

# Juvenile Justice in Mecklenburg County

## National Juvenile Justice Awareness Month

### October (2019)

## Race Matters for Juvenile Justice



The **mission** of Race Matters for Juvenile Justice is to build a collaboration of community stakeholders who will bring their constituencies to the table and partner in the Court's effort to reduce disproportionality and disparities.

Our **vision** is a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community where the composition and outcomes of juvenile courts cannot be predicted by race or ethnicity.

**What/Who:** Race Matters for Juvenile Justice (RMJJ) is a collaborative leadership group working within our community (see partner list below) to reduce disproportionality and disparate outcomes for children and families of color through institutional, anti-racism organizing, education, and workforce development.

**Where:** RMJJ is located at the Mecklenburg County Courthouse, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**When:** The Leadership Team meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Most subcommittees and workgroups also meet monthly. The Racial Equity Workshops are typically held 1-2 times each month. Catalyzing Change's People of Color and White Affinity Groups also meet monthly and RMJJ hosts a conference in odd years usually in October.

**June 2019, RMJJ held their first orientation and welcomed four new partner agencies.**

RMJJ Partner	Member since
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	2010
Department of Public Safety - Division of Adult Corrections and Juvenile Justice	2010
Judicial District 26 Guardian ad Litem Program	2010
Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services	2010
The University of North Carolina Charlotte	2010
Trial Court Administrator's Office	2010
Council for Children's Rights	2011
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department	2012
Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office	2012
Mecklenburg County Office of the Clerk of Superior Court	2014
FIRST - Family Drug Treatment Court	2019
Leading on Opportunity Council	2019
Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office	2019
Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office	2019

# RMJJ Subcommittees

## Public Will and Communication



**PURPOSE:** Facilitates & manages overall communication, education, outreach, & brand of RMJJ. Includes Speakers Bureau, Biennial Conference, Website, Internal & External Communications, Public Awareness

**ACTIONS:**

- RMJJ's 3rd biennial conference, "Intentional Impact and Influence for Racial Equity" will be held 10/18/19 at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and will feature Deena Hayes-Greene – REI, Shawna Davie – GARE, and Catherine Lester – AECF. Register at <http://www.rmjj.org>
- With a new Accommodations Policy, the Speakers Bureau will resume the Community Presentation Series 01/2020.

## Workforce Development



**PURPOSE:** Supports & promotes workforce development for RMJJ partners & the community.

**ACTIONS:**

- To date, RMJJ has held 134 Racial Equity Workshops for 4,229 participants.

## Research, Evaluation, and Data-Based Decision Making



**PURPOSE:** Develops policies & procedures to support RMJJ output data collection & sustainability; evaluates RMJJ output/outcome data, & tells the story of change regarding Charlotte's RED to inform our community.

**ACTIONS:**

- RMJJ's Data Subcommittee's current projects include: Defining Race and Measuring its Impact, Implicit Bias II, and RED/DMC presentation modules: Charlotte's first Racial Equity Impact Analysis; Measuring Practice Change using RMJJ's PC Guide and Worksheet; Analysis of the Racial Equity Workshop data; and Five publications with the Council for Children's Rights for Juvenile Justice Awareness Month (October).

## Youth, Parent, & Community Partnership



**PURPOSE:** Engages, educates & empowers youth & parents; builds sustainable partnerships with community leaders; & facilitates community dialogue around race & equity - includes Catalyzing Change Caucuses.

**ACTIONS:**

- YPC is currently re-building, but after years of work, RMJJ will soon include youth participation!



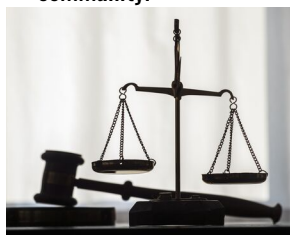
## Practice Change

**PURPOSE:** Identifies best practices & tools for change implementation & documents & facilitates practice change attributed to RMJJ within partner agencies and the community.

**ACTIONS:**

- To ensure that the Leadership Team and partners employ the same language and values, the PC Subcommittee developed and implemented RMJJ's Principles of Anti-Racism Organizing.
- Created RMJJ's Guide to Practice Change, worksheet, and resources to support and assess efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in our community.

## Legislation, Policy Change, and Finance Reform



**PURPOSE:** Engages and prepares our community for individual & structural transformation with a race analysis by implementing a continuum of information & tools through education & technical support.

**ACTIONS:**

- School Pathways, a School-Justice Partnership between the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte-area Law Enforcement, and the 26th District Court continues to address the School-to-Prison Pipeline (STPP) in Mecklenburg County. Moreover, School Justice Partnerships are a component of the Raise-the-Age legislation and now include a toolkit jointly launched by Governor Cooper and Chief Justice Beasley.



RMJJ's 3rd biennial conference, "Intentional Impact and Influence for Racial Equity" 10/18/19 - Friendship Missionary Baptist Church  
Register at <http://www.rmjj.org>



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