

Wake County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Minutes
June 18, 2020 (via WebEx)

JCPC Attendees: Eric Johnson, Darryl Blevins, Jonathan Glenn, Ann Godwin, Sharif Deveau, Carla Huff, Tamra Sanchez, Katherine Edmisten, Utica Cason, Donald Pinchback, Mala Ross, Christal Carmichael, Eric Desimone, James West, Ruth Sutherland

JCPC Guests: Denise Briggs, Derrick Byrd, LaShawn Hewitt, Charlenzo Belcher, Jennifer Gibbs, Sean Ingram, Patricia Cardoso, Nicolas sharp

JCPC Staff: Deborah Andrews

Welcome: Eric Johnson opened the meeting

Approval of Minutes

The May minutes were approved as written, following a motion and second.

Annual Plan Approval

The annual plan draft had been emailed to members earlier in the week. Most of the work on the plan was done by committee Chair Jonathan Glenn. He would like to look into a more inclusive planning process in the future, as the plan drives the Council's activities. He took last year's report and updated it with current data and information. The plan was simplified, with some of the attachments removed to streamline the document. The attachments included school data and zip code maps. This information will be posted on the JCPC website. Cultural competence has been added as a priority this year.

Members voted to approve the plan – 14 votes for, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions. Darryl Blevins will take the plan to the Board of Commissioners for approval in early July.

Officer Elections

Members had emailed their nominations to Deborah Andrews earlier in the month. The only nominations received were Eric Johnson for Chair and Sharif Deveau for Vice Chair. The voting is usually conducted at the June meeting, but was done by email because the meeting was virtual. Deborah received 12 votes for Eric as Chair and 12 votes for Sharif as Vice Chair, with no votes against. Eric and Sharif will continue as Chair and Vice Chair for the 20-21 FY.

DPS Updates

Denise Briggs is reviewing applications, assisting with program revisions and budget updates so that they are ready to go when the Wake JCPC funding plan is approved by the Board of Commissioners. Her goal is to have all program agreements approved in ALLIES so that programs will receive disbursements in July, after Board of Commissioner approval. She is also providing support for programs as they are keeping families and youth engaged with programming.

Donald Pinchback reported that they are doing modifications for social distancing in court and holding virtual hearing from the detention centers.

Committee Updates

No committee updates. Sharif Deveaux and Donald Pinchback offered to serve as Co-Chairs on the Funding/Annual Plan committee. We are missing a Chair for the Program Support and Accountability committee, as Christy Famolare has left JCPC. Participation is needed for all committees. Sharif has been working on revising the by-laws, to give the JCPC Chair the ability to appoint people to committees. Members should reach out to Eric or Sharif for more information about how they can get involved in committees.

Announcements/Discussion

The group discussed how programs are addressing issues related to the recent protests for racial justice and suggested resources in the community.

- Donald Pinchback reported that there were no complaints filed in juvenile court related to the demonstrations.
- Dr. West noted that the protests created an awareness that things need to be changed, including for adults and youth in the system. He stated that JCPC could be used as a tool to help address these issues.
- CORRAL had reached out to Eric about creating a dialogue in the community, possibly with racial equity or cultural competence training. Young people need to be allowed to express how they feel about these issues and experiences.
- Ann Godwin stated that from the adult training perspective Youth Thrive offers Growing Strong Black Boys and that YM4C is also offering training.
- Haven House is holding conversations with staff about how to talk to youth about what is going on. Staff have also completed trainings on REI and Cultural Competence.
- Tamra Sanchez reported that Wake County Child Welfare hosts the LINKS program, which gives them an opportunity to connect with foster kids from 12-21. They can communicate through Zoom therapy and staff from the Hope Center, to help them process what is going on.
- Teen Court is reaching out to clients and youth volunteers to facilitate dialogue about race.
- The Family Resource Center's workshops are interactive and they are trying to figure out how to translate into virtual training. They had to postpone REI training this summer and are waiting for the Racial Equality Institute in Greensboro to make a decision about scheduling the next trainings.
- The 4H program has held discussions about how to deal with the police if they are stopped, as well as discussions about their feelings or experiences. Charlenzo Belcher reported that a lot of youth have lost trust and that they have a lot of work to do to repair the damage.
- Jonathan Glenn announced that his consulting business is in the process of developing online training on justice equality that he hopes to roll it out at the beginning of July. The modules track the history of injustice back to 1640 and includes current trends and data, giving people space to explore topics on their own.
- Eric announced that Alliance partners with law enforcement to train officers on de-escalation tactics, which have been on hold due to COVID-19. They currently have classes scheduled for August and September.

Other Announcements

- The Juvenile Justice Institute has been awarded some pilot funding to study the impact of COVID-19 on justice involved youth. They will be recruiting people for focus groups via Zoom, to get insights into what is working or not as far as service delivery. Participants will be paid \$100.
- CORRAL has provided about 500 hours of direct services, including tutoring, psychotherapy, telehealth, and family support, to their Riding Academy girls. During the summer they take a break from normal programming. This summer they are providing weekly remediation for ten of their girls

who are behind grade level. They are coming for 11-12 hours per week for math/reading remediation until school starts in the Fall. They have not started Join the Herd yet since it is group therapy, but they plan to do so in the upcoming fiscal year.

- Teen Court is changing their name to Criminal Justice Alternatives, which is better suited to our current mission. They have received a grant to start a Juvenile Pretrial program targeting youthful offenders aged 16 and 17. They are working with the State to develop the parameters for the program.

Eric encouraged programs to share information about things they or someone else are doing. Deborah Andrews can forward information to her email lists, to get more people involved or to reach out to other programs and agencies.

The Executive Committee will meet in July. If you are interested in serving as a committee Co-Chair let Eric or Sharif know, so that you can participate in this meeting.

The next JCPC meeting will be held on August 20 via WebEx.

Meeting adjourned.