



Operation Youth Success

Families Work Group

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

9:00-11:00 AM

Heartland Workforce Solutions

- Introductions and Welcome
- OYS Updates from Backbone staff
 - Most of the staff is in Washington, D.C. this week at the NCJFCJ 80th Annual Conference.
 - Letter has been sent to Governor Ricketts re: the juvenile judge appointment.
- Community Planning Exercise Outcome Review
 - Will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Work Plan Discussion and Handout
 - OJJDP Engaging Families and Youth in the Juvenile Justice System Handout
 - Statement of the Problem: How do we early on engage families and youth? Are there any system players keeping track and helping families work toward keeping youth out of the system once they are back with the family? Keeping youth from losing their Medicaid benefits while in the system.
 - Call to Action: We need to have an authentic voice of youth ... families' members present at this table. What are we doing to help engage families earlier on, to teach them the system, to further educate families so that they can take a more active role.
 - 2017 Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Interim Studies Handout
 - Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice Legislation Handout
 - LB 8 – Graduated Responses Handout
 - Police officers do have discretion
 - Is there a report we can request that shows how many calls have been received by Project Harmony and/or YES? And what the follow-up was (there are several possible avenues that can be taken).
 - Can we get people from the crisis response hotlines (initial response teams) and Region 6 to come out and talk to this group?
 - Existing resources need to be more fully utilized, instead of crossing over within the agencies.

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- Families WG Work Plan
 - How do we incorporate the Call to Action items from the OJJDP Handout in the Families Work Group Work Plan?
 - Update for the next meeting to review.

- Public Comment
 - Welcome to Dayton and Chanecia who are visiting with us today.
 - “They Call Us Monsters” will show August 29th at FilmStreams
 - The final Juvenile Service Definitions and Service Interpretive Guidelines are now available at the following link: <https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/progration/community-based-programs-field-services-division/rehabilitative-services>
 - Free conference Sept 21st 8-4 Attendance Works at the CEC
 - Upcoming “Through the Eyes” conference on racial equity – October 3rd – Nebraska Court Improvement website, 2017 Regional Conference
 - Presentation on Generative Partnerships - Tuesday July 25 9:30-11:30 – hosted by Boys Town
 - Back to School Family Day, Saturday, August 5th from 1pm – 5pm, hosted by Grief’s Journey. A free, fun-filled afternoon for children, teens, and their families who have experienced a significant death
 - Reaching Teens: Strength Based Communication Strategies to Build Resilience and Support Healthy Adolescent Development Training – Two separate trainings on 9/13/17, 9am to 3pm and 9/14/17, 9am to 4 pm, both at Embassy Suites in LaVista, NE – Look for upcoming registration information on Eventbrite.
 - The next JJPF/OYS Knowledge Exchange is scheduled on Monday, July 31, from 2-4pm at the Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.

- Next Meeting August 15th, 9:00a-11:00a

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1. If money was no object, what would you do to improve families' experiences in the system?
 - a. If the family itself could go through evaluations, education about family dynamics that got them to where they are today, a trauma-informed, almost in-patient tx for all family at their age appropriate understanding; whether it's one week, two weeks. Paid time off of work, all barriers removed for participation.
 - b. Insurance/Medicaid coverage; paid services for family therapy, education and support (family centered, strength based, and functional outcomes). Family navigator services/family advocate.
 - c. I would give every family a life coach for improving education, health, working (trade or college), financial planning for life, college, retirement, and estate planning, legal services.
 - d. Provide mentors and peer support for each member throughout the entire process.
 - e. Family advocate: a person assigned to families to make contact with family at time of charge/petition to walk them through the process and collaborative services. Transportation of parents and youth to appointments.
 - f. Mental health is the issue I would address. Providing shelters and services in lieu of placing in the JJ system. Sometimes mental health issues look criminal, but are not.
 - g. Probation tracker be more diligent and have better care of the kids they manage.
 - h. Have a family liaison for every family in the system during their entire time in the system. Family liaison, advocate, trusted individual to ask questions, provide guidance, access to necessary supports for families.
 - i. I think for families to have improved experience and outcomes – “no wrong door” a place/phone/website where they could have access to a “peer mentor” to walk with them through the process.
 - j. Create a family-led and operated advocacy center with liaisons who could, (1) identify with and (2) walk with families through their journey from pre-entry, early warning in schools to re-entry, and (3) mitigate the impacts of poverty and racism. New money and resources and shift/redistribution of existing resources.
 - k. Offer different opportunities and clubs and programs as possible to help create positive vibes.
2. What is working well for families in juvenile justice in Douglas County?
 - a. SROs with specialized training has greatly reduced the number of school arrests
 - b. Trauma training and experiences is creating a more family focus and partnership
 - c. Dual status work is showing great promise for families with CW and JJ systems
 - d. Many doors, no wrong door; connect to services and resources, make referrals for identified needs
 - e. Interpreters
 - f. Cultural liaisons
 - g. SROs – know kids, kids feel supported, great hand-offs with mental health providers, have a go-to person; training; placing them in the right school; define roles
 - h. RAW DAWGS – gang prevention; Compassion in Action

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- i. Caring families
 - j. Available mental health services in Youth Center
 - k. School diplomas at DCYC/DCC
3. What has promise but needs more resources?
- a. EPIC; day/evening reporting
 - b. Career; connections; opportunities
 - c. RAW DAWGS
 - d. Grief's Journey
 - e. YES House
 - f. School-based MH; Services – great resources but need EBP and stick to the fidelity of the model
 - g. Mental health; substance abuse
 - h. Transitional programs; YDC, foster car, recidivism in programs
 - i. Family of system
 - i. Navigator/liaison
 - ii. Advocate
 - iii. Mentors
 - iv. Life coaches
 - j. Mays, Boys / Girls Club, Girls Inc., after school programming, OTHER (street smart programs)
 - k. More SROs: elementary schools, all schools
4. What's missing?
- a. Peer support groups for mental health
 - b. PAL; prosocial year round
 - c. Move system to real family time, family friendly
 - d. Suicide prevention programs and outreach
 - e. Youth and family led government with P/P
 - f. One stop! No wrong door!
 - g. Build more trust!
 - h. Restorative justice practice in residential JJ facilities
 - i. Transportation
 - j. More understanding between the community and the police officers
 - k. Honesty
 - l. No favoritism
 - m. Youth in custody (UTAH)
 - n. Crisis assessment center
 - i. One door for crisis
 - ii. Navigation
 - iii. Referrals
 - iv. Urgent appointments

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- v. evaluation
- o. Zero tolerance program
 - i. Suicides / mental health
 - ii. Newtown crisis
 - iii. Gun violence
- p. Early childhood education
 - i. Substance use
 - ii. Normal development
 - iii. Impact of trauma
 - iv. Prevention
 - v. Screening/assessment
- q. Family empowerment
 - i. Leaders
 - ii. Consultants
 - iii. Voice at court
 - iv. Lead organizations
 - v. Lead policy
 - vi. Advocates

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