



BUNCOMBE COUNTY  
**JUSTICE RESOURCE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
*Leveraging best practices to increase system efficiency,  
promote public safety, and community wellness*

# Welcome

Monthly Meeting

December 5, 2019



# Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of November minutes and December agenda
- III. Old Business
  - a. JRAC Governing Document
  - b. JRAC Strategic Priorities
- IV. New Business
  - a. January Meeting
  - b. Amnesty Day
  - c. SaulPaul Community Engagement Event



# JRAC Governing Document

Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Resource Coordinator



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



# JRAC Governing Document: Current State

- In January 2018 an MOU officially establishing the Justice Resource Advisory Council
- Term of MOU January 2018 through January 2020
- Creation of Justice Resource Center and Award of Safety and Justice Challenge
- Invited to membership into National Network of Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
- Opportunity to for peer networking, best practices, and ways to improve efficiency of collaboration amongst partners



# JRAC Governing Document: Proposed Future State

- By-Law format that remains in place until time if ever JRAC dissolves
- *Meeting:* The JRAC meets the first Friday of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 12:30pm.



# JRAC Governing Document



# Membership

- **Section 1 –Membership by position:** There are eleven voting members of the JRAC who are members due to the position they hold. These eleven members serve on the JRAC for as long as they occupy the position
- **Section 2 –Membership by representation:** There are ten voting members of the JRAC who representative by selection of their organization/department. The organization/department which they represent determines who will serve on the JRAC and the length of time.
- **Section 3 –Membership by selection by nomination and appointment:** There are two voting members of the JRAC who are nominated by the JRAC members and appointed by the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners. These two members will serve for two years and can only serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms.



# Membership

## *Section 1 –Membership by position:*

- Chief District Court Judge, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Chief of Police, Asheville Police Department
- Chief Public Defender, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Chief Juvenile Justice Counselor, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Chief Magistrate, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Clerk of Court, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- District Attorney, NC 40<sup>th</sup> Prosecutorial District Attorney's Office
- Judicial District Manager for Community Corrections, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District
- Sheriff, Buncombe County Sheriff's Office

## *Section 2 –Membership by representation:*

- Buncombe County Government
  - Bureau of Identification
  - Board of Commissioner
  - County Manager's Office
  - Health and Human Services
  - Pretrial Services Manager
  - Strategic Partnerships
- Buncombe County Coordinated Community Response
- The City of Asheville
  - City Council
  - City Manager's Office
- Local Private Defense Bar Association
- Regional Area Public Managed Care Organization



# JRAC Governing Document: Summary

## Current State

- MOU
- Two year term
- 16 Members
- Meets monthly

## Proposed Future State

- By-Laws
- Lifetime of JRAC
- 23 members
- Chair and Vice Chair
- Executive Committee
- Meets bi-monthly



# JRAC Strategic Priorities and Action Planning

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director



# JRAC Values & Goal

## Values

Efficiency, Integrity, Transparency, Inclusiveness, Collaboration, Equity

## Goal

To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Buncombe County criminal justice system with emphasis on strategies that are cost effective, prioritize public safety, provide resources to law enforcement and the courts, and divert non-violent offenders to supportive services and community based outcomes



# JRAC Objectives

- Produce and continually improve a **comprehensive criminal justice plan** that defines systemic goals and objectives, identifies areas of strength and weakness, and includes an action plan with timelines and evaluative aspects.
- Identify and initiate programs or strategies for improvements of the criminal justice system with system stakeholders through planning and collaboration to enhance public safety.
- Utilize evidence based system planning, evaluation and data driven decision making to review costs and results related to justice activities, avoid duplicate spending, and prioritize the use of limited funds.
- Interconnect and possibly consolidate existing criminal justice groups, committees, and boards operating in Buncombe County to maximize and align efforts to ensure cohesive systemic planning.
- Address jail population management in a holistic manner that considers overuse of jail resources, pretrial justice reform, and disparities.
- Determine potential grant opportunities, identify eligible agencies and programs, and synchronize the grant application processes to amplify impact.



# JRAC Focus Areas

- Needed for comprehensive criminal justice plan
- Can be used to create an action plan with timelines and evaluative aspects
- Will assist staff in framing agendas and project support
- Should reflect analysis of current portfolio
- Should be inclusive of new and emerging priorities



# JRAC Projects & Programs

## Current

- Evaluate & continue if meeting objectives and aligned with priorities

## Underway

- Implement & establish evaluation plans

## Possible New

- Assess need, Explore models, identify resources & create plan



# JRAC Focus Areas

- What themes emerge when reviewing projects and programs?
- Do the projects categories into overall focus areas?
- How can our JRAC structure best support evidence based system planning, evaluation and data driven decision making to review costs and results related to justice activities?
  - For evaluating current projects
  - And for assessing potential new ones
- What ways can we best utilize our official meetings?



# New Business

Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Resource Coordinator



# January Meeting

- Friday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019
- Proposed by-law, next meeting would be February 7<sup>th</sup> 2019



# AMNESTY DAY

- Office of the District Attorney is proposing to host an Amnesty day.
- Potentially at the end of the year
- Last on held was Friday January 25<sup>th</sup> 2019

Are misdemeanors preventing you from moving forward with employment, reinstating a driver's license, and other issues?

## Begin Again.

Do you have an old warrant or order for arrest related to an outstanding misdemeanor and/or traffic citation that was issued in Buncombe County? If so, you are eligible to see if your case can be reset for hearing and possibly dismissed. **Felony charges are not eligible.**



# SaulPaul Professional Development and Community Engagement Event

- SaulPaul is a Grammy nominated musician and empowerment speaker who has previous justice involvement (<https://youtu.be/V5e2r5PYIFI>)
- Thursday December 12th to Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup>
- **Thursday and Friday:** School Assemblies and Professional Development Workshops on Restorative Ecosystem
- **Justice Partners Workshop:** Thursday or Friday 12:30pm-2:00pm Sheriff's Training Room. Lunch will be provided
- **Be The Change Music, Arts and Food Festival:** Partnership with WCRM (Chosen-Youth Empowerment Program). Activities for the Youth. Asheville Middle School 11am-3pm. Please come for support.



# Thank you!

Announcements

