

**Orange County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting**  
**Friday, October 1, 2021 (12:00noon – 2:00pm)**  
**Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**Proposed Minutes**

Attendees: **Sharron Hinton, Amanda Farris, Amy Fowler, Tami Pfeifer, Donna King, Charlos Banks, Carol McClelland, Crista Collazo, Gayane Chambless, Bernard Miles, Blair Nell, Meg McGurk, Hathaway Pendergrass, Val Hanson, Susan Worley, Jarrell Jones, Jon Berkeley, Annette Moore, Lateef Mitchell, Kelsey Mosely, Denise Briggs, Toshina Wiggins, Rebekah Rapoza (\*Members in bold)**

Absent: Sherita Cobb, Megan Johnson, Tina Sykes, Luke Dennis

Excused: Greg Rouse, Stephanie Jones

**Welcome**

The meeting opened with a welcome from Chair, Sharron Hinton and introductions.

**Minutes Review and Approval**

The Council reviewed the minutes from June 2021. Carol McClelland motioned for minutes to be approved and was seconded by Donna King. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council reviewed the minutes from August 2021. Carol McClelland motioned for minutes to be approved and was seconded by Amy Fowler. Motion carried unanimously.

**JCPC Business**

*Funding Committee Update* – There were \$45,681 in unallocated funds in Orange County after funding decisions were made and the JCPC made the decision to allow currently funded programs to request additional funds. Three requests were received from Volunteers for Youth for Community Service/Restitution, Haven House for Wrenn House, and Exchange Club for Parent Teen Solutions. If the requests are fully funded, that would leave \$36,985 still unallocated. The funds can remain unallocated (not committed to a program) until December 31. After that day, they will automatically revert back to the State and go into a discretionary fund that is offered to programs in the spring. Anytime unallocated funds are returned back to the State, the county will not be penalized and funding allocation for the next fiscal year will remain the same.

**Q: Could JCPC funded programs apply for funding for training? Could the training occur after December 31?**

**A:** Yes. It doesn't matter that it's after December 31 as long as the funds are expended within the fiscal year.

**Q: What are some things that other JCPCs have done when they've had this level of unallocated funds?**

**A:** We are right at a threshold of would it be worth it to publish another RFP to get a new program funded. It wouldn't be impossible but you may not have anyone respond because it's so close. Trainings are probably the biggest things that JCPCs do when there is unallocated funds.

**Q: Can we circle back to programs and ask them if they've identified any additional needs?**

**A:** Yes. You can send out another offer. You will need to vote if offering another opportunity to apply for unallocated funds. If do send out another request and will be voting in early December, just know that it's a tight turnaround, but doable to get revision completed and all signatures before December 31.

Donna King made a motion to accept the Exchange Club's Parent Teen Solutions request for \$840 (for technology/computer needs) and was seconded by Amanda Farris. Motion passed unanimously.

Gayane Chambless made a motion to accept Haven House's Wrenn House request for \$1,781 (for technology/computer needs and purchase/installation of interior door) and was seconded by Amy Fowler. Motion passed unanimously.

Amanda Farris made a motion to accept Volunteer for Youth's Restitution/Community Service request for \$6,075 (for raise in restitution payment, portion of annual audit cost, and technology/computer needs) and was seconded by Amy Fowler. Motion passed unanimously.

Gayane Chambless made a motion to allow currently funded JCPC programs to submit new requests for additional program funding, including training and professional development, and was seconded by Donna King. Motion passed unanimously.

Toshina and Denise will send out an email to providers letting them know they can submit additional requests. Denise proposed Sharron calling a special meeting of the JCPC on November 5 at 9:30am to vote on the requests and was agreed upon by Council members in attendance. When a special meeting is called, the quorum is automatically met with whichever Council members attend. The Funding Committee would receive documents prior to the special meeting to review and make a recommendation.

Programs approved for additional funding today should start working on their program agreement/budget revisions and get those submitted ASAP.

*Risk and Needs Committee* – Typically this committee has meet in January and it has been proposed to move the meeting to the fall. This would give the Council more time to review things and not be so rushed in the spring to meet deadlines. We are hopeful that if we back it up a little it will give us some more flexibility. There were some dates proposed on the agenda, but we just need a motion and vote to move the committee date to the fall and can decide on a date at a later time.

Carol McClelland made a motion to move the Risk and Needs Committee meeting from January to the fall and was seconded by Bernard Miles. Motion passed unanimously.

*Membership Update* – We have a couple vacancies that we need to fill: Member of Faith Community, Youth under Age 18, and Parks and Recreation. If anyone has any suggested individuals, please contact them to see if they are interested and we can then follow-up with them. All members are approved by the County Commissioners so as soon as we get individuals identified and committed we can present to the BOCC for approval.

**Q: Can Parks & Recreation representative be from a municipality or do they have to be County?**

**A:** Either.

The youth rep age has changed to 21. So it can be two youth under age 21, or one youth under age 21 and an adult who works with youth (school counselor, guardian ad litem, youth group leader, etc.). Counties aren't penalized if they don't have all their reps because some positions are hard to fill.

*Admin Equipment Update* – A shredder that was purchased with JCPC admin funds about 6-7 years ago has broken down and was disposed of by the county. A laptop that was also purchased with admin funds at the same time had stopped functioning properly and was taken by County IT to be replaced with a County purchased laptop.

**Q: Do either need to be replaced? If so, is this something we can use Admin funds for?**

**A:** Neither needs to be replaced.

Denise had asked that this item be added to the agenda for today so that the disposal of the equipment is reflected in the minutes. When she was reviewing Final Accounting for Admin budget, she noticed that these items were marked as being disposed of. The JCPC was out of compliance with how the equipment was disposed of because policy wasn't followed. There is a Disposal and Transfer of Equipment Policy that needs to be followed and it wasn't.

### **Program Updates**

*Dispute Settlement Center* – Last year we had hoped to serve about 30 and ended up serving about half. Lia was incredibly creative last year with serving youth and they met all their measureable objectives. Given all the challenges last year it was incredibly successful so they are happy with that. So far this year, they have served one JJ youth and had 10 direct referrals from Orange County Schools in just the last month. The 10 referrals from OCS is a lot and isn't funded by JCPC, but thought it was interesting to note.

Lia is no longer working with Dispute Settlement Center. She has been a huge asset for the last three year but has accepted a position working in equity with UNC, which has been something she's passionate about. DSC has hired Lia's replacement, Joy Clark, and she will be starting November 1. Joy has been a high school teacher for 15 years and is finishing her law degree. She has also been a restorative justice volunteer for the last two years and they feel like they've found an amazing fit in her.

*Exchange Club* – Last year they expected to serve 18 but only served 16 and think that was pretty good based on previous history. They think things went really well last year and are going to try to keep building upon that success and have taken a suggestion from Gayane to rebrand themselves as the toolbox for parents who are dealing with teenagers.

*Volunteers for Youth* – Community Service/Restitution program served quite a bit lower than what was estimated. They did exceed all their objectives and wonder if there's a case to be made about the smaller the program, they better you can serve the kids. The numbers still haven't picked up as they hoped, but school has only been in session for a couple months. Teen Court's numbers were also quite low last year but they did also exceed their objectives. They are back to meeting in the courthouse and are happy about that.

*Wrenn House* – They were estimated to serve 10 last year and actually served 7. They met all their objectives and just like everyone else it was a hard year. This year, so far, they have served 2 from Orange County. Over the last 2 weeks they were on quarantine as a youth tested positive for Covid. That was a first for them so it was a new experience, but they were expecting it to happen at point. They worked through it; but it wasn't easy. They are now able to accept new referrals. They have implemented new Covid testing policies for both visitors and youth in order to help keep everyone safe and healthy.

## **JJ Data Report**

They have been able to get into the new data system but it does compute data a little differently. For example, the new data captures complaints approved, diverted, and closed versus the old system that captured number of youth. They are also unable to capture electronic monitoring data. There is a four phase roll-out process for the new system, so there may be other data fields coming later down the road.

July – 9 juveniles at intake; 14 delinquent complaints; 1 undisciplined complaint; 0 school based complaints; 8 complaints approved for court; 4 complaints diverted; 3 complaints closed; 1 juvenile placed in detention for 28 days; 0 days used at Wrenn House; and 0 YDC admissions.

August – 11 juveniles at intake; 45 delinquent complaints; 1 undisciplined complaint; 0 school based complaints; 43 complaints approved for court; 2 complaints diverted; 1 complaints closed; 3 juvenile placed in detention for 42 days; 8 days used at Wrenn House; and 0 YDC admissions.

The new system also does not allow for Raise the Age data to be run similarly as in the past. However, she can pull year-to-date data on total served in offense groups. Since January 2021, 10 received violent complaints (A-E felonies), 18 received serious complaints (lower felonies and A1 misdemeanors), 32 received minor complaints (lower level misdemeanors), 1 infraction, and 7 received status offenses.

The new system can run a report on top 10 complaints, but can only be pulled by the district and not the county. However, Amanda does believe that the top complaints are consistent with what is being seen in Orange: breaking and entering of motor vehicle; breaking and entering of a building; felony possession of stolen property; and misdemeanor larceny.

Comment was made about how the data seems to reflect the work the schools are doing to divert minor offenses by utilizing available community programs and resources to help resolve those issues internally.

**Guest Speaker** – Attorney Annette Moore, Director, Orange County Department of Human Rights and Relations will be speaking about One Orange initiative as it relates to racial equity and the community. The framework is a vision for how the county can move forward with a whole county approach to racial equity. Orange County is working with Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough on a county-wide racial equity plan to break down systemic racism and institutional racism. While data is available that shows racial inequities, what isn't available is data that shows strategies used to close racial and economic gaps and that tracks progress over time.

What we know is that Orange County ranks number one in the state for length of life and clinical care and has the highest per capita income in the state and the third highest median household income. Over the last 30 years in Orange County, the black population has decreased while the Asian and Hispanic populations have increased.

When looking at the two school districts, a higher percentage of black and Hispanic students are scoring below grade average and that college and career readiness scores in both school systems have not gotten better over time for students of color, economically disadvantaged and with disabilities. We are also seeing disparities in Orange County with regards to household living in poverty, infant death rate, and life expectancy.

The solid foundation we want to build the count wide racial equity plan on is based on the strength of community engagement and our data. Our racial equity plan is data driven and we must have consistent, measureable, accurate, and reliable data. We must be able to trust the data, have access to the data, know what's behind the data, and be able to understand the data because the data will help us track our progress.

We must also be able to engage with the community to ensure that we are moving in the direction the community wants and expects. Our racial equity plan is built around five strategies: racial equity tool, racial equity index, community engagement, training, and evaluation and accountability.

Orange County, the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and 11 other jurisdictions in North Carolina became the first jurisdictions in the south to go through racial equity training with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE). This year long training was designed to build capacity to address institutional, instructional racism for local governments. This training allowed us to build a shared network across jurisdictions and regional boundaries, allowing us to eliminate silos that prevent us from addressing structural racism.

The Racial Equity Action Plan sets forth a process and a set of questions to guide the development, implementation, and evaluation of policies, initiatives, programs, and budget issues to address the impact of racial equity. The racial equity tool helps align racial equity goals with desired outcomes. The Racial Equity Plan commits government to shifting the power dynamic to a shared decision making model, working with the community. Each jurisdiction is experimenting with engagement tactics to reach communities of color focusing on listening, learning, and implementing solutions for all communities and then prioritizing for the perspective of those communities most impacted by racism.

The GARE team is working with SAS and the Data for Good project on the racial equity index and this will be an open source, public data dashboard. It will help us assess our progress on equity in our community and we will use it to track racial equity data from the initiatives and follow trends on racial disparities across departments and jurisdictions. The first index being created is a workforce equity index.

The Training Committee has worked on a plan that provides a continuous cycle of training for policy makers, managers, advisory boards, and commission and community members. The Evaluation and Accountability Committee will develop an evaluation plan based on the principles of the Results-Based Accountability framework. RBA is a national model and provides a disciplined, data-driven, decision-making process to help local governments take action to solve problems. The evaluation plan applies racial equity principles embedded into the RBA methodology into the Orange County Racial Equity Plan. The plan also has a stewardship plan that addresses who is accountable for completion of each action, how plans are implemented, how progress is reported, and how success is defined.

**Q: As part of the community outreach, how do members of the public become engaged and participate?**

**A:** They are asking people to respond to this presentation and let us know what they want out of a racial equity plan and what do they see as priorities.

**Q: How does this relate to the different boards and commissions that are an extension of the county?**

**A:** The boards and commissions will be trained on the racial equity tool and they will use that as part of their decision making process.

**Q: So then, at some point we would be asked to integrate that into our funding discussion?**

**A:** Yes. And as a matter of fact, outside agencies funding process will have this integrated for next fiscal year. Applicants will be required to complete the racial equity tool as part of the application.

Toshina commented that the information was very valuable and actually falls right in line with what the Department is doing and pushing JCPCs to establish an Ethnic Disparities subcommittee to focus on disproportionality and disparities. If the JCPC is interested in forming a subcommittee for Racial and

Ethnic Disparities (RED), Toshina can provide us with more information. The Department also has RED Coordinator that can provide us with statewide and Orange County data if interested.

**Q: Does the RED Committee take the place of the DMC Committee?**

**A:** Yes. It was originally DMC and has been changed to RED.

Donna King commented that we did have DMC group in the past that was having some conversations but not sure what the status is currently.

Crista Collazo made a motion to establish a Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Committee and was seconded by Donna King. Motion passed unanimously.

**Consultant Update**

Recently the Department management team has provided talking points document to Consultants so that the information that is being shared with JCPCs is consistent.

Senate Bill 207 was signed by the Governor on August 30. This bill raised the minimum of six to age 10 with some exceptions for eight and nine year olds who commit violent offenses (A-G felonies). This will take effect December 1, 2021. Six and seven year olds will not be eligible for court at all and eight and nine year olds who have an A-G felony and/or prior adjudication can go to court. The bill has also created a new category of vulnerable juveniles for the younger population. This will allow court counselors to conduct consultations and refer to community programs for intervention. Community programs will be able to continue to serve this population.

House Bill 615 requires all juveniles with suspected mental health issues to have comprehensive clinical assessment within 45 days of disposition. Severe emotional disturbance would also warrant the establishment of a care review team. The Department will be providing additional information on what this will look like in order to establish continuity across the state with service delivery.

House Bill 621 raises the age of school dropout from 16 to 18 and juvenile justice will pick up these cases and it remains on track to be passed by the Senate. Juvenile Justice has requested additional resources to work with this population.

There is a Teen Court pilot being operated in Brunswick, Bladen, and Columbus counties where 16 and 17 year olds who commit minor traffic offenses are being served through a modified Teen Court model instead of being sent to adult court. Please let Toshina know if this is something Orange County is interested in and she can provide additional information.

DPS 2020 Annual Report has been published on their website if anyone would like to review it.

NCJSA Fall Conference will be held at Carolina Beach October 13-15.

Final Accounting has been completed for Orange County with the exception of Boomerang program that remains under review. The plan is to have it completed by next week. The only refund is for JCPC Admin and the amount was \$10,455.70.

Due to YASI implementation, sponsoring agencies are required to complete the full assessment at youth intake.

Full SPEP scores have been run for programs and those will be provided along with PEPs for programs to complete. Presentation on these will be done at December meeting.

Toshina is currently compiling the Risk and Needs data from the old assessment and the new YASI assessment. She will reach out to the Risk and Needs Chair to coordinate dates to meet so that we can start the RFP planning process.

### **Announcements**

Orange County DSS will be hosting a job fair October 20 at University Place from 9a-1p. We are trying to have vaccinations provided on-site as well, but are working on it.

There are lots of vaccine and testing opportunities in the county. The best place to find that information is on the Health Department website. If you have a specific group of individuals or a community location that has expressed interest, they do have mobile teams that can go out (home bound, door-to-door, rural communities, etc.). Hillsborough testing site is moving from Health Department parking lot to DSS parking lot.

**Upcoming Meeting:**  
JCPC Meeting – December 3 @ 12pm  
Virtual Zoom Meeting