

- **Psychological Services** – Nikita Newkirk reported; with beginning count of 0, with 1 client being successfully terminated from the program, and one 1 new admission by reason of delinquency property crime. Total served YTD 2, with referrals from DJJ.
- **Teen Court** – Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; received referrals 7, admitted 4, beginning count of 0, with ending count of 4. Teen Court has served 15 YTD. Need Volunteers.

- **Restitution program** –Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; Have not received any new referrals or any admitted youth, with a beginning 9 and 3 satisfactory terms, ending count of 13.
- **Building Peace**– Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; beginning count was 4, had 2 new admissions, served YTD is 6. Need Volunteers.
- **Mentoring program**– Nikita Newkirk reported for the program; there is 1 new admission; start count is 6 with an ending count of 6; 1 termination. Need Volunteers.
- **DNA Structured Learning** – Earlean Rivers reported for the program, beginning count of 1 with 10 new admission, 6 terminations, ending count of 5.

Conclusion

Duplin County is in desperate need of volunteers for our agency programs. There is a great deal of concern for mass violence threats. There is an anger management class available. DNA was recognized for the support that they provided for the county. The newsletter was noted as being a great means of communication. There has been a lot of advances toward getting security measures vamped up, but there is still a hiring shortage which creates an issue with the security staffing.

Motion was made by Lance Turner, seconded by Commissioner Dowe, to close the meeting, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Trisha-Ann Hoskins