Executive Summary

The Polk County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), in fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities as set forth in the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, has reviewed and updated this County Plan for FY 2024-2025. In 2019, House Bill 593 passed which approved an optional 1 or 2-year funding cycle for DPS JCPC funds, which is determined locally by each JCPC statewide. Also included in the HB was Raise the Age in N.C. which directs 16 & 17 years old from District Court to Juvenile Court. In order to see any new possible trends in juvenile justice data (now serving 16 & 17 year old) and to plan programming in the community accordingly, the Polk County JCPC approved a 1 year funding cycle. Data continues to be monitored by the JCPC annually which provides direction to which funding cycle is most beneficial to the community and Council.

The JCPC has identified the issues and factors which have an influence and impact upon vulnerable youth, at-risk youth, delinquent youth, and their families in Polk County. Further, the JCPC has identified the strategies and services most likely to reduce/prevent delinquent behavior.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Each program funded in the past fiscal year by the JCPC has been monitored by the JCPC Monitoring Committee and programs were found in full compliance with DPS JCPC Policy and within the operating parameters of their budget and, providing the services as described in their program agreement. The monitoring results and program outcome evaluations were considered in making funding allocation decisions. The JCPC will continue to conduct annual implementation monitoring of its funded programs.

Priorities for Funding: Through a review of risk & needs assessment data, the Youth Assessment Screening Inventory (YASI) data and a community resource assessment, the JCPC has determined that the following services are needed to reduce/prevent delinquency in Polk County.

1. Substance Abuse Assessment/Treatment
2. Interpersonal Skills Building
3. Restitution/Community Service
4. Temporary Shelter
5. Parenting/Family Skill Building
6. Crisis Counseling
7. Psychological Assessment
8. Mediation
9. Structured Day
10. Home Based Family Counseling
11. Tutoring/Academic Enhancement
12. Teen Court

Funding Recommendations: Having advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for these needed services for a minimum of thirty (30) days, the JCPC has screened the submitted proposals and has determined which proposals best meet the advertised needed services. As required by statute, the JCPC recommends allocation of the NC Department of Public, Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds to the following programs in the amounts specified below for the upcoming fiscal year: (Also, see the Polk County Funding Plan with this report.)

The JCPC further recommends that the following amount be allocated for the administrative costs of the Council for the fiscal year 25-26: $5100.

1. Kids at Work - $50,617.00
2. Vocational Directions - $27,687.00

Respectfully Submitted,

_____, Chair, _____ County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Date: _____