



## Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Jason McGuirt, William Batchelor, Trisha-Ann Hoskins, Jordon Whaley, Penny Thorne, Jesse Dowe, Michael Hooker, Ciaria Miller, Earlean Rivers, Nancy Hodges, Ariella Brinkley, Wendel Boykin, Diane Herring, James Crayton, Jasmine Williams, Jackie Benton, Ashley Reiger, Lance Turner, James Bail, & A.J. Connors.

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

Invocation was offered by Mayor Connors.

Introductions followed.

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

### Stakeholder Updates

- Sheriff's Office- Lance Turner reported that the school year is still fresh so the students are not yet acting out, the bus drivers are still getting used to their routes and the SRO positions are still needing to be filled. Chief James Crayton announced the Supplies Drive for teachers went well. The Cops and Bobbers event is coming up. This event introduces children to policemen in a friendly way at a very young age. This is to build relationships with the youth. There will be a controlled Trick-or-Treat Event being hosted by Wallace P.D.
- District Attorney's Office & Court – Jason McGuirt reported that there is nothing new to report.
- County- Trisha Hoskins reported that the interim county manager, George A. Wood, we had a lot of applicants and Mr. Wood has made a great deal of progress toward the new jail and vets service center/ aging facility. Jordon Whaley is having a Fall Vendor Craft Fair for the Public at Cabin Lake on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and all the money raised goes towards the events they have at Cabin Lake.
- Juvenile Justice— Wendel Boykin reports that they are fully staffed in Duplin County.
- District 4 report – William Batchelor reports that they had not heard anything about the employees raises, and that they're is not yet a budget. NC Safe Campaign Continues; they have passed out a lot of gun locks. The data hopefully reflects that this campaign has made gun ownership safer. Methodist Homes is opening a Crisis and Assessment Center in the old Dobbs Training school in Kinston. NCJSA Fall Conference is coming up October 4-6 in Greensborough.

### Old Business

New County Department Heads: Planner: Chris Hatcher; Finance Officer: Chelsey Lanier; Airport Director: Josh Raynor; Water Director: Jeff Williams. Kristen Hall expressed interest in JCPC School Board position to replace Dr. Kea.

### **New Business**

Conflict of Interest Forms (COI).

Annual Workplan and Committee Workplan.

Risk Needs Committee Meeting dates conflict; new date TBA

### **Program Reports**

Building Peace—Dianne Herring reported for the program: New Guidance Counselors & Volunteers have also increased. Ciaria Miller reported for the Administrative portion of Building Peace Fund Use Revision.

Motion for Revision was made by Lance Turner, seconded by A.J. Connors. Motion Carried.

DNA Structured Learning—Earlean Rivers reported for the program. Issues arose about foster care day program during summers and runaways. Gun Locks Program is doing well as far as distribution goes.

Mentoring—Ciaria Miller reported for the program.

Teen Court & Restitution— Ciaria Miller reported for the program. A Revision for Restitution regarding staff adjustments. Allocation for program went towards other positions and more restitution funds are expected. Re-strategizing ways to incorporate teen court and DJJ. Also, incorporate speaker in the Teen Court Cases. Raising money through fundraising for kids to go to Summit in April.

Motion was made by Nancy Hodges, seconded by Lance Turner. Motion carried.

Psychological Services— Ciaria Miller reported for the program. Revision has been submitted for change in contract for assessments of \$800 instead of \$900.

Motion was made by Lance Turner, seconded by Jesse Dowe. Motion Carried.

Mt. Calvary— Representative James Bail reported for the program.

### **Misc.**

Mayor Connors mentioned that the county needs a cross walk at James Kenan High School because students need a safe way to cross the highway.

Cops & Bobbers event mentioned by Chief James Crayton for children. Those who participate will get a free pole and tackle box. The age range is 4-15 years old to participate. This event introduces children to police officers at a young age to create a foundation in their relationship, as they fish with the individual officers and create a perception that humanizes policemen.

### **Conclusion**

Motion was made to conclude the meeting and meet October 3<sup>rd</sup> by Penny Thorne, seconded by Trisha Hoskins, to close the meeting, motion carried.

**Respectfully Submitted:** Trisha-Ann Hoskins