



## Criminal Justice Resource Center

### **Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Minutes Tuesday, January 26, 2016**

**Members Present:** Sherry Honeycutt Everett, Vernon O'mar Taylor, Lawrence Campbell, Kristen Rosselli, Lao Rubert, Shannon McCabe, Marcia Owen, Gudrun Parmer, Roger Echols, Judge Marcia Morey, Umar Muhammad, Jackie Brown, Brenda Howerton, Gayle Harris, Raheem A. Aleem, Clarence Birkhead, Candace Rashada

**Members Absent:** Clarence Maynor, Anthony Marsh, Celeste Kelly, Ann Oshel, Michael Becketts, Jeffrey Clark, Damion Moore,

**Staff:** Peter Baker, Celia Jefferson, Roshanna Parker, Spencer Noble, Melody Van Dyne

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Lawrence M. Campbell opened the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

#### **Review and Approve December Minutes**

Mr. Campbell asked the committee to review the December minutes. Gudrun Parmer moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Marcia Owen properly seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **Stepping Up Initiative Committee Update – presented by Peter Baker**

The committee is looking at substance abuse and mental health prevalence data in the jail as identified by a screening tool and has worked through the Sequential Intercept Model. The committee members identified five areas in need of increasing capacity or filling gaps to focus on over next few months: Mental Health Court, coordinated release, the need for a sobering center or wet beds (instead of arrest), long-term housing support, and ACT teams for high-need inmates and high-utilizers.

At the January 11, 2016 meeting, the committee discussed the Governor's Crime Commission (GCC) application for the Mental Health Court (due 1/29). GCC will notify applicants by the end of March and funding would become available in July. We will be applying for up to \$200k in funding for 2 years. Gudrun Parmer and Commissioner Reckhow are looking at Durham Crisis Access (DCA) to determine whether some individuals taken to jail for intoxication could be taken to DCA instead.

The Criminal Justice Resource Center (CJRC) submitted an application for 5 team members to attend the Stepping Up Summit in DC in April, which would provide us with a networking opportunity to learn more about other communities' approaches to solve this issue. Notifications are expected by 2/16 if Durham is selected to attend.

The next committee meeting is on March 14, 1PM at the CJRC.

**Reentry Committee – presented by Lao Rubert and Roshanna Parker**

The committee held a successful reentry event on January 21, 2016 despite the impending snow storm. The purpose of the event was to provide community providers with the opportunity to inform committee members (and each other) of available community reentry resources and to begin building a network of resources. The committee will continue to reach out and learn so the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) can serve as a primary hub of reentry information. The committee plans to hold another event next quarter. Durham County will be in a good position when NCDPS puts out an RFP to expand funded Local Reentry Councils (LRC). Nicole Sullivan with NCDPS included Durham County as a site for future LRC funding in her presentation at the Project Safe Neighborhood conference in Greensboro.

**Domestic Violence Committee – presented by Sherry Honeycutt Everett**

The committee's first meeting is on Friday January 29 at 8:15AM at CJRC. The purpose of the meeting will be to start mapping available community resources. The committee will explore possibilities for a one-stop-shop for services, such as the creation of a family justice resource center that Durham Crisis Response Center is spearheading. Much can be done in Durham County to improve and coordinate services per Judge Morey. The committee will also look for funding for batterer interventions. Judge Marsh agreed to be on this committee.

**Violent Crime Task Force lessons from Boston and Kansas City Police Departments – presented by Roger Echols and Spencer Noble**

The US Department of Justice provided funding for teams from Durham to visit Boston and Kansas City to look at violent crime reduction strategies within the police departments and the community. Durham's teams consisted of representatives from the City Manager's Office, Police Department, County Manager's Office, District Attorney, Probation and service providers. Roger Echols provided an overview of his observations to CJAC. Roger noted that Boston has a local crime lab with a backlog of 17 weeks compared to 15-18 months for DNA results in our county. He also noted that the City of Boston heavily funds many community organizations and a Community Initiatives Coordinator (sworn BPD commander). BPD promotional process requires demonstration of community engagement and officers are graded on those partnerships. Boston also requires a cadet to have lived in Boston for 3 years prior to applying to the police academy. Overall, the team was impressed with the amount and quality of relationships and engagement between BPD and the community.

In Kansas City, Missouri the team learned about KC's focused deterrence efforts called KCNOVA – KC No Violence Alliance. Their focus was on getting away from an arrest unless the arrest can make an impact on public safety. KCPD is focusing their efforts on the small amount of individuals committing the bulk of violent crime. They use a traditional PSN call-in model, which has not been effective in Durham. Spencer Noble mentioned that Kansas City probation office just started using "quick dips", something NC probation has done for some time now. Overall, the team felt that Durham was ahead of many of KC's efforts and did not come back from Kansas City with new ideas. Kristen Rosselli shared that Boston and Kansas City have a long history of receiving USDOJ funding and recognition for innovative policing and prosecution strategies.

The CJAC committee members had a lengthy discussion about community-based violence reduction solutions that focused on positive interventions and opportunities instead of deterrence. The committee agreed that mass incarceration does not and will never work. Umar Muhammad stressed that the Boston and KC solutions will not work here – that we have to let the people living in his community

come up with the solutions for his community. He suggested that we try funding ideas that people living in his community who are causing the problems believe will engage them in positive, productive ways. Omar Taylor and Capt. R. A. Aleem shared their perspectives that law enforcement officers have a public safety role in the community and we need to figure out how to balance the public's safety with opportunities for individuals who are harming the community. Candace Rashada reminded the committee that we cannot come into a community with the mindset of "fixing" the community. She emphasized the need to focus on people's assets and highlighted Coach D's success with New Horizons School. Candace also stressed the importance of involving parents. Commissioner Howerton referenced Otis Lyons' success with Campaign4Change. Commissioner Howerton emphasized that we cannot write off any of our children; we have no "throw away" children. The committee agreed to continue this discussion at our next meeting.

#### **Appointment of Officers**

Marcia Owen and Gudrun will bring an officer slate to our March meeting.

#### **Next Meeting & Adjournment**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday March 22, 2016 at 4:00PM at CJRC.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM.