



**CABARRUS COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting held October 19, 2022**  
**Governmental Center 2nd Floor Multi-Purpose Room, Concord NC**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Adrian Attaway	LaShay Avery	Steven Ayers	Megan Baumgardner
Sonja Bohannon-Thacker	Mark Boles	Mikayla Branch	Travis Burke
Carolyn Carpenter	Ashley Fitch	Matthew Greer	Steve Grossman
Amy Jewell	Heather Jones	Jamica LaFranque	Heather Mobley
Steve Morris	Connie Philbeck	Sharon Reese	Beth Street
Michelle Wilson	Terry Wise		

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rodney Harris, Marta Meares, David Wall, Jacob Wentink

**VACANT SEATS:** None

**JCPC ASSOCIATES PRESENT:** Joanie Bischer

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Darryl Bego (YDI), Sheryl Conrad (DJJ FSS), DeShield Greene (NCAOC), David Highsmith II (DJJ Court Counselor), Anissa Jones (Teen Court), Kristen McEvoy (Teen Court), Reggie McNeil (TYM), Sarimar Miller (DJJ Court Counselor Supervisor), Karen South Jones (SOSET), Lakesha Steele (TYM), Chef Kimberly Townsend (Aspire), Shemika Wood (DJJ)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Megan Baumgardner called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. Quorum was established with 22 of 26 members present.

Approval of September Meeting Minutes: Megan asked for corrections, additions, or a motion regarding the September 21 meeting minutes. Carolyn Carpenter motioned to approve the minutes as written. Steve Morris seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Megan asked members to review the agenda for discussion or a motion. Heather Mobley motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Michelle Wilson seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

**PROGRAM PRESENTATION**

Megan introduced DeShield Greene with the NC Administrative Office of the Courts for her presentation of School Justice Partnerships. SJP is a component designed to reduce juvenile justice system costs in implementing *Raise the Age* legislation and to decrease the “school to prison pipeline.” She provided background information, the program’s policies, procedures, and goals along with data points from NC counties that established SJPs as early as 2015. Ms. Greene stated the NCAOC and DPS are committed to the

successful implementation of SJPs across the state. She answered multiple questions from Council. Judge Grossman mentioned that prior to the pandemic Chief District Court Judge Christy Wilhelm convened a group of stakeholders to begin the process of establishing an SJP in Cabarrus County. Unfortunately, COVID, construction of a new courthouse, and other situations intervened. He stated he believes the SJP is on Judge Wilhelm's agenda for the coming year. Kristen McEvoy added that Teen Court is ready and willing to assist. Megan advised that she participated in Judge Wilhelm's initial meeting and provided several details. Karen South Jones stated that Rowan County is planning its SJP. As a facilitator for Rowan's SJP, Karen said she can share lessons learned in their process thus far.

#### **UPDATES FROM DPS AREA CONSULTANT**

Megan referred members to the *DPS Talking Points* included in the meeting packet. Daniel was unable to attend Council's meeting due to the NCJSA conference underway in Carolina Beach. He will return next month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

The next agenda item was tabled from September. Darryl Bego was asked about YDI's return to in-person operations following the termination of NC's COVID State of Emergency. Darryl indicated that YDI's vocational program always operated fully in-person. He stated that FLA now operates in-person and virtually. The virtual option was implemented during COVID for client convenience and onboarding purposes, and in part to accommodate parents' second- and third-shift work schedules. He said YDI's FY 23-24 program application will reflect this operational change. Megan suggested that Darryl contact Daniel to discuss FLA's changes and determine whether DPS will require a modification to YDI's FY 22-23 program agreement. Connie Philbeck added that DPS policy allows virtual options.

A discussion followed regarding the advantages and disadvantages of virtual services. Several members who work as mental health therapists and counselors indicated they now provide treatment both in-person and virtually. It was stated that many clients request virtual options due to conflicting work schedules, child care issues, and rising transportation costs. It was generally agreed that face-to-face services are preferable in most cases. However, now that the pandemic has opened the door, virtual options will continue to be requested. It was further agreed that when it meets the best interests of the client, virtual services should be available.

Moving to the next agenda item, Megan announced that the five new council members recommended during last month's meeting were officially confirmed by the Cabarrus BOCC during its October 17 meeting. All new members were welcomed to the group and thanked for their commitment and service.

#### **NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS**

Megan next opened a discussion to schedule a Risk & Needs Committee meeting. The latest YASI Full Assessment data was provided by Daniel and included in the October meeting packet. Megan mentioned that with a likely cancellation of the December meeting, the YASI data should be reviewed prior to or during the November meeting and followed by a vote to approve the FY 23-34 RFP. It was generally agreed that YASI data could be presented as an item on the November agenda rather than in a separate committee meeting. Then Council can address next year's RFP immediately afterward. Mark Boles motioned to approve presentation of YASI data as an item on the November agenda. Connie seconded. Council voted and the motion carried.

#### **PROGRAM UPDATES / QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Verbal program updates were presented as follows: Teen Court by Anissa Jones, YDI by Darryl Bego, TYM by Reggie McNeil, Aspire by Chef Kimberly Townsend, and SOSET by Karen South-Jones. Information provided included current client counts, new referral sources, sustainability plans, diversification partners, successful terminations, upcoming holiday events, a potential new treatment resource, conference participation, and outreach plans. Programs responded to multiple questions from Council members.

Megan reminded programs they are no longer required to submit written reports each month. She requested that oral reports follow the same track of the written report template. Programs managers can “hit the highlights” of monthly progress during each Council meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Reggie mentioned that discussions with Pinnacle Family Services are well underway regarding the reduction of available crisis beds during last FY. Reggie reported that over 600 beds have been lost across the state. A Pinnacle representative is expected to attend JCPC’s November meeting to answer questions and further discuss the issue.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Mark mentioned that he and Daniel met last week with DPS’ Social Media Committee about the JCPC mobile app. He stated they appeared impressed with the app and Cabarrus JCPC’s outreach efforts. DPS suggested that he speak to the entire state group to discuss the app and brochures. Council thanked Mark and applauded his efforts.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Megan reminded members that next month’s meeting is **November 16, 2022 at 7:30 a.m.** She then asked for final comments. Hearing none, Megan called for a motion. Mark Boles motioned to adjourn and LaShay Avery seconded. With no opposition to the motion, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:17 a.m.

*Submitted by Joanie Bischer*

### **Key to Acronyms**

1. BOCC = Board of County Commissioners
2. DJJ = Department of Juvenile Justice
3. DPS = Department of Public Safety
4. FLA = YDI’s Family Life skills Academy
5. NCJSA = North Carolina Juvenile Services Association
6. RFP = Request for Proposal (a document that notifies the public that proposals are being solicited by a JCPC for DPS funds)
7. SOSET = Sex Offense Specific Evaluation & Treatment (a JCPC-funded program)
8. TYM = Transforming Youth Movement (a JCPC-funded program)
9. YASI = Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (a pre-screening tool used by court services with juvenile referrals)
10. YDI = Youth Development Initiatives (a JCPC-funded program)