



**North Carolina Task Force**  
*for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice*

# Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice June Clips

TREC's monthly newsletter highlights progress on some of our [recommendations](#) across North Carolina

## Clips

Respond more appropriately to situations concerning mental illness, autism, intellectual disabilities, substance abuse, homelessness, and other nonemergency situations (Rec. 1)

**Winston-Salem Journal:** [Police shortage sparks bill for civilian traffic investigators in Winston-Salem; Other cities seeking similar options](#)

A shortage of available law-enforcement officers, particularly to investigate routine traffic crashes, has led Winston-Salem city officials to request legislative approval to offer a civilian option.

**NC Health News:** [State lawmakers seek non-police, community interventions to mental health crises](#)

One of these bills (House Bill 786) would set up a \$2 million pilot project grant fund for police and sheriffs' departments to establish eight non-police crisis response units and seven co-responder response models, in which law enforcement and mental health specialists would go to mental health crisis calls together.

Treat Addiction as a Public Health Crisis (Rec. 17)

**Transylvania Times:** [NCDHHS announces funds to expand treatment to help those with opioid use disorder](#)

People struggling with opioid use disorder will have better access to more treatment options because of funding awarded by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), according to a press release.

**NCDHHS:** [NCDHHS Announces Two Funding Opportunities to Address Behavioral Health in the Criminal Justice System](#)

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services today released two funding opportunities to award a total of \$6,755,000 to community-based mental health providers.

**The Richmond Observer:** ['Harm reduction' vs abstinence: NC weighs 2 paths in opioid fight](#)

And as N.C. officials begin distributing the \$750 million in settlement money from pharmaceutical

companies who had a hand in starting the current crisis, proponents of each approach will be calling for funding to their preferred model.

**WITN:** [Health officials & faith leaders hope settlement money makes big difference in opioid crisis](#)

North Carolina will soon receive \$750 million in settlement funding for substance abuse resources and treatment.

**WFDD:** [50 faith-based organizations petition for effective drug treatment funding](#)

The group wants county commissioners and city council members across the state to use their portions of the \$750 million settlement with opioid distributors to expand evidence-based harm reduction programs.

[Train All Public School Employees and SROs on the Proper Role of SROs \(Rec. 22\)](#)

**News & Observer:** [Chapel Hill-Carrboro wrestles with police officers in schools. Here's what they're doing.](#)

School resource officers will remain on most middle and high school campuses in Chapel Hill and Carrboro this fall, but there could be new limits on the role they play.

[Consider the Experiences of Harmed Communities \(Rec. 65\)](#)

**NC Courts:** [ACEs-Informed Courts](#)

The Chief Justice's Task Force on ACEs-Informed Courts compiled this information for Judicial Branch officials and staff to use in their daily interactions with court visitors and participants.

[Increase Funding for Mental Health Services and Programs in Prisons \(Rec. 108\)](#)

**WNCN:** [\\$6.75M awarded in mental health funding for criminal justice system: NCDHHS](#)

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services awarded two funding opportunities of \$6,755,000 on Tuesday to community-based mental health providers.

## Grant Opportunities

### Bureau of Justice Assistance

Through this opportunity, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications to fund the development and testing of a new or innovative approach to improving community safety and trust that is an alternative to traditional enforcement mechanisms for neighborhoods experiencing high rates of less serious and low-level criminal offenses.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Deadline: July 27, 2022

### Bureau of Justice Assistance

Through this opportunity, the Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications for funding to state, local, and tribal governments, as well as community-based nonprofit organizations, to enhance or implement clinical services and other evidence-based responses to improve reentry, reduce recidivism, and address the treatment and recovery needs of people with mental health, substance use, or co-occurring disorders who are currently involved in the criminal justice system or were formerly involved.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Deadline: August 2, 2022

# TREC Meetings

For access to TREC meetings click [here](#) and for TREC events click [here](#). Upcoming meetings:

- July 15 at 10 a.m.: Full Task Force Meeting
- July 21 at 8 a.m.: Judicial Committee Meeting
- July 22 at 10 a.m.: TREC Learning Series – The impact of fines and fees on North Carolina’s criminal justice system
- July 27 at 8 a.m.: Local Policy Committee Meeting
- July 29 at 9 a.m.: Data, Study and Evaluation Committee Meeting

*Previous TREC clips can be found at [ncdoj.gov/trec/modelpolicies/](https://ncdoj.gov/trec/modelpolicies/). For more information, please visit [ncdoj.gov/trec](https://ncdoj.gov/trec) or email TREC at [criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov](mailto:criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov).*