Mission Statement:

Across Douglas County, our vision is a comprehensive, coordinated, and community-wide approach to juvenile services that eliminates the need for youth involvement with our justice system while maintaining public safety.

For all youth who do enter our justice system, our goals are to provide effective, compassionate and individualized support that empowers youth and their families to succeed and to build an environment of mutual trust and accountability.

Operation Youth Success
Families Work Group
Tuesday, August 15, 2017
9:00-11:00 AM
Heartland Workforce Solutions

➢ Introductions and Welcome

➢ OYS Updates from Backbone staff
  o Thank you to Dan Jackson, as you head to retirement, for everything you have accomplished!
  o Emily Adams has left OYS
  o Steering Committee meeting, Thursday, August 17th, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Room 903 Civic Center
  o Student Celebration Day, September 24th, 1-3:30 p.m., hosted by BPOA and LPOA
  o September is Attendance Awareness Month
  o “Seeds of Hope” a new Nebraska documentary on immigrant and refugee students premiering in Omaha (Sept. 13, 7 pm, Aksarben Cinema) and Lincoln (Sept. 14, 7 pm, Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center). Registration available on eventbrite.com.
  o Youth Impact! Brown Bagger, Thursday, September 7th, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Room 702-Civic Center, Topic: Special Education (Policies, Rules and Discipline), Presenter: Sarah Hayek, NFC Project Coordinator
  o The Nebraska Association of Homes and Services for Children Conference, October 19, 2017 at Mahoney State Park – Keynote Speaker: Mildred D. Muhammad
  o Patriotic Productions presents the Fifth Annual American Spirit Summit Promoting Positive Role Models, Friday, Sept. 1. There are two sessions: Northwest High School at 8 a.m. and Burke High School at 9:35 a.m. Speakers are Dr. Tom Osborne, Attorney General Doug Peterson, and Mark LeFlore with the Douglas County Youth Center

➢ Community Engagement Committee community meetings, speaker series topics
  o Gathering suggestions for topics and speakers for community meetings
  o Working on times and locations
  o How can we engage “authentic” youth and families in the ongoing operations of OYS and the Families Work Group?
  o We need to work with other groups, not try to re-invent strategies

➢ Community Planning Exercise Outcome Overall Update & Overview
  o FWG Themes from In-person Community Planning Exercise:
  o First re-working of planning exercise with JPF – Guiding Principles
    ▪ Racial & Ethnic Disparities
      • Policy – Legislative & Organizational
      • Language – Services & Processes
      • Structural – Historical inequities embedded in system
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• Reducing Exclusionary Discipline
• Restorative Justice – focusing on repairing the harm done to youth with a focus on
• Objective Decision-Making Criteria – multi-system points
  o Additional items
    ▪ Principles of evidence
    ▪ Behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) – Active treatment needs
    ▪ Access to evaluation without system involvement
    ▪ Peer-to-peer support is very important
    ▪ Funding non-system families (Without funding for access to services, nothing is going to happen.)
    ▪ ROI in the community
    ▪ Community responsibility/acceptance
    ▪ “We have to own it.”
    ▪ Intentional – (e.g., re-directing funds for front-end services)
    ▪ Clearly defined services (the proof is in the pudding)
    ▪ Legislative action will most likely be necessary

➢ Next steps:
  o Recruiting business leaders/Chamber of Commerce to the Steering Committee
  o Present to the Policy WG
  o Margaret will coordinate with the Help Line for the next Families meeting

➢ Families WG Work Plan – Next Steps
  o Added 3rd, 4th & 5th items to WP (see handout)
  o OJJDP Family Engagement article
  o Think about 4c and come up with ideas to bring to the next meeting
  o This is a work in progress, a living document

➢ Public Comment

➢ Next Meeting, September 19th, 9:00-11:00

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