

VI DE Roundtable Meeting 4
August 2, 2021

Members Present: Samuel, Wanda, Marcia

1. Welcome and Ice Breaker (last book read?)

2. Discussion with Jim Stuit, Gang Reduction Strategy Manager, CJRC

Jim provided brief description and history of Gang Reduction Strategy (GRS) as a City/County collaborative initiative to reduce gang violence in Durham. Participants include representatives from Re-entry Council, Public and Behavioral Health, Education, Community Leaders, Federal and Local Law Enforcement, and the Courts. Initiative began in 2002 collecting gang-related data that produced first Gang Assessment Report in 2007. Jim joined in 2011 as Manager of GRS.

During Jim's tenure two steering committees have formed. They are Suspensions/Expulsions and Intervention. Jim expressed his concern that:

- 69% of cases with gun possession by felon have been dismissed.
- data about youth gang involvement are limited.
- what triggers majority of violence is challenges to masculinity.
- lack of resources to address social determinants.
- lack of accountability for those illegally possessing guns and those with history of violence.

Jim recommended that Durham focus on our youth with funding pre-K, earliest intervention for trauma, teaching conflict resolution in grades 3 and 4, and greater collaboration among public and private service providers. Jim gave special appreciation for GRS allies Project Build, Campaign 4Change, and Boys and Girls Club.

RT members thanked Jim for his assistance with the task force and for his service to the Durham community.

Dr. Wanda Boone to present about Social Determinants of Health at our next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Owen
August 30, 2021