



# Summit explores causes, solutions to youth crime

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Generation, it's hard to move beyond discussion because it is such a complex problem.

"The issue of disparity in criminal justice is a very complex one and there is no simple answer or solution," he said.

The LGTF, an affiliate of the Martin Luther King Resource Center, has a vision to reverse the tide of young African-American and

Hispanic male imprisonment. They have compiled statistics over the past nine months showing that while black and Hispanic youth comprise nearly 18 percent of the state's population, they represent 75 percent or more of those in the criminal justice system.

"We believe at the task force that it first begins by having a passion for our young people and having a

hope that we will be able to reverse the trend because if we don't do something, the way things are going our community is dead," Forbes said. "You can't have that percentage of our young male population going to jail and expect to have a viable community."

So far, Forbes said the Lost Generation Task Force has been able to engage a significant number of young peo-

ple through youth forums by encouraging them to take some responsibility for themselves.

"We have also been able to sensitize some people in the state legislature to the issue, and we have encouraged some who are incarcerated to at least make an effort to stop their brothers and sisters from taking the same road," Forbes said.

## W-S NAACP leader protests innocence

By t. Melde Rutledge  
CAROLINA PEACEMAKER

WINSTON-SALEM — After public accusations of doctoring financial records and illegitimately purchasing a building against national NAACP guidelines, Winston-Salem/Forsyth

County NAACP chapter president Stephen Hairston, says his accuser, former NAACP secretary Millicent JoAnne Allen, is wrong.

In Allen's report on Aug. 25 to the NAACP's national office in Baltimore, she accused Hairston, branch

secretary Linda Sutton and treasurer Irene Phillips of numerous violations against the organization's bylaws and constitution.

One such claim under investigation by the national office, centers on the former Northampton Building that

Allen said was deeded to the local branch — signed by Hairston and Sutton. Under the NAACP's constitution and bylaws, ownership of property can only be from the national office, due to liability issues.

See NAACP/8A

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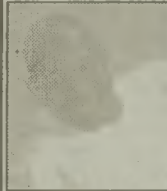
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New Hanover County



Physical education is a priority again in public schools.

Robeson County



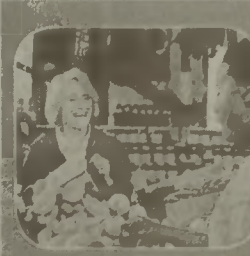
Church groups are helping people shop smart and eat right.

The Triangle



Workplace wellness programs benefit both employers and employees.

Asheville



The Farmers Market offers fresh and healthy eating choices.

Salisbury



New sidewalks promote more physical activity in everyday life.

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