

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010
ACOB-5TH STREET EXTENDED, ROOM B**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rosa Atkins, Charlottesville City Schools
Leslie Beauregard, City of Charlottesville
Colette Blount, City School Board
Representative
Jackie Bright, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Jacki Bryant, Private Service Provider
Representative
Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Ralph Chester, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Bryan Elliott, Albemarle County
Robert Johnson, Chair, Region Ten Community
Services
Steve Koleszar, County School Board
Representative
Diane Kuknyo, Charlottesville Dept. of Social
Services
Amy Laufer, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Carolyn Lawlor, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Jan Martin, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Sean McCord, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Pam Moran, Albemarle County Schools
Lilian Peake, Thomas Jefferson Health District
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social
Services
Cathy Train, United Way Representative
Maurice Walker, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Shealtiel Yarney, City Youth Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia
Tim Longo, Charlottesville Police Department
John Miller, Albemarle Police Department
Pat Mullaney, Albemarle Department of Parks &
Recreation
Amy Skolnick, County Youth Representative

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Gretchen Ellis, Director
Linda Rahman, Information-Outreach-Volunteer
Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

June Jenkins, Safe Schools/Healthy Students
Director

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for September 1, 2010 CCF meeting
Draft of the June 2 & 29, 2010 CCF meeting
minutes
Director's Report
Task Force on Racial Disparity and
Disproportionality in Youth Services
Juvenile Justice Recommendations and
Preliminary Work Plan
Motion Regarding Office Space Lease

HANDOUTS (during meeting)

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

R. Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35pm, welcomed Commissioners and introductions were made around the table. Two new Commissioners were welcomed, Jackie Bright, Citizen Representative and Shealitel Yarney, Youth Representative, both from the City of Charlottesville.

II. SPECIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE ADDED AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

◆ **THE COMMISSION ADOPTED THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2010 AGENDA.**

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments from the public.

IV. REMINDER ON DECLARATION ON CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

R. Johnson reminded Commissioners on the rules regarding voting on items that could present a conflict of interest.

V. COMMISSIONER ISSUES

B. Elliott inquired on how many children benefited from the BAMA Summer Fund grant. K. Ralston will email him with a response.

VI. MOTION REGARDING CCF LEASE

A motion was made to authorize the Director, Gretchen Ellis, of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Commission on Children and Families, to sign a lease with Albemarle County for the Office Space located at 1600 Fifth Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902 with the caveat that funding be appropriated for such by B. Elliott and seconded by M. Carroll.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE SIGNING OF THE LEASE WITH THE CAVEAT OF FUNDING BEING APPROPRIATED.**

VII. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR APRIL 7, JUNE 2 AND JUNE 29, 2010

A motion was made to approve the CCF Meeting Minutes from April 7, June 2 and June 29, 2010 by K. Ralston and seconded by M. Carroll.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 7, JUNE 2 AND JUNE 29, 2010.**

VIII. SAFE SCHOOLS/HEALTHY STUDENTS UPDATE

G. Ellis introduced June Jenkins, Director, of the Safe Schools-Healthy Students project for Charlottesville/Albemarle. J. Jenkins gave a brief background of the first year of this four-year grant. She noted the major high points stating that the project now includes a team of six people: one director, four Project Leaders (Jenna Easton – Albemarle High School and feeder schools; Bob Garrity – Charlottesville High School and City schools; Carol Fox – Monticello High School and feeder schools; Marc Dawkins – Western Albemarle High School and feeder schools, one Project Coordinator, Lois Wallenhorst, a Core Management Team (which includes a number of the same partners who participated in writing the grant plus some new faces that are committed to

the evidence based project) and mental health counselors. She stated that the project also serves Murray High School, Community Charter School, and the Juvenile Detention Center. She stated that the project is involved in the administration of the school climate surveys, trainings in the evidence based programs, such as Olweus Bullying Prevention, connecting with community agencies and events, such as Esmond and Westhaven Days. J. Jenkins introduced their new website, www.safeschoolscville.org which is one way to inform the community about the Safe Schools Project. She stated that the project supports and enhances what the schools are already doing and thanked the schools for their help and support.

J. Jenkins stated that they recently applied for a mentoring grant and are waiting to hear back on whether they have been accepted. This grant would provide additional funding for African-American male mentors.

R. Chester inquired about how the mental health referrals are generated. J. Jenkins explained that they follow the same system that each school already has in place on referring students for mental health.

K. Ralston inquired about the cameras and other safety equipment that were to be provided in the infrastructure part of the grant and the impact of the loss of some SRO Officers in the County Schools. J. Jenkins stated that the City Schools already have cameras and that the County School assessments had been completed. She stated that Albemarle County Schools went from seven School Resource Officers to four and that she has been in contact with other cities that had also lost funding to see how they were managing in hopes of learning some creative ideas.

R. Johnson thanked Ms. Jenkins and stated that the Safe Schools/Healthy Students project is really appreciated and offered any help that the Commissioners could provide. He invited Commissioners to call Ms. Jenkins if they would like for her to make a presentation. J. Jenkins invited the Commissioners to their Core Management Meetings which are held every 2nd Tuesday in ACOB South in Room B.

IX. STAY ACTIVE WEBSITE

M. Walker stated that he has been working with a sub-committee of the Youth Development Network to revitalize the StayActive website by developing a new look and content and engaging non-profits that specialize in working with children. He demonstrated the website stating that he has updated the look – put out the skeleton of what it would look like and is now working on how to maintain the website. He stated that the contact partners were Computers4Kids and the Music Resource Center. He stated that the purpose of the website would be to advise students and parents of events that are going on and enable agencies to post with videos. He stated his target would be Middle and High School students.

He noted examples of how partners would work with the website and how it would provide free advertisement for the partners. M. Walker is in the process of putting together an events calendar collected from a number of places (C'ville, Lighthouse, etc). The information would be entered by Wednesday and posted by Friday so kids and parents would know what events were going on for that weekend. He stated that the CCF Guide to Youth Services would also be posted on the website. His goal is to start small and see what is doable. The main objective is to find a team responsible for maintaining the site. M. Walker discussed marketing strategies (radio PSA's, print campaign, etc.) and when the website is updated, it would automatically be updated on Facebook and Twitter.

R. Johnson thanked Maurice and Sean McCord for the work they have completed on the website.

X. TASK FORCE ON RACE DISPARITY AND DISPROPORTIONALITY

M. Carroll gave a brief background on the Task Force on Racial Disparity and Disproportionality in Youth Services and explained that these are the recommendations and preliminary work plan from the Juvenile Justice Committee. G. Ellis stated that before coming up with the recommendations, the committee looked at the City Dialog on Race and U-Cares.

Recommendation	Strategy	Responsible	Dates	Status
Expand mentoring opportunities for African American youth, particularly young men.	Apply for Safe Schools/Healthy Students Mentoring Grant	Gretchen Ellis and community partners	Submitted-6/2010 Notification-9/2010	Pending (should know by Friday and will email Commissioners)
	Implement mentoring program using timeline and strategies developed in grant application.	Staff and implantation team	10/1/10-9/30/13	Pending
	Evaluate project	Staff and evaluation team	10/1/10-9/30/13	Pending
Develop models policies and procedure at every step in the juvenile justice process: street, arrest, intake, adjudication, sentencing, incarceration	Gather examples from other localities and clearinghouses such as OJJDP	Student researchers	10/15/2010	Starting 8/30/2010
	Draft model policies and procedures for each level.	Student researchers and Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	12/15/2010	Starting 10/15/2010 (implemented by next Spring)
	Present models to key stakeholders for feedback.	Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	2/12011	Starting 12/15/2010
	Refine models.	Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	3/1/2011	Starting 2/1/2011
	Stakeholders adopt and implement models	Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	4/1/2011	Starting 4/1/2011
Develop a “shepherding” program for youth	Continue discussion with Legal Aid/UVA	Race Task Force	10/1/2010	Underway

Recommendation	Strategy	Responsible	Dates	Status
entering the juvenile justice system to provide guidance and advocacy at every stage.	Law School and identify other potential partners.			
	With partner organization(s), design pilot project (consider approaching John Grisham's Innocence Project)	Race Task Force, student researchers, and partners	12/1/2010	Starting 10/1/2010
	Conduct pilot.	Community Partners	1/1/2011	Starting 4/31/2011
	Evaluate pilot	Student researchers	7/1/2011	Starting 6/15/2011
Provide effective engaging training in cultural proficiency to juvenile justice staff (police, probation officers, etc.) (should be finished by early Spring)	Identify high quality training opportunities	Race Task Force, student researchers, UCARES	10/1/2010	Starting 9/1/2010
	Develop local champions within juvenile justice organizations	Race Task Force	11/1/2011	Starting 10/1/2010
	Find resources to support training	Race Task Force	ongoing	Starting 9/1/2010
	Train local champions to provide training	Race Task Force, student researchers, UCARES	3/1/2011	Starting 1/1/2011
	Provide and Evaluate training	Local champions; student researchers	ongoing	Starting 4/1/11
In conjunction with Task Force's consideration of Education gaps, further examine the intersection of school and juvenile justice.	Obtain additional data about how and what kind of referrals are made and results of referrals	Task Force on Race and School Staff (R.Price)	11/1/2010	In process
	Map the rate and racial make-up of school behavior entry into juvenile justice system	Task Force on Race, student researchers, school staff	12/15/2010	Starting 11/1/2010
	Interview	Race Task Force,	3/1/2011	Starting

Recommendation	Strategy	Responsible	Dates	Status
	principals about school practices	Safe Schools/Healthy Students		1/15/2011
	Determine the role of School Resource Officers in juvenile justice referrals and/or prevention	Race Task Force; Police Departments; Safe Schools/Healthy Students	4/1/2011	Starting 2/1/2011
	Identify tools for SROs to use to interrupt the cycle of juvenile justice involvement	Race Task Force; Police Departments; Safe Schools/Healthy Students	4/1/2011	Starting 2/1/2011
Expand job training and employment opportunities for youth as a means of preventing involvement in the Juvenile Justice system	Inventory existing programs, including criteria for participation, number served, race breakdowns	Race Task Force. JJAC	5/1/2011	Starting 4/1/2011
	Research effectiveness and efficiency of these programs	Race Task Force, JJAC	9/1/2011	Starting 6/1/2011
	Build capacity to expand effective programs	Race Task Force, JJAC	ongoing	Starting 9/1/2011

K. Ralston inquired on how to continue to make cultural proficiency part of the culture of an organization and recommended looking at the Casey Foundation's work in North Carolina. G. Ellis stated one way would be on-going training in the organizations with new hires. She stated that there is a class at UVa that is looking at the culture and history of Charlottesville.

Commissioners discussed the importance of mentors and reaching children before they enter the juvenile system. G. Ellis stated that if we receive the grant for expanding mentoring opportunities for African American youth, the organization, 100 Black Men, will implement the grant. Other recommendations included:

- Community Attention helping
- Making internships payable
- Researching what the South Side of Chicago did on identifying risk youth
- Access to transportation for all children as our community has so many opportunities
- Piedmont working on after-school activities
- Having hobbies as a requirement of probation
- Older students mentoring younger students (G. Ellis reported that a study at UVa did not recommend this. G. Ellis to give P. Moran the research)

G. Ellis stated that the Task Force would be looking at Health, Mental Health and Education in the future.

A motion was made to approve the Task Force on Racial Disparity and Disproportionality in Youth Services Juvenile Justice Recommendation and Preliminary work plan with modified changes by R. Atkins and seconded by S. Koleszar.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE TASK FORCE ON RACE DISPARITY AND DISPROPORTIONALITY – JUVENILE JUSTICE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

XI. ANNUAL REPORT

Commissioners reviewed the Annual Report. K. Ralston inquired as to whom the audience would be and G. Ellis responded the Commissioners, Albemarle Board of Supervisors, Charlottesville City Council and the general public. There were no questions or comments regarding the report.

A motion was made to approve the CCF Annual Report by P. Moran and seconded by R. Chester.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE CCF ANNUAL REPORT.**

XII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G. Ellis stated that the ABRT Team would be going through a nine month process to establish a means of evaluating non-profits, including OMB's (festivals). She stated that recruiting has already begun but the committee needs one to two Commissioners. Jackie Bryant has volunteered to be on the Committee. The Prioritizing of Local Government Funding of Non-Profits Steering Committee will be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month with three to four hours of research – approximately 5 hours per month. If you are interested, please let G. Ellis know by this Friday, September 3rd. Dick Reppucci's class is also conducting research. She gave a brief overview of how the ABRT process will take place this year.

The full meeting of the Youth Development Network will be Monday October 11, 2010 in Room A. A series of testimonials will be heard and lunch will be provided by funds from the Commonwealth Attorney's office.

G. Ellis reviewed the status of current and pending CCF grants.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE

November 3, 2010

ACOB McIntire – Totier Room

5:30pm-7:00pm