



## Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

February 6, 2024

Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Penny Thorne, Trisha-Ann Hoskins, Jordon Whaley, Jesse Dowe, Juan Jimenes, Nancy Hodges, A.J. Connors, Ariella Brinkley, Diane Herring, Earlean Rivers, Ashley Reiger, Lauren Tucker, Kristen Hall, Jasmine Williams, James Crayton, Lance Turner, Diane Brown, Adrienne Sutton, Ciaria Miller, Tiffany Blackburn, Michael Hooker.

Penny Thorne, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the February meeting of the Duplin County JCPC.

Invocation was offered by Mayor Connors.

Introductions followed.

The Vice-Chair entertained a motion for Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made by Trisha Hoskins, seconded by Mayor Connors to adopt the JCPC meeting minutes; motion carried.

### Stakeholder Updates

- Sheriff's Office- Lance Turner reported staffing shortage, school system is struggling with vaping issue.
- District Attorney's Office & Court – N/A.
- County- Trisha Hoskins reported that the county is uploading all recorded minutes, up to three years, from all Boards, councils, committees, etc. to the county website to honor public records requests more efficiently.
- Trillium- New merge from Eastpointe while maintaining the same service but is enduring a transition.
- Juvenile Justice— Tiffany Blackburn, nothing to report at this time.
- District 4 report – Nancy Hodges announced her impending retirement. She also reported that we need people from this board to be monitoring our results. Monitoring is a set format, and she included that there is an available video on how to do this. Forms have been circulated and they are very comprehensible. She went on to discuss the report process and expressed that it is our responsibility. At his time program leads and monitors were assigned.

### Old Business

- Discussed vacancies on the Board.
- Need a recommended member of the business communities by April 9<sup>th</sup>, possibly a Rotary Club member. Under 21 can be a person who is representing the interest of Youth and Families. Budget Committee is coming up.
- Application Deadline is Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.
- JCPC monitoring Committee selection has been made.

### New Business

- Minutes will need to be updated to the county website for the ease of the public records request.

### Program Reports

- Building Peace—Dianne Herring reported for the program that behavior was a deciding factor for admission. Majority reason to why they were admitted was social skills and behavior. Some referrals are for vaping. Two male volunteers were able to come into the program.

- DNA Structured Learning—Earlean Rivers reported for the program. They have been very busy with admissions for fighting, skipping class, and communicating threats. Children are missing the bus and not able to be picked up by DNA because of the policy regarding the enrollment of the student in public schools keeps them from eligibility of being picked up.
- Mentoring—Ciaria Miller reported for the program.
- Teen Court & Restitution— Juan Jimenes reported for the Restitution program. Low count in referrals during holiday seasons because kids are not in school as often. Ciaria Miller reported for the Teen Court program that they were very busy in the month of December. There has been a peak in fights, communicating threats and larceny. They are arranging the volunteer programs for credit. They have a few workshops coming up, open to all the kids in the county. One termination for higher level care because of lack of a satisfactory completion.
- Psychological Services— Juan Jimenes reported for the program. Still at the half way mark for referrals.
- Mt. Calvary— Mayor Diane Brown reported for the program. Referrals have been low in December and January. Wallace Rose-Hill principals came to view the space and the next day sent referrals. They are looking to see what would be appropriate programs to host for their referrals, within their respective age range. Council Members requested handouts regarding the requirements for age groups being referred, and a copy of the application for Mt. Calvary.

Motion to permit Mt. Calvary to work with younger students by extending the age group was made by Lance Turner seconded by Jordon Whaley. Motion carried.

#### **Misc.**

Discussion was had with members regarding vaping amongst the juveniles and program possibilities for this national issue and other issues and other counties approach to the same issue.

The Boys and Girls club is starting an after-school program at Wallace Elementary and B.F. Grady.

Kindness Event at Ed Emory Auditorium on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Teen Court Volunteer Event

Girl Scout Cookie Event through DNA

#### **Conclusion**

Motion was made to conclude the meeting and meet March 5<sup>th</sup> by Trisha Hoskins, seconded by Jesse Dowe to close the meeting, motion carried.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Trisha-Ann Hoskins