

Wake County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Minutes
October 15, 2020 (via WebEx)

JCPC Attendees: Eric Johnson, Sharif Deveaux, Jonathan Glenn, Utica Cason, Katherine Edmiston, Christy Famolare, Ann Godwin, Donald Pinchback, Mala Ross, Carla Huff, Ruth Sutherland, Eric DeSimone

JCPC Guests: Denise Briggs, Jessica Locklear McLeod, Malinda Todd, Wes Johnson, Blair Frazier, Rachel Smith, Alicia, Chiffonda Holloway, Nick Sharp, Amy Spaulding, Danielle Malerba, Bianca Harris Smith, Katrine Andersen, Paul Norman, Derrick Byrd, Monica Nzhoboshe, Kayla Fauld, Charlenzo Belcher, Kristen Hopkins

JCPC Staff: Deborah Andrews

Welcome: Eric Johnson opened the meeting

Approval of Minutes

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

Presentation – NextGen Career Centers and Reentry Services

NCWorks Next Gen is a federally funded program for youth between the ages of 18-24. Participants must meet one or more of the following barriers: pregnant or parenting youth, high school dropout, justice involved, proof of a disability, foster care or aged out of foster care, runaway or homeless. They provide education, training, and employment services. They also provide additional resources to help youth become independent, including ongoing career counseling, childcare and transportation assistance, and resources for clothing, food and housing.

Capital Area Workforce Development (CAWD) Reentry Services provides support to returning citizens looking for work, through career counseling and monthly workshops. Wake County Inmate Education and Employment Initiative provides career counseling, mentoring, training, and GED instruction to inmates in the Wake County Detention Center. They also follow-up at NCWorks.

In July of 2019 CAWD was awarded a DOL Reentry grant to develop a comprehensive career development and support program for returning citizens. The program, Roads to Reentry, is located at two NCWorks Career Centers. They provide pre and post release job-readiness, career planning, training and support services to individuals returning to or residing in designated areas of Johnston and Wake counties. To be eligible, participants should be **at least 25 years of age and in the last 6 months of their sentence with approved home plan or have been released no longer than 9 months.**

In February 2020, CAWD was chosen by NC Department of Public Safety to be the Intermediary Agency (IA) for the Wake Local Reentry Council- (Wake LRC). The Wake LRC is located at the NCWorks Career Center at Tillery Place, Raleigh. The LRC is an organized partnership network that provides support and service coordination which may include; transitional housing, transportation, food, a reentry journey pack, PPE supplies, and case management services. Through partner referrals they connect clients to the following services: employment/job training, health and wellness, legal aid, clothing, mentoring/peer support, and veteran's resources. To be eligible participants must be released no longer than nine

months, over 18, determined “high risk” based on the NCDPS Risk Screening tool, a Wake County resident, and have a NCDPS-approved home plan with supervision and/or last address prior to incarceration within Wake County.

Presentation – ReSELience: Owning the Power of your story through Social-Emotional Learning

Kristen Hopkins, CEO of Dangers of the Mind (DOM) presented her Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum. The curriculum identifies students’ brokenness, insecurity, fear, etc., which are internal attacks, Dangers of the Mind, that create dangerous mindsets. The curriculum is designed to change their mindsets through social and emotional learning, to help them manage their emotions, instill a sense of belonging, develop a positive mindset, make responsible decisions and set positive goals.

The program is customizable for different organizations and is currently being used in juvenile justice facilities and alternative schools. They use data to identify participants’ issues and to measure progress.

Unallocated Funds Vote

There were some additional funds available to programs because DPS had to pull back funding from a program. Current programs could apply for these funds. The Funding committee met and came up with their funding recommendations, which were shared with the Council. Members voted to approve the committee’s plan. The plan still needs to be approved by the Board of Commissioners, who will meet in November. DPS is hoping to distribute these funds by the end of November.

Haven House Gang Prevention Allocation

Amy Spaulding reported that Haven House has been awarded funding for a new gang intervention program, Gang Reduction and Intervention Team (GRIT). They will be serving youth 12 to 18 years old who have been identified as already involved in gangs, associating with gang members, or living in neighborhoods where there are a lot of gangs. They will be accepting referrals directly from the Court Counselors – Amy has been invited to speak at the Court Counselors meeting. They will do intake and assessment, including clinical assessments, crisis and planning with youth and caregivers. In addition, they will offer group skill building and provide 24/7 crisis response for all of the youths in the program. They will need to hire more clinical staff. They are hoping to get referrals in November. Denise Briggs reported that she is hoping to complete the Wake approval process in time to disburse funds in November.

DPS Updates

- Final Accounting is still under review for the last fiscal year. Lynne Fleetwood will be invoicing the County for refunds, which total \$128,000 from five programs.
- Denise should have the equipment transfer list completed by the November meeting. Members will vote to approve the transfer.
- New legislation allows for a two year funding cycle, except for new programs that have not been previously funded. Each JCPC will make the decision about whether to remain on the one year schedule or move to the two year cycle. Generally speaking, there won’t be a lot of flexibility to make adjustments once the funding is allocated. JCPC’s will still be required to submit their annual plans every year. DPS will send out bullet points to help each Council with their decision. JCPC’s will have the ability to change their decision. The vote will be on the November agenda. Denise will send out information as soon as it is available.

JCPC Program Reports

- Skills for Academic Success has formed a new partnership with Raleigh Rescue Mission. They will be tutoring students who either currently live at RRM or are offsite.
- Wrenn House is now up and running.
- Second Round are conducting groups. They are providing a lot of services virtually, but they have a process in place for in person. They could use referrals, so anyone can reach out to Wendy Easter if they have kids to recommend.
- CORRAL – Join the Herd will have new classes starting in November in Cary and December in Raleigh. They are continuing to work with smaller groups. The Riding Academy group is there for 40 hours a week and are doing well in their classes.
- Family Resource Center are co-sponsoring a forum, **Cops and Kids: A Conversation about Policing and Racism**, focusing on interactions between youth and law enforcement. They will send the flyer to Deborah Andrews, who will forward to members and program contacts.

Committee Updates

- Program Support and Accountability - they have filled all liaison slots except for one. Christy Famolare and Ruth Sutherland have updated the six months monitoring form and will conduct a training for the liaisons. Eric reminded members that the new by-laws state that members who have been serving on JCPC for a year are required to serve as a liaison.
- Community Relations – most programs have sent in updated descriptions for the website. They were encouraged to use language that families and adults can read and understand.
- Data/Annual Plan – they will be requesting data from the Court Counselors, Wake County Schools, and Child Welfare soon. The committee will be meeting to review the data at some point in either late November or early December. They still need people to serve on the committee. Jonathan Glenn will work with Deborah Andrews to get the list of members interested in serving on the committee.
- Funding – no report.
- Racial Equity – Sharif Deveaux reported that they had held their first meeting in September. They began by discussing the purpose of the committee and agreed that it would benefit JCPC, as this is an important issue. The committee is comprised of two groups – one to organize training for JCPC members and one to gather data about racial issues. They meet on the fourth Friday of each month. The Council will discuss adding the committee to the by-laws at the November meeting.

Announcements/Discussion

- Denise Briggs has emailed providers to remind them to complete their COVID-19 implementation plans, which are due by the end of October. Programs should report how things have changed due to COVID, to determine if they need to do a program revision. Programs should send to Denise first, for her review.

The next JCPC meeting will be held on November 19 via WebEx.

Meeting adjourned.