



CABARRUS COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL
Regular Meeting held November 16, 2022
Governmental Center, Concord NC
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Adrian Attaway	LaShay Avery	Steven Ayers	Megan Baumgardner
Mark Boles	Mikayla Branch	Travis Burke	Carolyn Carpenter
Ashley Fitch	Rodney Harris	Amy Jewell	Heather Jones
Jamica LaFranque	Marta Meares	Heather Mobley	Connie Philbeck
Beth Street	Jacob Wentink	Terry Wise	

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sonja Bohannon-Thacker	Matthew Greer	Steve Grossman	Steve Morris
Sharon Reese	David Wall	Michelle Wilson	

VACANT COUNCIL SEATS: None

JCPC ASSOCIATES PRESENT: Daniel Sevigny (DPS Area Consultant), Joanie Bischer (Admin)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Lindsey Hardin (Pinnacle Family Services), David Highsmith II (DJJ), Ed Hosack (Cooperative Christian Ministry), Anissa Jones (Teen Court), Kristen McEvoy (Teen Court), Reggie McNeil (TYM), Sarimar Miller (DJJ), Ashlie Shanley (District Attorney), Susan Tolley (Aspire), Chef Kimberly Townsend (Aspire), Shakia Washington (TYM)

CALL TO ORDER and ATTENDANCE

Chair Megan Baumgardner called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. A quorum was established with 19 of 26 members present.

Approval of October Meeting Minutes: Megan asked for corrections, additions, or a motion regarding the October 16 meeting minutes. Heather Mobley motioned to approve the minutes as written and Vice-Chair Mark Boles seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of Teen Court Monitoring Minutes: Megan asked for corrections, additions, or a motion regarding Teen Court’s October 20 monitoring minutes. Mark motioned to approve the minutes as written and Terry Wise seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of SOSET Monitoring Minutes: Megan asked for corrections, additions, or a motion regarding SOSET’s October 27 monitoring minutes. Mark motioned to approve the minutes as written and Marta Meares seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of YDI's Monitoring Minutes: Megan asked for corrections, additions, or a motion regarding YDI's October 31 monitoring minutes. Mark motioned to approve the minutes as written and Heather Mobley seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

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

NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS

Megan yielded the floor to Daniel who presented YASI data specific to Cabarrus County. He noted YASI has now been in use for a full year. Based on data from 200 assessed juveniles, the county's risk, needs, and strengths levels fall within ranges better than state averages. Daniel and Saudi Miller, DJJ Court Counselor Supervisor, explained differences between YASI and the prior assessment tool. Although assessments take longer now, counselors learn more about family dynamics as a result of YASI's thoroughness. DJJ is seeing more 16- and 17-year-olds due to *Raise the Age* legislation. A discussion ensued about noticeable gaps in services, particularly for programs that address mental health and other issues with older juveniles and gang-affiliated youth. Daniel next shared RED data from District 19. He stated Cabarrus' numbers reflect the positive impacts made by Court Services and the DA's office through diversion and alternatives to disposition. Mark mentioned that JCPC has a RED subcommittee and encouraged interested members to join.

Approval of FY 23-24 RFP: A discussion was held regarding the RFP's new format to ensure it remains comprehensive in scope and continues to highlight specific needs within Cabarrus' juvenile population. In addition to the usual websites, it was agreed to post the RFP on the state's Interactive Purchasing System website and to prepare an email for individual Council members to transmit the RFP to eligible applicants. Daniel reminded Council that existing programs can be considered for one- or two-year funding cycles. The state's allocation for Cabarrus remains \$459,927. Megan mentioned that applicants must attend one of the two virtual informational sessions noted in the RFP. She recommended that an item be added in the "Applicants being sought" section to solicit programs that utilize trauma-focus modalities. Connie Philbeck motioned to approve the RFP as recommended. Carolyn Carpenter seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of Revisions to JCPC Admin Budget: Daniel explained the administrative budget revisions. Line item adjustments are needed to accurately reflect current wages and for expenses associated with food and provisions, office supplies, mileage, and brochure replenishment. Heather Mobley motioned to approve the revisions and Mark seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of Term Renewal of Steve Morris: Megan advised that the JCPC seat statutorily mandated for a county commissioner expires on December 31. A commissioner is appointed by the BOCC each December. Steve Morris currently fills the seat and is also JCPC's Parliamentarian. Heather Mobley motioned to recommend Steve Morris' reappointment. Carolyn seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

Approval of December Meeting Cancellation: Megan advised that JCPC's December meeting falls on the 21st this year and noted that given the business items handled today it could be cancelled. Marta motioned to cancel the December 2022 meeting. Carolyn and Jamica LaFranque seconded. With no further discussion, Council voted and the motion carried.

An upcoming change in the JCPC seat statutorily mandated for the DA was brought to Council's attention. Beth Street occupies the seat as the DA's designee. She will resign due to her election to District Court Judge. Ashlie Shanley was elected DA and she indicated her intention to fill the seat immediately upon Beth's resignation.

Megan briefly described the process surrounding resignations and new appointments and Joanie was asked to follow up with Ashlie and Beth to start the process.

PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Megan next introduced Ed Hosack, CEO of Cooperative Christian Ministry. He presented a report from Cabarrus County's Unsheltered Impact Focus Group. This group was chartered in March 2022 with support from local law enforcement leaders and tasked with quantifying the homeless population, understanding and defining their circumstances and conditions, and identifying potential solutions for presentation to community leadership. Mr. Hosack shared information from the group's analysis of the county's chronic and situational homeless. He encouraged JCPC to include programs that offer solutions for the increasing number of unsheltered families and children in its RFP. Mr. Hosack responded to multiple questions from Council.

UPDATES FROM DPS AREA CONSULTANT

Daniel referred members to *DPS Talking Points* included in the meeting packet and shared updated client count/tracking data. He stated he was very impressed with the number of youth served and admitted relative to the number projected to be served this FY and thanked programs for their efforts. He also expressed appreciation for Council's response to Deshield Greene's SJP presentation during JCPC's October meeting. He added that he doesn't want to lose momentum for this AOC-driven initiative which is strongly supported by DJJ. Megan advised that she spoke with Chief District Court Judge Christy Wilhelm about JCPC's interest in pursuing the SJP. It appears to be on Judge Wilhelm's agenda next year.

OLD BUSINESS

Megan next opened the floor to Lindsey Hardin with Pinnacle Family Services for updates on the availability of crisis beds. JCPC purchased crisis beds from Pinnacle thru TYM to address the needs of undisciplined, runaway, or trafficked juveniles who may not be delinquent or require secured custody but are at-risk and in need of temporary emergency respite while permanent solutions are sought. Lindsey advised there are now five filled beds, four openings for males, and one opening for a female. More foster parents have agreed to take 14-day crisis placements. To better support juveniles and foster parents, meetings similar to CFTs are held before placement instead of seven days later. Juveniles receive treatment while waiting on a bed. Pinnacle is working with a new placement called Charlotte Day Program that also functions like a mentorship. Responding to questions, Lindsey explained the bed system's goals and how it works. Lindsey said she believes Pinnacle will continue the service next FY. It was agreed the issue will be revisited at the January meeting so more data from DJJ and Pinnacle can be presented. Council can then evaluate what service is needed before funding season.

Discussion of a virtual attendance option for members was next on the agenda. Megan advised that there is no mechanism to allow virtual attendance through JCPC's By Laws or the state following the termination of NC's COVID State of Emergency. By Laws Article II Section 8 permits remote attendance through a Polycom teleconferencing device (also known as a phone tree). However, due to the county's new system the Polycom's network port in the Multi-Purpose Room is inactive. Two members unable to attend in-person joined recent meetings via Microsoft Teams, which constitutes a virtual attendance. Members discussed the pros and cons of virtual attendance. Megan suggested this issue be tabled for further discussion at the January meeting to allow members more time to think about and suggest ideas of how virtual attendance might be fairly applied and incorporated into the By Laws with DPS approval.

PRESENTATION OF COMPLETED MONITORING REPORTS

Megan suggested that presentation of monitoring reports be tabled and prioritized for the January meeting because no representatives from YDI or SOSET were in attendance, the meeting was already running longer than usual, and several council members had to leave. There was no opposition to this suggestion.

PROGRAM UPDATES / QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Verbal program updates were presented as follows: TYM programs by Shakia Washington and Reggie McNeil, Teen Court by Anissa Jones, and Aspire by Chef Kimberly Townsend. Their updates included current client counts, anticipated referrals, successful terminations and transitions, partner worksite agreements, potential virtual components for programs, new mentoring/community service coaches, “giving back” aspects of programs, and community outreach. Programs responded to multiple questions from Council members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mark thanked everyone, especially the program managers and coordinators, for their time and attention during the unusually long meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Megan reminded members that Council’s next meeting is January 18, 2023 at 7:30 a.m. Hearing no further comments, Megan called for a motion. Mark motioned to adjourn and Carolyn seconded. With no opposition to the motion, the Chair wished everyone a happy holiday season and adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

-Submitted by Joanie Bischer

Key to Acronyms

1. AOC = Administrative Office of the Courts
2. BOCC = Board of County Commissioners
3. CFT = Child & Family Team Meetings
4. DA = District Attorney
5. DJJ = Division of Juvenile Justice
6. DPS = Department of Public Safety
7. FLA = YDI’s Family Life skills Academy
8. FY = Fiscal Year (JCPC’s fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30)
9. ITS = Cabarrus County’s Information & Technology Services
10. RED = Racial and Ethnic Disparity
11. RFP = Request for Proposals (a document that notifies the public that proposals are being solicited by a JCPC for DPS funding)
12. SJP = School Justice Partnership
13. SOSET = Sex Offense Specific Evaluation & Treatment (a JCPC-funded program)
14. TYM = Transforming Youth Movement (a JCPC-funded program)
15. YASI = Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (a pre-screening tool used by Court Services with juvenile referrals)
16. YDI = Youth Development Initiatives (a JCPC-funded program)