**OYS Policy Committee**

Meeting date: Monday, March 28, 2016  
Location: UNO Community Engagement Center

Attendees: Catherine Hall, Janee Pankkuk, Juliette Summers, Christine Henningsen, Laura McCormick, John Sciara, Patrick Bloomingdale, Chris Rodgers, Brad Alexander, Mary Visek, Kerri Peterson

1) **Welcome**- Welcome and introductions were made  
2) **Purpose of the Committee**- The task of the committee was outlined. The purpose of the next few meetings would be to develop a framework from which to operate the committee  
3) **Brainstorming**- The group brainstormed the parameters of the work for this group. See below

**Guiding principles of the policy work:**

1) Good public policy grows from the ground up  
2) We should always keep DMC and trauma informed frameworks in our decision making  
3) We should rely on the infrastructure that we have built with OYS, including the various committees  
4) People who have gone through the system and people who are at the line level should be a key part of our community engagement strategy and informing our work  
5) We should ask as a unified voice around suggested policy pieces that are grounded by our vision, mission, best or promising practice, and data  
6) Let’s not recreate the wheel or duplicate- use the current committee structures and advocacy group already in place

**Priorities to ferret out and incorporate into a work plan:**

1) School-based policy that results in discipline, truancy, run-aways, etc.  
2) Monetary policy- How does the money flow and how do advocate for re-investment?  
3) Legislative Policy- both at the state and federal level  
4) Out of Home placement policies- How do we shift from out of home/state to treating our youth in our state? What is the continuum of options to keep kids here?  
5) Community Based Aid Policy- How can we make recommendations to shape funding based on feedback, vision mission, best or promising practice, and data

**Other items discussed:**

- Ensuring someone from the policy committee is on every workgroup of OYS  
- Can we start a CINS Unit?  
- There is an on-going need for JJ 101- much like an annual state of the union  
- Keep policy around special needs children in the front-- often a forgotten population  
- Streamlining the communication between OYS Evaluation, Data, and Work Group and the newly forming Policy Work Group