



social +
economic
vitality

Racial Equity and Social Justice Action Team

February 13, 2019 12:30 P.M.

Agenda

Attendees: Bernadine Walden, Crystal Wynn-Lewis, Michael Ballen, Verna Best, Geraldine Alshamy, Stephanie Sims

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of November Minutes
 - Reentry council meets every 3rd Wednesday. Meeting room locations will vary.
- Review of Joint Action Team Meeting- Verna Best
 - All action teams, Community Leadership, Training for Upward Mobility and Labor Market Value and Racial Equity and Social Justice, convened in December to discuss collaboration and to support each other's efforts. It was discovered that all action teams have an intersection in workforce development.
 - The Wake County Commissioners will declare September Workforce Development month. During September, all workforce developments will be highlighted at all county regional centers.
 - Action teams will begin to develop their plans by March. The next joint action team will be March 26.
 - On September 28 the Chief of Police, in partnership with City of Raleigh, will be holding a youth conference for ages 13-18.
- Reentry Council Update and Discussion of Current Restructure-Bernadette Walden
 - The Reentry council meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 1pm at NC Works Tillery Place. The room number will vary.
 - Since January, there are 181 active cases.
 - The challenge has been finding affordable housing and transitional housing. It has been easier to find minimum wage jobs than it has been to find housing.
 - Geraldine added that most landlords do not want to rent to people in the Reentry program because they fear late payments, attitudes of HUD workers, and destruction of property. Bernadette noted that participants must be working, and there are other rules and regulations they must comply with such as regular screenings, pop up visits by Reentry, etc.
 - Up to 4 unrelated individuals may live together. All housing opportunities and resources can be directed to the Reentry Council housing subcommittee or Bernadette Walden.
- Restorative Discipline Update – Geraldine Alshamy
 - Restorative Discipline is in Phase I-relationship building. There are 45 participants, 28 have attended all sessions.
 - The next step is Phase II which is continued monitoring of participants.
 - It would be beneficial to conduct circles and meetings composed of churches, agencies, parents, etc.
 - One challenge has been that the suspension rate has not decreased, rather that schools are changing the dynamics of how suspensions are reported.

- Verna offered to connect Geraldine Alshamy with Ligon Middle school to further her efforts.
- Ligon Middle School Career Day – April 5, 2019 7:45am – 11:45am

Next meeting: March 13, 12:30 PM