

Justice Journal

The Official Newsletter of North Carolina Teen Court Association

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NC Teen Court Assoc.

www.NCTeenCourts.org

President: Renee Stewart

V-President: Ronnie Dunevant

Treasurer: Ron Matthews

Secretary : Shatasha Miller



NC Selected As One Of Only Five States To Receive Grant for 9/11 Day

Thanks to the bold effort of our leadership team, The North Carolina Teen Court Association has been selected as 1 of 5 States to receive a \$5,000 Grant from Global Youth Justice, Inc. and AmeriCorps for the 9/11 Day of National Service. As a recipient, we have the opportunity to both participate in the *Flag of Honor Memorials* taking place across the country and also facilitate statewide training to "*establish/enhance/expand Teen Court Diversion Programs.*"

Because our State has been selected as one of the grantees all local teen court programs in NC get 15 days priority to also be selected to organize a local 9/11 Flag of Honor Across America Memorial

Apply by July 22, 2021 @ <https://www.globalyouthjustice.org/news/9-11-day/>



Summer Conference Back By Popular Demand

As a collaborative effort with *NC Association of Community Restitution Programs*, our annual Summer Conference will be held from August 18 – 20, 2021! This year's theme "*Emerging Leaders Through Restoration and Resilience*" will be held at the Courtyard Marriott in Concord, NC.

This event will be offered both in-person and virtually. Registration is \$100 for NCACRP / NCTCA members and \$110 for non-members. Visit www.NCTeenCourts.org to register and reserve your room.

Call For Topics: New Blog Launched On Website

The NCTCA blog is officially live on the website! Utilizing our blog to share information about restorative justice and our local programs allows us to build a platform for our mission. The hopes are to use the blog to position NCTCA as a thought leader in juvenile justice and expand our reach by creating opportunities for sharing.

To have your voice heard, please send all suggestions and blog ideas to HokeCountyTeenCourt@gmail.com



Mock Trials Are Back In Session

The Mediation Center of Eastern Carolina hosted their inaugural mock trial competition on May 1st via livestream! Competing counties included: Craven, Duplin, Nash/Edgecombe, Onslow, and Wilson. Awards were given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place overall and included a huge trophy and medals, Best Attorney and Best Defendant were also named.

Local Programs Are Adapting To The New Normal

Gaston County

Gaston County Teen Court was fortunate to resume sessions in March and have a total of six bench trials. In June, their Teen Attorneys had the opportunity to conduct two presentations for the Commissioners' School of Excellence *Barely Legal Group*. During the presentation, the attorneys participated in a mock trial, which allowed the CSE students to participate as jury members. To the left are pictures from the presentation.



Hoke County

The Hoke County Teen Court leadership team was enthusiastic to attend and present at the monthly JCPC board meeting. These youth had the opportunity to put their public speaking skills to the test by presenting the program's annual review. They received rave reviews for their knowledge and understanding of the program goals and objectives. Pictured to the right are members at the board meeting as well as a recent countywide community clean-up sponsored by the county commissioners.



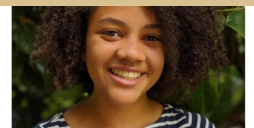
Mecklenburg County

Mecklenburg County Teen Court resumed hearings in September 2020 with a blended in person/virtual format in the Assistance League of Charlotte Board room to replace the unavailable courthouse setting. The result for this pandemic impacted year was that 178 youth offenders and volunteer teens provided 1,665 hours of community service. A total of 49 defendants successfully completed their cases with 16 cases currently active. In addition, Assistance League awarded six teen volunteers \$7,500 as Mecklenburg County Teen Court Recognition Scholarship recipients.

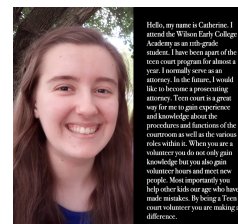


Wilson County

On Saturday, May 1st, 2021, Wilson County Teen Court participated in the inaugural MCEC Mock Trial Competition where they won 2nd place for overall county. Their prosecuting attorneys won 1st place best attorneys with a PERFECT SCORE! On Tuesday, June 1st, WCTC held their End of Year Celebration at Toisnot Park. Youth and Adult volunteers stopped by to have refreshments and receive awards for their work throughout the year



My name is Bryana and I am a super senior at Wilson Early College Academy. This is my second year being a teen court volunteer. In the courtroom I am the prosecution attorney. I joined teen court because I have an interest in politics and love working in my community. I'm not sure what career I want but I am sure I want to help people. Joining teen court allows volunteers to learn a lot about collaboration, because whether you are on the jury, or an attorney with a co-counsel you are working with someone



Hello my name is Catherine I attend the Wilson Early College Academy as an 11th grade student. I have been part of the teen court program for almost a year. I normally serve as an attorney. In the future, I would like to become a prosecuting attorney. Teen court is a great way for me to gain experience and knowledge about the procedures and functions of the courtroom as well as the various roles within it. When you are a volunteer you not only gain knowledge but you also gain volunteer hours and meet new people. Most importantly you help other kids our age who have made mistakes. By being a Teen court volunteer you are making a difference.

