



CABARRUS COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

Regular Meeting held May 20, 2026

Governmental Center, Concord NC

MINUTES

MEMBERS ATTENDING IN PERSON:

Megan Baumgardner	Carolyn Carpenter	Holly Edwards Thrift	Steve Grossman
Taylor Holman-White	Amy Jewell	Jeff Jones	Meghan Kabat Newcomer
Eshan Korat	Rekita McDuffie	Heather Mobley	Aalece Pugh
Malisha Ross			

MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Sonja Bohannon-Thacker, Alvarys Santana Chisholm, Ashlie Shanley, Lakesha Steele, Michelle Wilson, Eric Young

MEMBER ABSENT: Gayle Alston, Adrian Attaway, Steve Ayers, Travis Burke, Rosemary Gause, Megan Huffman, Henrietta Jackson

VACANT COUNCIL SEATS: None

JCPC ASSOCIATES PRESENT: Keith Brown, Joanie Bischer

GUESTS ATTENDING IN PERSON: Erin Buell (DJJ), Amy Caudill (CRC), April Clark, John Craven (DJJ), Rebecca Efird (DJJ), David Highsmith II (DJJ), Heather Jones (TYM), Larry Jones (Families First), Gracie Knight (Families First), Kelly Lopez Hernandez (Aspire), Kristen McEvoy (CRC), Sarimar Miller (DJJ), Kim Olige (YSF), Karen South Jones (RCYSB), Kristin Stout (BCBS Healthy Blue), Mary Swayze (CRC), Shemika Wood (DJJ), Parnell Woods (DJJ)

GUEST ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Barbara Baker (MHA)

CALL TO ORDER and ATTENDANCE

Chairperson Megan Baumgardner called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM. She welcomed everyone and introduced DPS Area Consultant Keith Brown. Mr. Brown substituted for Daniel Seigny this meeting. Quorum was confirmed with 19 of 26 members in attendance. Thirteen members were seated in person and six members joined via MS Teams audio/video connection. The Chair then opened the floor to conduct the following routine business:

- Discussion or a motion was requested regarding JCPC's April 15 meeting minutes. When no comments were heard, Holly Edwards Thrift motioned to approve the minutes as written. Carolyn Carpenter seconded. Motion passed without opposition.
- The Chair advised that Karen South Jones submitted a budget revision for SOSE. Megan proposed the agenda be amended to include SOSE's request under *New Business*. She then called for discussion or a motion. When no comments were heard, Vice Chair Heather Mobley motioned to approve the agenda with the proposed amendment. Holly Edwards Thrift seconded. Motion passed without opposition.

UPDATES FROM DPS AREA CONSULTANT

The Chair next opened the floor to Keith Brown. He referred members to Daniel's *DPS Talking Points* and mentioned several items: Final Accounting training for programs is scheduled June 15; the NC S.A.F.E. campaign is ongoing with toolkits, handouts, displays and gun locks available for community events, plus a Week of Action June 8-12; and DJJDP's 2025 Annual Report. Keith highlighted several of its data points and encouraged all to review it for comprehensive county and statewide information. Malisha Ross mentioned that Tarheel Challenge closed its New London location in March 2026.

GUEST PRESENTATION

The Chair yielded the floor to Kristin Stout with BCBS. Ms. Stout spoke about the Children/Families Specialty Plan under Healthy Blue Care Together which began in January this year. She advised that an RFP is under development specifically for re-entry and juvenile justice serving programs. The RFP seeks to provide funds for local youth programs that may need bolstering or initiation based on county need. The RFP will be distributed to JCPC upon its publication. Ms. Stout responded to questions from multiple council members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Megan advised that JCPC's Funding Plan for FY 26-27 will be presented at the BOC June 1 Work Session along with the JCPC's annual certification. It is anticipated that both items will be formally approved through the BOC's Consent Agenda at their June 15 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS

The Chair next opened the floor for pending action items. She reminded members who were attending virtually to maintain an audio and visual connection during discussion and voting.

- At-Large member Rosemary Gause submitted her resignation due to scheduling conflicts with new employment. Her term expires June 30, 2026. Megan called for discussion or a motion. When no further comments were heard, Malisha Ross motioned to accept Rosemary's resignation and thank her for her service. Amy Jewell seconded. Motion carried without opposition.
- Other terms expiring June 30 are the statutorily-required seats held by Megan Huffman, Eshan Korat, Ashlie Shanley, Lakesha Steele, and an At-Large seat held by Michelle Wilson. It was confirmed that each member wants to renew. Megan noted that recommendations will be developed by the Membership & Nominations Committee for consideration at JCPC's June 17 meeting. She yielded the floor to Membership Committee Chair Heather Mobley who briefly discussed the committee's objectives. She proposed dates for a virtual meeting. A date was selected by general consensus. All council members were welcomed to attend.
- The council's selection of a Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian for FY 26-27 was next. The floor was opened for Chairperson nominations. Amy Jewell motioned to nominate Megan Baumgardner. Aalece Pugh seconded. Nomination was accepted. When no further nominations were made, Heather Mobley motioned to close nominations. Holly Edwards Thrift seconded. Via unanimous vote, Megan was re-elected as Chairperson for the next FY.
- The floor was then opened for Vice Chairperson nominations. Amy Jewell motioned to nominate Heather Mobley. Malisha Ross seconded. Nomination was accepted. When no further nominations were made, Holly Edwards Thrift motioned to close nominations. Amy Jewell seconded. Via unanimous vote, Heather was re-elected as Vice Chair for FY 26-27.
- The floor was opened for nominations to the Parliamentarian seat currently held by Chief Court Counselor Gayle Alston. Following discussion due to Gayle's absence, Carolyn Carpenter motioned to nominate her again. Heather Mobley seconded. When no further nominations were made, Holly Edwards Thrift motioned to close nominations. Rekita McDuffie seconded. Via unanimous vote, Gayle was re-elected as

Parliamentarian for FY 26-27. It was agreed that should Gayle be unable to serve, the position can be addressed at a future meeting.

- The Chair next yielded the floor to Karen South Jones who explained SOSE's budget revisions. Line item adjustments totaling \$371 will be made to reflect actual/anticipated expenditures through this FY. When no further discussion was heard, Malisha Ross motioned to approve the revisions as presented. Aalece Pugh seconded. Motion carried without opposition. Karen also announced her retirement this September. She plans to introduce RCYSB's new Executive Director at JCPC's June meeting

PROGRAM MONTHLY REPORTS / COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS

The Chair then opened the floor for verbal reports from agency representatives who proceeded in the following order: Karen South Jones for RCYSB-SOSE; Heather Jones for TYM Transforming Futures-Community Service/Career Exploration; Kelly Lopez Hernandez for Aspire-Kids at Work; Gracie Knight and Larry Jones for Families First-Strengthening Families; Kristen McEvoy for CRC-Teen Court/Truancy Court Mediation, and Kim Olige for YSF-Interpersonal Fitness. Information included number of youth served, rising operational costs for programs, restitution bank balance, program wait lists, youth successes and challenges, summer camps, graduations, collaborations between programs, expanding referral sources, late referrals, a memorial award, volunteer participation, program outreach and fundraising efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Malisha Ross spoke on the free Peer Academy co-sponsored by Cabarrus County, Stanley County, and Promise Resource Network scheduled June 1-5 at Partners' offices in Union County. Amy Jewell spoke about resolving the issue of late referrals from CCS to Truancy Mediation.

ADJOURNMENT

Megan advised that JCPC's next meeting is June 17. This meeting concludes the FY and will be relaxed and informal. Breakfast will be provided by Aspire's Kids at Work. Programs can invite youth to talk about their experiences. The Chair then called for further discussion or a motion. With no further comments heard, Malisha Ross motioned to adjourn. Carolyn Carpenter seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 AM.

-Submitted by Joanie Bischer

Acronyms

1. BCBS = Blue Cross Blue Shield NC
2. BOC = Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners
3. CCS = Cabarrus County Schools
4. CRC = Conflict Resolution Center Inc. of Cabarrus County
5. DJJDP = Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
6. FY = Fiscal Year (JCPC's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30)
7. NC S.A.F.E. = NC Governor's statewide Secure All Firearms Effectively campaign
8. RCYSB = Rowan County Youth Services Bureau
9. RFP = Request for Proposals
10. SOSE = Sex Offense Specific Evaluations
11. TYM = Transforming Youth Movement Inc.
12. YSF = Youth Style Fitness Inc.