



Operation Youth Success Families Work Group Notes

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

9:00-11:00 AM

Heartland Workforce Solutions

Purpose Statement: Empower families to better understand the system and engage in their youth's care.

Families Working Group Charter

- Empowering families to better understand the system
- Engage youth and families
- Seek help when needed

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Present: Judith Gutierrez, Dwite Pedersen, Jim Hubbard, Lt. Vivian Buckley, Lakeisha Phelps, Tom Hanks, Mark LeFlore, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush, Debora Faga

2. Updates

- OYS Work Group Member Updates
 - NJJA Conference in Kearney, NE, May 2-4 – Amber is presenting on school-based arrests
 - Collective Impact Convening, Austin, TX, April 3-5
 - The Kim Culp Juvenile Justice Forum-The State of Juvenile Justice in Nebraska at UNO CEC 7-9pm, March 22nd. Presenters include Commissioner Rodgers, Jeanne Brandner, Dr. Anne Hobbs, Juliet Summers and Julie Rogers.
 - Lt. Buckley and Amber were interviewed last Friday by KMTV regarding school-based arrests
 - Tom Hanks spoke about probation's new tools: Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST), Echo (in-home) Family Therapy through Boys Town, J-SOAP II
 - Lakeisha spoke about the Mental Health Awareness Talent Show event coming May 12; sign up deadline April 30, can sign up through Eventbrite; and there is a new Father's program starting

Operation Youth Success is bringing people together to decide what aspects of juvenile justice in Douglas County need to change and how that change will happen.

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**.

3. Work Plan Activity

- Strategy 1) Increase youth and family participation and involvement, in all OYS activities to increase trust and transparency as a means to engage and bring more voices to the table.
- Strategy 2) Provide youth and families to tools and information to advance their knowledge in the juvenile justice system.
 - The video idea that was started a while ago is being pursued again; Janee and Amber spoke with Mason Videos about it
- Strategy 3) Identify engagement opportunities for youth and families across the system.
- Break out into groups to discuss Strategies 1 and 2
 - 1 - Tom, Lakeisha and Karla:
 - Certain groups are already established for adults who have gone through the system – identify those groups and talk to their members about things they think we should focus on
 - Send letters asking youth if they would like to be a part of the Youth Council and other various groups
 - Once identified, bringing them together at a more convenient time, at a place where transportation is easier, providing food, etc.
 - 2 - Jim, Vivian, Dwite and Judy:
 - Guidebook is being handed out, but continuing to work on distribution
 - Look at possibly distributing at point of intake and at court by Public Defenders/Defense Attorney
 - Video – include prevention techniques
 - Create a folder/envelope for youth and families to keep their information in so it's all in one place
 - JAC/Probation/Promise Ship/SROs so there is professional guidance to understand guidebook and potential “folder” concept

Operation Youth Success is bringing people together to decide what aspects of juvenile justice in Douglas County need to change and how that change will happen.

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**.

4. Family Engagement 2.1

- Intake Probation Presentation - Heather Briggs
 - At the point of intake the youth and family are interviewed and the process is explained
 - Law enforcement brings them to intake if detention is recommended
 - If a youth has a warrant and is identified as being in school, probation will complete the intake over the phone, so that the youth is able to remain in school.
 - During the interview process, the parent is asked what they would like to see happen and that is included in the report
 - There are a lot of services that can be offered to the families, but it depends on whether the family wants to utilize them
 - Process for runners is not different; looked at on a case-to-case basis
 - Diversion has done a great job to divert first-level youth before they get to probation, so the right kids are getting to probation – they are not first-time offenders
 - Probation caseloads have gone down allowing the officers to spend more time with each case
 - Next Steps: Tom will check with Probation, Lt. Buckley with her officers on whether or not additional Family Engagement books are needed for distribution. Tom and Lakeisha are checking with their agencies to identify existing groups that we may be able to collaborate with in terms of hearing the community voice.

5. Public Comment

6. Feedback Surveys

- Handed out

7. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Operation Youth Success is bringing people together to decide what aspects of juvenile justice in Douglas County need to change and how that change will happen.

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**.