



**Operation Youth Success
Re-entry Task Force Notes**

Thursday, April 26, 2018

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Westside Community Schools ABC Building

Re-entry Mission Statement:

The mission of OYS Re-Entry is to increase the number of juveniles successfully reintegrated back into schools and the community through coordinated transition support, thereby increasing overall academic success and ultimately reducing recidivism.

This mission is two-fold:

- 1) Supporting reentry and residency in the community following any out-of-home placement and;
- 2) Supporting the efficient reentry to school/educational program/work as part of the transition process.

- **Welcome and Introductions**
 - Present: Dawnna Hill, Jennifer Beck, Jen Brockman, Shannan Garcia, Sheila Sookram, James Hubbard, Amber Parker, Karla Dush, Debora Faga
- **Announcements:**
 - OYS Updates
 - NJJA Conference, Kearney, NE, May 2-4
 - JJPF, Monday, April 30, 2-4 pm, Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office will have two presenters: Jaci Dai-Klabunde with NE Legal Aid and Jessica Kroeker with Project Harmony.
 - OYS Prevention WG will be participating in the Juneteenth Parade, Saturday, June 16th; we will be sending out a sign up invite in May to all workgroup members and collecting flyers to put in drawstring backpacks that we will be handing out during the parade.
 - OYS has a booth at the Cinco de Mayo celebration on Saturday, May 5th from noon to 5 pm; if interested in volunteering for a short shift at our booth, please respond to the Sign-Up invite that was sent out.
 - Member Updates
 - DCYC's count is really low (78)
 - DCYC's pilot program review for PREA is complete
- **Review: Summary of last meeting's activities**
 - Jermaine Ballard was here last time and he talked about his new position
 - Most students falling through the cracks are in out-of-home placements, as opposed to DCYC
 - Do we need to switch focus to them? Work with probation?
- **Activity:**
 - Update on DCYC/OPS Pilot-Jermaine Ballard, OPS Community, Schools and Engagement Specialist-tabled to next meeting
 - Workplan strategies
 - Westside's superintendent is adamant about youth sitting out as little as possible, and at the same time making sure they get into the right fit (classes).
 - Outside placements (i.e., Clarinda, Canyon State, Woodward) need to have a contact person.
 - The outside contact person doesn't always know what school the youth is returning to.

- The youth can try to go to the district where they reside, but the district where the youth was made a ward of the state will always be responsible.
 - Navigation guide/Contact sheet.
 - Share with other districts and organizations, parents, kids.
 - Could be part of the packet that goes home with the youth (probation).
 - Out-of-state placements (i.e., Canyon State, Clarinda, Woodward); could we get numbers of how many youth are actually being placed there.
 - Share the process with those facilities; might be difficult for them because they don't know where the youth is going.
 - Work with probation to work with out-of-state youth; what is the process?
 - Can we get a list from probation and see if we can do a pilot program to see how it goes.
 - Central contact should be the probation officer.
 - Possibility of having this listed in the MOUs if it isn't already.
 - We need to find out what probation's process with re-entry is.
 - Jen will talk to Darci about out-of-state placements.
- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Jen will follow up with Darci about the number of youth in out-of-state and out-of-home placements to see where the highest number is, to determine the possibility of where to have the pilot process
 - Discussion to change meeting time during the summer
 - Will send out a poll asking about changing the start times
 - Feedback Survey – Handed out

Public Comment:

Next Meeting: May 24, 2018, Westside Community Schools, ABC Building

OYS 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**.