

**COLONIAL COMMUNITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 2009**

Meeting time: 2:00pm- 3:30pm
Meeting place: Colonial Community Corrections Conference Room

Members present: Gail Albert, Dennis Ivey, Gail Elmakis, Stephanie Gallas, Nadia Williams, Jan Weaver, Thomas Gooding, Tina Sawyer, Diane Forse, Tara Surber Fedis, Cynthia Rhone and Leah Griffith

Previous Meeting Minutes: December 4, 2008 Minutes reviewed and accepted

- A. Welcome and introduction of area representatives
- B. Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes.

C. December 16, 2008 Gang Forum: Leah reviewed event for committee members reporting that there were 64 attendees with great outcome surveys. As incepted from the October 1 event, the theme for this December 16, 2008 Gang Forum was, *What's Here? What's Coming? Intervention?*; which was held at New Kent County Sheriffs Department from 9am-noon. Joel Moody of Richmond Police Department, Gang Reduction Intervention Program and Benjamin Anthony of DJJ were our facilitators. Topics of this Forum were; Richmond Gang Activity- What's coming our way?, National Gangs vs. Richmond and our locality Home Grown Gangs, Intervention Programming involving- How to respond to identified gang members, who to call, what works, what doesn't work and how to provide appropriate intervention programs. Many thanks was extended to Hal Diggs of the James City County Police Dept., Sgt. Dennis Ivey and Capt. Frank Crotty of York/Poquoson Sheriff Dept for the facilitation of the October 1, 2008 Forum and assistance with the Dec. 16, 2008 Forum planning.

Further discussion regarding the **February 20, 2009; GANG: Ritual Crimes and the Occult**- 8 hour training was discussed. Leah Griffith has secured the location (Clarion on York Street- formerly known as the Sheraton at 4 Points), DCJS accreditation (1 our legal, 2 cultural diversity and 5 career development) and handled registration for the training being facilitated by Sgt. Dennis Ivey and Captain Frank Crotty of York County/Poquoson Sheriff's Department along with Don Rimer; 33 year Veteran of the Virginia Beach, VA Police Department and Internationally Recognized Authority on Ritual Crime & The Occult serving as the Public Information Officer and Chaplain of the VGIA. He serves as an investigator and consultant to agencies throughout the US and Canada. He has served as a consultant to the Virginia Governor's Task force on Ritual Crime and has contributed to, along with being featured in numerous books, publications, national and worldwide television broadcasts. He has received many awards to include VB Police Departments "Medal of Merit" and VB Employee "Hall of Fame." In 2007, he co-authored the article, "Vulnerable Goth Teens: The Role of Schools in the Psychosocial High-Risk Culture" which was published in the Journal of School Health by the American School Health Association in September 2008.

Currently, the training has approximately 200 registrants and the waiting list has grown to well over 180. The working committee of Leah Griffith, Dennis Ivey and Frank Crotty are exploring the possibility of planning a similar training for the summer/fall of 2009. More information to come by mid March 2009. Dennis Ivey did announce that he has been chosen as the Exclusive

Gang Trainer for the Police Academy so they have been busy with training. Stephanie Gallas has volunteered to assist at registration the morning of Feb. 20, 2009.

D. GREAT Update: Currently at same status from December 4, 2008- as documented below

GREAT stands for Gang Resistance Education and Training www.great-online.org. Status Reports provided by Officer Hal Diggs, JCCPD and City of Poquoson Police Officer, Greg Deaver. Hal Diggs, reported that 882 kids have graduated from the GREAT Program and they currently have 275 wjcc public school students taking the classes thru the Health and PE Curriculum. The program is currently in the Elementary and Middle Schools for the 2008/2009 school year. As reported by Hal Diggs, there have been good results measured by the pre and post program surveys and are a valued program. Fortunately, JCCPD Grant Funding extension has been approved to continue the program.

Gregory Deaver, reported that they were approved the grant monies and reviewing the new grant submission. The previous GREAT Training was canceled. He is in the process of arranging another time for the training and researching transportation grant options. City of Poquoson Public Schools recently welcomed a new Superintendent and a new MS Principal. Officer Deavers is currently rebuilding relationships with the schools and working with the GREAT Training Committee.

E. Restorative Justice Working Committee Update: Nadia Williams reported on the current status of the working committee.

The working committee is comprised of Stephanie Gallas, Nadia Williams, Gail Albert, Hal Diggs, Ian De Modna, Dennis Ivey, Cynthia Rhone, Jan Weaver and Leah Griffith. The working committee met on December 17, 2008 and January 14, 2009 with establishing committee goals of: 1. RJWC to provide Jamestown HS Staff either thru an In-service or designated group of core teachers with Circle Training. 2. For staff or core group to implement circles well with provided questions, structure and support. 3. RJWC to lead RJC/Circle Training at Aug. 2009 Teacher Workshops 4. To institute RJ changes in the 2009/2010 Disciplinary Policies.

The working committee met with Chuck Wagner, Principal of Jamestown HS in Williamsburg Va on January 26, 2009 to discuss piloting Restorative Justice Circles with the **Topics of discussion being:** Acknowledgements of committee with stated goals, Explanation of What Restorative Justice is, Video- Safe and Saner Schools, Restorative Justice Circle Presentation and discussion of Piloting Circles.

Full explanation of **Focused areas of Piloting Circles:** 1. Doing something specific for rising 9th graders 2. May fit in with new 9th Grade Advisory Board and Peer Mediation/Ambassador Program 3. May be incorporated into the upcoming program structures for 2009/2010.

The outcome of the meeting was the following **Plan:** Chuck Wagner will identify a small core of teachers who would be willing to learn about circles and implement in their classroom setting. Once the RJWC trains and works with this core of teachers then we will introduce to whole faculty..with the hopes that it will enhance what they are doing.

Stephanie Gallas will follow up with Chuck Wagner on Feb.9, 2009- Core team of teachers identified and will schedule first training on Monday Feb. 23 2009 at 2:30-4pm or Thursday Feb. 26, 2009 at 2:30p-4pm at JHS. Once date has been identified, RJWC will meet briefly and plan out training outline

For RJWC to get on the Aug 2009 Training/Workshop Agenda for WJCC teachers.

Other topics of discussion were WJCC 2009/2010 Disciplinary Policy changes meeting

Topics of discussion and plan: Enhancing and expanding resources for Community Service vs. out of school suspensions for administrators at school level. *(have JJSC members to work on along with coordinating with resources that CSU 9th use.)*. Educating the VP's regarding the importance of the re-entrance conferencing of students. Changing language in current policy regarding making it mandatory for a re-entrance conference to occur. Making it part of the policy for RJC to occur at the hearing with Cynthia Rhone and with the victim whether teacher, student, parent etc. *(Cynthia Rhone to schedule a meeting for the RJWC to meet with Steve Chantry for either Feb 13, 2009 at 10am or Feb. 17 at 2pm)*

Extensive discussion held regarding 700 children that were introduced to the Peer Mediation process, while in 2007, 147 took advantage of the training, becoming certified as youth mediators. This program won a NACPRO (National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials) Award for Best Parks and Recreation Program Award. Stephanie Gallas checking with Quincy Manor regarding students. Additional discussion was held regarding alternatives to suspensions such as community service sites and partnering up with JCC P&R since they have 5-6 Community Projects which they could provide the needed supervision of students. Tara to forward additional information.

Unfinished Business:

A. Court Improvement Project: Discussion held regarding the need to educate local judges regarding holding the parents responsible for missed appointments such as court, school, counseling, social services, DJJ and etc. Thomas Gooding and Tina Sawyer set a meeting time for Feb. 17, 2009 to discuss with Diana Hutchens of JCC Social Services regarding such initiative.

B. Review of SMART Program: by Chair Gooding regarding 0 charted for this year. Update of filing both CHINS and Parental Petition of Non-participation.

C. Update of Anger Management Classes: by Chair Gooding with referral information given to localities regarding Principals and CSU referring out to Anne Marie Long of WHF (Child and Family Services out of Hampton). This 9 week program is currently being held at Berkley School and those participating are both the children and parents! It is funded by SAMSA and is at the end of a 2 year grant cycle. The course is held on Thursdays from 5-6:30pm and dinner is provided. As expressed by Tara F. of JCC P&R, this program ties into 2 programs of theirs, the STRIDE Program and PATTS (Peaceful Alternatives to Tough Situations). As reported by Gail Elmakis of Poquoson Schools, there is a meeting scheduled with Anne to come present to their school board regarding this program. Tom reported that DJJ/CSU are submitting referrals to the program but there haven't been enough made from the schools. Stephanie Gallas reported that she would certainly get the information back to the school system.

Open Discussion:

A. Grants- Officer Deaver of City Poquoson PD had requested grant assistance for AED equipment. Leah and Officer Deaver prepared a grant proposal/concept paper for the Riverside Foundation in January 2009. Unfortunately, the foundation is only funding those agencies providing direct needed care due to the current economic situation. We are currently searching for other funding sources. It was briefly discussed, regarding York County and CCCJB, Leah collaborating and working on new software grant for 2009 and

for a Professional Development grant for YCPSO Gang taskforce to attend VGIA conference in October 09. No other grant information reported.

B. Project & Items of Discussion-

Leah provided an overview of the CCCJB Initiatives to include the Heroin Workshops being held in the City of Poquoson thru the collaborative efforts of City of Poquoson Police Dept., HTSAC, William and Mary, Norfolk Methadone Clinic and the CCCJB. These are a series of 3 workshops with the first two designated for professionals and the third for community members. The dates are Jan. 22, 2009, Feb. 10, 2009 and March 3, 2009 all at 7pm in the conference room of Poquoson City Hall. These workshops also offer .1 CEU provided by TNCC. Other initiatives reviewed but not limited to are the collaborative efforts set forth for EBP incentives and donations, education of EBP by board members to York County Rotary on February 18, another upcoming Legislative event for April 2009 and Cross Systems Mapping in May 2009. Other discussions of the committee were Motivational Interviewing and the current cut backs in the schools and CSU's.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment: The 2009 Meeting schedule was announced and marked in the calendar to remain every other month on the 1st Thursday in the Colonial Community Corrections Conference Room with the next being April 2, 2009 at 2pm.