



## JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

### October 23, 2024: Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Kevin McIver, Jonathan Wilson, Laylon Williams, Renee Hill, Dr. Melissa Watson

**Members On-line:** Alex Hurdle, John Morris, Maggie Clapp, Sgt. Adam Boudreault, LiBria Stephens, Quanesha Archer, Monica Burnette, Alexis Cooper, Angela Nunn, Seth Kandl, Duane Brinson

**Programs Present:** Santos Flores (Outreach Coordinator-Project Build), Raquel Dominguez (Elna B. Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center)

**Programs On-line:** Quillie Coath (PROUD), Yasmine Boone (PROUD), Gwendolyn Johnson (Teen Court & Restitution), Cynia Black (POA), Tiffany Swoope (GRACED Inc.), Kawanda Hall (GRACED Inc.), Jazell Carty (PROUD), Monica Daye (EPIC)

**Guests Present:** Raven Walters (RYSE-Diversion Coordinator)

**Guests On-Line:** Crystal Wynn-Lewis (DJJ Central Office), Jennifer McRant (RYSE Program Manager), Dr. Gradesa Lockhart (Director of Stop the Violence-DPS), Dr. Nicholas King (Deputy Superintendent-DPS), DeWarren Langley (Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation)

**Staff Present:** Roshanna Parker, Robin Heath, Viveca Deans, Janice Williams

**Staff Online:** Walter 'Eddie' Crews

**Excused Absences:** Abigail Holloway (Vice Chair), Arkeem Brooks (Project Build)

#### I. **Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Kevin McIver called the meeting to order at 4:11pm, welcomed all attendees, and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves, starting with in-house attendees followed by on-line attendees.

A quorum was present.

#### II. **September 2024 Minutes Approval**

Chair McIver acknowledged that a correction was noted by Jennifer McRant to include her name with the RYSE Presentation.

The motion to approve the September 2024 minutes was moved, seconded and unanimously approved with the noted corrections.

#### III. **Consultant Update: presented by Mr. Eddie Crews – Central Area Consultant, DPS**

Mr. Crews stated that the Risk & Needs Assessment Committee will meet virtually to discuss the data that will be presented to the board at November's meeting. This same information will feed into the Request for Proposal (RFP) that will go out in January. The full allocation of \$701,000 from the state along with the 15% county match will be on the table for non-profits and governmental agencies to bid on.

An orientation is done sometime in mid-January or early February after the RFP has been put out to inform new programs what the requirements are and how to navigate the RFP process and the specifications of Durham's JCPC requirements.

Mr. Crews also reported that Safe Storage events were conducted in a Northern Granville County middle school and a Vance County elementary school. Mr. Crews would like to coordinate this event here in Durham with Deputy Secretary Billy Lassiter and Durham Public Schools to reduce the number of firearm-related incidents.

Ms. Angela Nunn and Mr. Crews serve on a committee trying to develop a curriculum based on E.K.G – Educating Kids on Gun Violence created by the Fayetteville police department many years ago. The goal is to develop this program into a comprehensive, 16-week program in addition to video instruction by finding a provider to deliver this service.

#### IV. **Community Program Presentation: Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice – R/ED Data FY 23-24:** presented by Crystal Wynn-Lewis

Chair McIver acknowledged Mr. DeWarren Langley for initiating the process of bringing this presentation to this board.

Ms. Crystal Wynn-Lewis opened by stating that the information in this presentation will give light to the reason for providing documentation and data across the state for racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. The following are bullet points of reference as presented by Crystal Wynn-Lewis:

##### **Statewide Data:**

- Racial and Ethnic Disparity (herein after referenced to as 'R/ED') as defined by the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act (herein after referenced to as 'JJDP'), means: 'Minority youth populations are involved at a decision point in the juvenile justice system at disproportionately higher rates than non-minority youth at that decision point'.
- Legislation now requires states that participate in the JJDP to not only report the disparities, but to put action behind the reporting by reducing these disparities.
- From 1988 – 2018, the JJDP amended the 'disproportionate minority confinement' from focusing on Lock-Up facilities to addressing minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.
- Education and awareness of R/ED enhances the juvenile justice staff's ability to serve these youths and contributes to the success of programs and services provided.
- **While black youth make up 24% of the youth population ages 6-17 in North Carolina, they make up 64% of complaints received, 71% of detention admissions, and 67% of commitments to Youth Detention/Development Centers (herein after referenced to as YDC). These are the current statistics for FY '24.**
- R/ED is measured with the application of the Relative Rate Index (herein after referenced to as 'RRI'). RRI is a rate of comparison which provides some context by dividing occurrences at decision points by the number of youths in the general population. The slide below denotes example calculations.

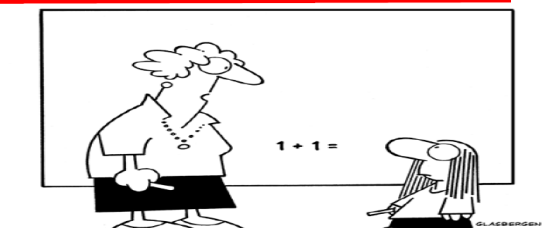


## Relative Rate Index (RRI)



The RRI is A rate of comparison which provides some context by dividing occurrences at decision points by the number of youth in the general population.

An RRI of 1.0 shows proportionality. Disproportionality is determined when the RRI is Greater than > 1 in All JJ Contact Points minus **Not Approved** and **Cases Disposed**. These two points suggest disproportionality when the RRI is Less than < 1.



### RRI Example

Rate of Delinquency Complaints for Blacks:  
65.1 for every 1,000 Black youth aged 6-15  
in NC.

Rate of Delinquency Complaints for Whites:  
21.5 for every 1,000 White youth aged 6-15  
in NC.

65.1 (Black Rate)

21.5 (White Rate)

$$\text{RRI} = 3.027$$

Black youth are 3 times more likely to have a delinquency complaint as compared to their White counterparts.

- Although since 2018, the federal government has not required the RRI, North Carolina still utilizes the RRI for reporting purposes.
- There was a total of 39,189 complaints state-wide for North Carolina for FY '23-'24. For Black youths, only 31% of these complaints were 'not approved', 71% were YDC placed, 67% were YDC confined.
- While the number of Black youths committed to NC YDC's has progressively declined from the year 2000 to 2024 statewide (from 879 to 175), Black youths continue to be disproportionately represented.
- While Black youth represented 68% of transfers to Adult Court, this is a 2.5% decrease from last fiscal year.
- Overall statewide complaints received have increased from FY '23 to FY '24 with serious offenses having the highest increase.

#### **Durham County Data:**

- According to the 2020 Youth Population County Census for youths ages 6-17, Durham had the 7<sup>th</sup> highest youth population with Wake County being the highest. In the 2022 census, Durham's Black youth comprised 38% of the population.
- There were 1,740 complaints received against 255 youth for FY 24 which indicates that youths are receiving several charges (at least 1-6) per incident; 91% of these complaints were against Black Youth. The RRI shows that Black youth are 23% more likely to receive complaints than white and other ethnic youths.
- Not Approved/Diverted Complaints showed to be disproportionate with Black Youth at 11% and White Youth and 50%.
- Total Detention Placements were 149 youths where 89% were Black youths; a total of 2 youths were placed in YDC Confinement; a total of 6 youths were transferred to Superior Court.
- **Durham has the lowest school-based complaint numbers than any other county in North Carolina and has been continuously declining over the years.**
- Out of a total of 1,738 complaints, the majority are either serious or minor offenses.

#### **Uses of Data:**

- To assist JCPC's with annual planning
- To determine the best ways to utilize funding dollars for programs that are needed and to create more diversion programs
- To help community leaders, law enforcement, judges and other decision-makers understand the racial and ethnic disparities within their jurisdictions
- To ensure ample resources are available to youths in need in order to avoid long waiting times for these resources
- To increase collaboration with state and local agencies

#### **Questions/Concerns:**

Mr. Seth Kandl raised the concern that the data presented would be more beneficial if the data was measured by number of youths rather than by incidents to have an accurate accounting of youths needing to be served.

Ms. Wynn-Lewis responded that the data is representative of individual youths and is utilized to shed light on the statewide disparities within the Juvenile Justice System making sure **all** children are receiving equitable treatment across the board in services. Ms. Wynn-Lewis suggested having a dialogue with Juvenile Court Counselors to determine how many young people are referred for services and are placed on waiting lists. This would determine where resources need to be allocated. Ms. Wynn-Lewis also stated that the data requested will be provided by her office upon request.

Chair McIver requested Ms. Wynn-Lewis provide an email address and telephone number for further questions and requests for specific numbers/data.

**Please note:** The PowerPoint presentation has been sent to all board members along with Ms. Wynn-Lewis' email address for follow-up.

Mr. Langley commented that the JCPC is not bound by restraints to make recommendations to the elective bodies as to the type of data that is needed in order to decrease the number of justice-involved youths. A power summit was held with Dr. Nicholas King as the speaker in which a community action plan activity was established where boys of color had the opportunity to discuss their issues encountered in Durham public schools.

**V. Chief Court Counselor September Update:** presented by Alexis Cooper

2024- 2025 MONTH	Juveniles on Supervision previous month	Juveniles Received	Complaints Received	Complaints Approved	Complaints Diverted	Detention Admission	Detention Admission within the month	YDC Admission	Violent Offense A-E	Serious Offense F-1&41	Minor Offense Class 1-3	Status	Black	Hispanic	White	Asian	Other	Male	Female	Age 6 to 10 Years	Age 11 to 15 Years	Age 16 & Over
JULY	154	11	88	80	0	30	7	1	7	42	39	0	7	2	2	0	0	9	2	0	4	7
AUGUST	153	34	52	18	0	17	4	0	11	17	24	0	27	1	5	0	1	28	6	0	16	18
SEPTEMBER	149	29	80	51	1	21	11	0	11	30	39	0	24	5	0	0	0	23	6	0	18	11
OCTOBER																						
NOVEMBER																						
DECEMBER																						
JANUARY																						
FEBRUARY																						
MARCH																						
APRIL																						
MAY																						
JUNE																						
Year to Date	456	74	220	149	1	68	22	1	29	89	102	0	58	8	7	0	1	60	14	0	38	36

**VI. DPS Update:**

Dr. Melissa Watson introduced Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Nicholas King, to address the Board.

Dr. King opened by stating that with his service as a principal, a District Level Discipline Officer and a liaison to law enforcement, it was interesting to see the numbers that were shared regarding the complaints coming directly from Durham schools. Durham's Support Team and Safety and Security Team work diligently with law enforcement and SROs to ensure that their practices are in line with the best practices around the country. Dr. King reiterated DPS' commitment to working with the community in addressing issues faced by young people.

Dr. King shared his experience of having to testify in a death penalty case for one his former elementary students. This experience lends credence to the fact that intercession is needed in the early stages of a child's life (especially when behavior is evident) in order to prevent such circumstances from occurring later in the life of a child.

In conclusion, Dr. King thanked the board for the work that is being done, the collaborative efforts and for the open and frank conversations that are necessary to effectively serve justice-involved youths.

**VII. Program Updates:**

Chair McIver has moved the presentation of October's Program Updates to November's board meeting.

**VIII. Chair Update:**

- Next month's board meeting has been moved to November 20<sup>th</sup> instead of November 27<sup>th</sup> due to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday
- Chair McIver will reach out to the domestic violence program for next month's community presentation
- October and November's Program updates are to be submitted before November's meeting

**IX. Other Business/Announcements:**

- Raquel Dominguez announced that a community event is being organized on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 1:00pm, at the Holton Career and Resource Center, located at 401 N. Driver Street, Durham, NC 27703. Flyers will be available and distributed at a later date.

**X. Adjournment:**

Chair McIver adjourned the meeting at 5:28pm