Wake Directors

The Wake Directors are an interagency collaboration of leaders with representatives from social services, education, the justice system, physical and behavioral health care, and local government committed to improving the lives of individuals interacting with the behavioral health system in Wake County. They identified five key areas for improvement, including:

- Access and Coordination Ensure that those needing services can access them and coordinate services across the system of care.
- Crisis Services Ensure a robust continuum of crisis services.
- Criminal Justice Reduce the incarceration of individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Familiar Faces Stabilize frequent users of crisis services.
- Housing Increase housing security and reduce reliance on institutional settings.

Led by the Wake County District Attorney and the Wake County Manager's Office. The Wake Directors includes leadership level representatives from:

- Alliance Health
- City of Raleigh
- NAMI Wake County
- N.C. Court System District 10
- Raleigh Police Department
- Wake County Board of Commissioners
- Wake County District Attorney's Office
- Wake County EMS
- Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization

- Wake County Human Services
- Wake County Manager's Office
- Wake County Sheriff's Office
- Wake County Public Defender's Office
- Wake County Public School System
- WakeMed
- UNC Health Care

Behavioral Health/Criminal Justice Team

A recently formed team assembled by the Wake County Manager's Office and the Sheriff's Office to focus on initiatives that will reduce the incarceration of individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders. The group held its first meeting in February 2021.

The initial focus is to create a work plan and coordinate efforts to support two new state grant-funded opportunities. These grants will provide access to substance use treatment for individuals instead of jail or upon release from jail. They will develop systems to more closely coordinate access to these programs with case managers currently working in the jail and two new teams of case managers and peer support specialists that will work with identified individuals upon leaving the jail.

This team's work will also be informed by the prioritization of potential initiatives that will be conducted at the upcoming Behavioral Health Summit.

Participants on this team currently represent the following organizations:

Alliance Health

- Criminal Justice Alternatives (formerly ReEntry)
- Fellowship Health Resources
- Healing Transitions
- Morse Clinic
- NC Department of Public Safety Community Connections
- Raleigh Police Department (ACORNS Unit)
- SouthLight

- UNC FIT Program (Formerly Incarcerated Transition)
- UNC WakeBrook
- Wake County District Attorney's Office
- Wake County Human Services
- Wake County Manager's Office
- Wake County Sheriff's Office
- Wake Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Familiar Faces Team

This group has been working together for several years. It is focused on using data to identify high users of crisis services, coordinate cross-organizational efforts regarding familiar faces and develops targeted interventions to meet the unique needs of each familiar face. This team has recently been enhanced by support from the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Team awarded to Wake County late last year.

Participants on this team currently represent the following organizations:

- Alliance Health
- Duke Health
- Healing Transitions
- Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness
- Raleigh Police Department
- SAS
- Wake County EMS
- Wake County District Attorney

- Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization
- Wake County Human Services
- Wake County Information services
- Wake County Sheriff's Office
- WakeMed
- UNC Health
- UNC School of Government