



THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S TASK FORCE ON ACES-INFORMED COURTS MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2022

The Chief Justice's Task Force on ACES-Informed Courts (TFAC) met via Webex on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. The meeting convened at 12:49 PM. The following TFAC members, Advisory Group members, North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) staff, and guests were present.

TFAC Members

- District Attorney Ben David, Co-Chair
- District Attorney Seth Banks
- Clerk Meredith Edwards
- Judge Phyllis Gorham
- Chief Johnny Jennings
- Judge Quentin McGee
- LaToya Powell
- Mike Silver

Advisory Group Members

- Meaghan Dennison
- Karen Fairley
- Dr. Kelly Graves
- Dr. Peter Kuhns
- Margaret Weller Stargell

Guests

- Judge J.H. Corpening, II
- Dr. Beth Moracco
- Siarra Scott
- Belinda-Rose Young

NCAOC Staff

- Ryan Boyce
- Lori Cole
- DeShield Greene
- Asia Prince

DA David announced that the previously scheduled Task Force meeting in Winston-Salem on October 20-21 was changed, due to logistical issues. The Task Force will meet October 27-28 in Durham. The meeting location is Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy. A dinner is being planned for October 27 but there will be no formal meeting on that date. The Task Force will meet only on October 28. DA David provided an overview of the draft agenda. The meeting agenda will be circulated once it has been finalized. At this time, the meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30am and conclude by 2:30pm on Friday, October 28th. Hotel accommodations are being coordinated for those eligible. Information regarding lodging will be disseminated once those details are finalized.

The following Task Force Members/Advisory Group Members/Contributors provided updates on the various ACES Task Force projects.

- Judicial Branch role specific training: Belinda Rose-Young reported that training module filming will begin November 10th.





- YASI resources: Dr. Kuhns advised the YASI bench card should be ready very soon, possibly within the next month. Mike Silver added that a 5-minute training video is being developed that will accompany the YASI bench card.
- Safe Babies Courts (SBC): Asia Prince and AOC staff continue to meet with DHHS to identify SBC pilot sites and contact the local department of social services in those counties. They are working on a 3-year budget to fund 3-5 SBC sites.
- Family Court: Lori Cole and DeShield Greene have been working with districts courts interested in implementing family courts. DA David stated that Randolph County is “fired up” about the family court model and the one judge/one family strategy.
- School Justice Partnerships (SJP): Randolph County held an SJP kickoff meeting last week that was well received. Judge Corpening and DA David reminded the group that the NC School Board Association will present at the October Task Force meeting to open the lines of communications with both the local school boards and state association in an effort to further the expansion of SJPs. The SJP Toolkit is currently being revised.
- Duke Update: Mike Silver reported that Bolch has applied for an IOLTA grant that will further study trauma informed practices in the court system. A survey will be distributed at the fall District Court Judges’ Conference to acquire baseline data, all to be part of a larger study conducted by Eva McKinsey.

The Education and Program Development Subcommittees have been reorganized to accomplish the Year 2 deliverables. The Program Development Subcommittee has been restructured into two new Subcommittees: Children Impacted by Trauma (kids in the court today) and Trauma Informed Programs for Adults (programs for adults). The Education Subcommittee will continue to meet although the membership has been shifted to distribute participation among the now three subcommittees. See attached revised Subcommittee membership list. The work of the two new subcommittees and the Sentencing/Policy group will help arm Chief Justice Newby with data to make a case to the legislature to provide funding. Dr. Beth Moracco, Siarra Scott, and Belinda-Rose Young UNC IPRG will continue to participate in the Education Subcommittee as work on the role specific curricula is ongoing, and their contributions are invaluable. Work to implement statewide court navigator positions and the Success Sequence will also continue. All three subcommittees will meet in-person during the October Task Force meeting to discuss goals and objectives and continue to meet regularly via Webex.

DA David encouraged the group to think beyond the legislature for funding sources. A case could be made to the hospitals about ACEs being social determinants of health to justify funding for ACEs programs. Atrium Health and Novant Health will be included in Year 2 Task Force discussions to build that relationship. Atrium Health aims to include trauma informed practices in their hospitals. Conversations also continue at AOC and in communities to make best use of the opioid settlement funds, such as through recovery courts or funding navigator positions.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Submitted by DeShield Greene



COURTS

(Staff: DeShield Greene)

Ben David (Chair)
Andrew Heath
Asia Prince
Alexia Stith
Spencer Merriweather
Angelica McIntyre

Johnny Jennings
Kevin Leonard
Phillip Brown
Margaret Weller-Stargell
Jack Marin

J. Corpening (Chair)
Liz Winer
Kiesha Crawford
Seth Banks
Susan Gayle Perry
Ryan Boyce

Asia Prince
LaToya Powell
Mario Perez
Nalini Joseph
Emma Paul

TRAUMA INFORMED PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS (TIPA)

- Community Recovery Courts
 - Veterans Treatment
 - Drug Court
 - Mental Health Court
 - Family Drug Treatment Courts
- Opioid settlement (\$30M of larger \$705M)

CHILDREN IMPACTED BY TRAUMA (CIT)

- Safe Babies Courts (Counties TBD)
- School Justice Partnership
- Family Courts
- Child victims of crime

- Making the Case at the Legislature
 - Child offenders
 - Child victims
 - Quantifying money saved with early intervention vs. incarceration

Sentencing Policy/Advisory
Emily Mehta
Amy Auth
Joseph Kyzer
Megan Dennison

EDUCATION

(Staff: Lori Cole)

Mike Silver (Chair)
Amelia Thorn (Chair)
Meredith Edwards
Phyllis Gorham
Kelli Graves
Peter Kuhns

Billy Lassiter
Quintin McGee
Sara DePasquale
Jacqui Greene
Karen Fairley

- UNC School of Gov't
- Duke/Bolch Inst.
- Bench Cards
- Success Sequence
- Navigator Positions

TBD:
Bert Kemp
Martha Ann McConnell
Dr. Wayne Sparks