

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

for

HOKE COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

October 20th, 2021 at 1:00pm

Remote Meeting via “Zoom”

JCPC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rev. Al Anderson, Chairperson and Member of Faith Community
Linda Revels, Vice Chair and Member of Business Community
Ronald Flippin, School Superintendent Designee
Det. Sgt. Yurika Lorenzo, Raeford Police Dept.
Lt. Lee Davis, Sheriff's Designee
Mary Spell, Director of Area LME/MCO Designee
Gwen McGougan, County Manager Designee
Tom Landry, Family Advocate
Kayleigh Coates, Youth Under Age 21
Raemi Braswell, Attorney
Isley Cotton, Health Director Designee
Gwendolyn Quick, County Commissioner Appointee
Don Woods, County Commissioner Appointee
Jackie McLean, County Commissioner Appointee
Daphne Dudley, County Commissioner Appointee
Shirlyn Morrison-Sims, County Commissioner Appointee
Shirley Hart, County Commissioner Appointee
Darell McMillan, County Commissioner Appointee

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lance Britt, NC DPS Area Consultant
Lorraine Landry, JCPC Coordinator
Ophelia Ray, MOCEDC Program Manager
Brittany Gillespie, Y.E.S. Program Coordinator
Amy Forshee, RBD Structured Day Program Coordinator
Brandy McPherson, Teen Court Coordinator
Joshua Cooper, DJJ Court Counselor
Jennifer Pennington, DJJ Court Counselor

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION

Rev. Al Anderson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

(There was a quorum with 18 members present.)

Lt. Lee Davis began the meeting in prayer.

I. PROGRAM REPORTS

(Monthly expense reports from MOCEDC were submitted on 10-13-21 and Teen Court's were submitted on 10-14-21.)

MOCEDC's "Road to Success" Mentoring Program – Since the Program Coordinator position is still vacant for this program, **Brittany Gillespie** reported the following to the council:

- Currently serving 3 youth, with 1 already terminated; a total of 4 youth this year
- “7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens” still being used during mentoring sessions
- Co-ed groups on Mondays; Gender Based Groups: girls on Tuesdays, boys on Thursdays
- STEM activities/projects on Tues. & Thurs. (creating lanterns and pottery for Oct. 28 event)
- Tutoring sessions and homework help offered to youth to bring grades up
- Mentees are matched with Fayetteville CARES

The council had no comments or questions about this program.

MOCEDC's "Rebuilding the Dream" Structured Day Program – **Amy Forshee**, Program Coordinator, reported the following to the council:

- Currently no youth enrolled.

- Reaching out to the school principals and guidance counselors; distributing fact sheets, brochures and referral forms.

Rev. Anderson asked if all the networking seems to be working. **Miss Amy** agreed that it does; also that the principals noted that the students' behavior is better overall.

MOCEDC's "Youth Engage in Service" Community Service Program – **Miss Brittany Gillespie**, Program Coordinator, reported the following to the council:

- Currently serving 2 youth for restitution; one of them benefiting from "Raise the Age" change
- Terminated 3 so far this year
- Youth participating on Oct. 28th library event
- Volunteering continuing at Lyons & Wades Farm and MOCEDC facility

The council had no comments or questions about this program.

Project Reverso's Teen Court Program – **Miss Brandy McPherson**, Program Coordinator, reported the following to the council:

- Served 2 youth this year.
- Outreaching to referral sources (SROs, guidance counselors, drop-out prevention, school administrators), but referrals still slow
- Conferences/workshops being attended throughout the year
- September events: hosted 2nd Meet & Greet at the courthouse with 20 participants and spoke at Hoke High classes about volunteer opportunities resulting in 40 emails from interested youth and lastly the 911 Celebration event with 30+ volunteers (judges, elected officials, scouts, JCPC)

Lance Britt asked if Teen Court has also reached out to DJJ. **Miss Brandy** replied that they have set up a personalized one-on-one arrangement. **Lance** will follow-up with all four programs to find different ways to get referrals. There were no other concerns or questions about this program.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rev. Al Anderson, Chairperson, asked if the board members reviewed the minutes from the August 18th, 2021 regular meeting and if there was a motion to approve them as written.

Tom Landry motioned to approve the meeting minutes for 8-18-21 as written.

Jackie McLean seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

III. JCPC COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Lorraine Landry, JCPC Coordinator, reported the following to the council:

Administration Budget FY 2021-22 Update –

(A current balance sheet was sent out to board members on 10-13-21.)

- Out of this year's \$9,700 budget, \$2,028 has already been utilized leaving a balance of \$7,671.
- At this point in the year, expense have only been salary, office supplies and lunch for August's meeting.

Final Accounting FY 2020-21 –

- Completed in September
- \$213 unspent JCPC funds
- County's Finance Dept will send the refund amount back in November

There were no concerns or questions regarding the Admin Budget from the council.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Linda Revels, Vice Chairperson, asked for reports from each committee chair:

Membership & Nominating Committee – (*Gwen Quick expected to log on late and arranged for a committee member to give report.*) **Tom Landry** reported that the County Commissioners approved JCPC's two newest nominees on 9-20-21:

- Miss Kayleigh Coates, to fill "Youth Under Age 21" board position
- Mr. Darell McMillan, to fill "County Commissioner Appointee" board position

He also reported that the committee met on 10-11-21 to fill the last two vacancies with their recommended citizens:

- Mr. Richard Leak to fill the "Substance Abuse Professional" board position. He is with Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare Services on Harris Ave. in Raeford.
- Mrs. Gina Daniels to fill the "Non-Profit Organization" board position. She is at the NC Cooperative Extension office.

(Both individuals would finish out this fiscal year and begin their 2-year terms on July 1st, 2022 ending on June 30th, 2024.) The committee presented these names as a motion.

Linda Revels motioned to accept the Membership Committee's recommendations to fill the two vacant seats; Gina Daniels for "Non-Profit Organization" seat and Richard Leak "Substance Abuse Professional" seat.

Shirley Hart seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Monitoring Committee – **Jackie McLean**, Committee Chairperson, reported that their committee met online on 9-8-21 to outline the duties and responsibilities of the committee. She presented the idea at that time to do at least one unannounced visit to the programs prior to the annual monitoring visit to see how the programs are operating and possibly see some of the youth. She shared that she knows there have been a few students suspended recently at Hoke High and should be referred to a day reporting center; she would like to follow-up with Amy Forshee of the Structured Day program to make sure this is happening. She asked the council for input. **Linda Revels** agreed the programs need to be visited to make sure they're in compliance. **Rev. Anderson** asked for clarification on how the collaboration between the Board of Education and the programs communicate; whether or not it involved the JCPC Monitoring Committee. **Jackie McLean** stated that there are students who are out of school and she wants to follow-up on why they are not enrolled in the Rebuilding the Dream Structured Day Program as expected.

She continued to report that on 9-8-21 she invited the program coordinators at the last minute to join their online committee meeting but not mandatory, which resulted in an exchange of emails between Ophelia Ray and herself. Miss Ray misinterpreted the invitation as overlooking her authority as the Program Manager. **Jackie McLean** assured the council that she hoped to hear from the program coordinators directly on how the day to day operations were going and that she did not undermine Miss Ray's authority. **Rev. Anderson** added that he and Lance Britt had a conversation about this misunderstanding also, resulting in their agreement that the Monitoring Committee needs to express their intent to the council of any visit they plan on making to a funded program beforehand (not necessarily the date and times). **Jackie McLean** fully agreed.

V. AREA CONSULTANT'S REPORT

Lance Britt, NC DPS Area Consultant, reported on the following:

Risk & Needs Assessment – Juvenile Justice will communicate the necessary data directly to the local committee this year rather than to the entire JCPC. Tom Landry will be setting a committee

meeting soon to consider the needs and gaps in Hoke's services and then will report back to the council with a developed RFP hopefully in November.

HB 621 – Still on track with this, which will raise the age from 16 to 18; information expected from legislature on how it'll effect the communities.

Conflict of Interest FY 21-22 forms – He asked Lorraine to forward all of them.

Pilot for 16 and 17 year olds in Teen Court – Lance shared this has been occurring in Teen Courts in some other states; motor vehicle and traffic offenses (misdemeanor violations); free traffic school "Alive at 25" offered. Lance challenged council to check if this is a need in Hoke and if the District Attorney and judges would approve it. He could assist if needed.

Final Accounting FY 20-21 – all programs are completed

SPEP Scores – these will be sent out to programs very soon

DPS New Hire – Lance shared that his replacement has been hired and he will announce her at our November meeting; they will be working together for a while before he assumes new position.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Anderson commented on the importance of our youth and providing positive activities for them. He stated that in most cases, the youth and parents do not know what is available to them. He shared thoughts about the five teenagers recently killed in an accident while stealing a vehicle, about his concern of the mental health challenges youth are suffering from today.

Job Opportunity - Mt. Calvary Center for Leadership Development hiring a community health worker for Hoke County; **Jackie McLean** will forward the information

"Lights On for After School" national event – **Brittany Gillespie** announced this will occur locally on October 28th at the library stage

"Trunk or Treat" event – she also announced this event on October 30th at Shiloh Temple Church on Green Street; flyers will be sent to council

Guardian ad Litem – **Tom Landry**, the GAL District Administrator, shared that within the court systems every child that comes through DSS has to do an Adverse Childhood Experience assessment (ACE score) and that now the judges he works with (same judges in juvenile court) are now being informed about these circumstances children have gone through, which better equips them to make a fair ruling.

DSS's Permanency Planning Review meetings - **Tom Landry** also informed all of volunteer opportunity at these monthly meetings to go over youth's cases; a good place to inform about JCPC's services because of cross over between Juvenile Justice and DSS kids; point of contact is Don Woods, DSS Foster Care Unit

Comments from MOCEDC – **Ophelia Ray**, Program Manager, shared she has met with Dr. Dowless, School Superintendent, and Shannon Register over past few months and are now housing after-school services in four schools: Upchurch Elementary, East Hoke Middle, Sandy Grove Elementary, Sandy Grove Middle. There are currently 8 tutorial jobs for high school interns available at MOCEDC that pay \$13-\$15 hour for tutor assistants in these four schools.

"Under Age Drinking Town Hall Meeting" – **Shirlyn Morrison-Sims** with ADS announced this community meeting on December 2nd at 6:00pm at Nation of Faith Church (beside Tia Hart Community on Elwood Ave.)

Teen Court's "Youth Justice Action Month" – **Brandy McPherson** announced opportunity for all to help with promoting the Dec. 2nd event by recording a statistic about under age drinking that will be compiled into a video for Shirlyn Morrison-Sims' town hall meeting; information will be sent out.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Rev. Al Anderson, Chairperson, asked if there were any further concerns and if there was a motion to adjourn. He announced the next meeting is November 17th, 2021 at 1:00pm online only. He commented that he hopes to meet in person beginning in January 2022.

Shirley Hart motioned to adjourn.

Shirlyn Morrison-Sims seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 2:01pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Lorraine Landry,
Hoke County JCPC Coordinator