

P.A.C.E

Sign In Sheet

Date 06/18/2024

- * Domica Rhodes : Lenoir Co Public Schools, Pride In NC
- * LaKisha Sutton : Lenoir Co Public Schools, Pride In NC
- * Casandra Suggs : Lenoir Co Public Schools, Pride In NC
- * Michael Myers : Lenoir Co Public Schools, Lenoir Youth Development Center
- * Larry Walston : Lenoir Co Public Schools, Onslow Co Pastor
- * April Houston : Raising Awareness for the Developmentally Disabled
- * Sean Travis : Attorney, Gate Volunteer
- * James Perry : Attorney, Gate Volunteer
- * Liz Cagle : New Citizen, Gate Volunteer
- * Zorah Davis : Kinston Teens INC
- * Jada Sutton : Kinston Teens INC

* Hadiyah Whitfield : Kinston Teens INC

* Erin Passailaigue : SAFE of Lenoir Co ed@safeinlenoir-greene.org

* Jennifer Mervin : SAFE of Lenoir Co jmervine@safeinlenoir-greene.org

* Tah'Ran Cannon : Parent Connect Support Group, Transformational Speaker

P.A.C.E Meeting for JUNE 18th 2024

On June 18th 2024 Major Jenkins led the third P.A.C.E meeting at The Gate. Around 15 attendants were able to represent today's topics brought up for discussion. I'll present each topic we spent some time discussing.

Lenoir County Public Schools End of Year

Our representatives from the Lenoir County Public School system were asked how the end of the year went and how the schools are feeling about the year. The difference in length of time for each holiday break brings up challenges for both the students and teachers. With the time allotted for the holidays it seems the students come back to school with unfocused attention. Fights among female students continue to rise among the schools. The current 10 days suspension creates a roadblock in the child's desire to continue to get back to school. Teachers and board members notice this type of punishment needs to be reviewed and creative measures need to be implemented.

The topic of a city curfew was brought up and representatives from LCPS are interested in the crime deterring outcome that may have on our city. Major Jenkins confirmed that Chief Goyette is approaching avenues to hold parents accountable for their children's behavior.

Bill Fay Memorial Park

Our conversation naturally led into the latest example of the tragic events of the most recent party at Bill Fay Memorial Park. We spent quite some time recalling the sequence of events. The statements brought up from our discussion include...

- * How can our city implement or improve upon a risk assessment application process?
- * Could the police department enact as security at scheduled parties with the consent of the applicant? *Off-Duty Officers/non-emergency number is a current form of additional safety*

Kinston Teens INC

This meeting had insight into the mindset of our current youth with representatives from Kinston Teens INC attending. One member of which graduated High School recently. Issues brought up by attendees included today's teens viewpoint on authority and its appropriate application. The absence of fun and stress relieving activities outside of school, and the current mental health crisis among today's youth.

Volunteers for The Gate mentioned their need for younger volunteers. Recently The American Legion and the VFW have set up time for The Gate in the near future.

Our discussion then touched on topics such as 3D printable guns, access to guns via breaking and entering into motor vehicles, and juvenile stats. How can we hold children accountable while helping the parents? How can we hold parents accountable while helping the child? Parental responsibility continues to be principal subject at our meetings. How can we foster healing and resources for a nationwide mental health crisis?

Kits 4 Kids

Mr. James Fisher-Davis of Equilibrium Up founded a program along with the North Carolina Association of Chiefs called Kits 4 Kids. This program fosters a holistic approach to interact with children during a traumatic and life changing incident. Officers are equipped with a small bag packed full of sensory tools to assist the officer in creating a safe space for the child during a call. Our agency is the first in the state to be certified in its program.

SAFE of Lenoir County

SAFE has seen a persistence of sex trafficking in the county and asked if the city had seen increased activity. Our agency confirmed it is not currently a prevalent problem in town and our officers are trained to keep their eyes on the small details of every call to seek out this activity. Mental health during SAFE's interviews is both an immediate concern for the individual long term and short term. SAFE is looking for extended care and resources from policing agencies to provide any and all veins of support.

We spent a few moments detailing the training officers receive at BLET to look for clues that trafficking is taking place. Our agency also vowed to mention that our victim advocate is available at any hour to assist SAFE. Our agency is following up with SAFE of Lenoir County so they may be able to utilize Kits 4 Kids' wonderful program.

Upcoming Volunteer Events and Summer Camp Programs

KPD Camp Inspire - June 26th-28th

RADD Summer Camp – July 8th-12th

Mary's Soup Kitchen is looking for male volunteers

The Gate is looking to start a "Boys to Men" program this summer

Mr. Larry Walston's ministries may be reached for upcoming volunteer opportunities. Office number is 910-346-1657