



**Operation Youth Success
Runaway Taskforce Notes**

Thursday, July 12, 2018

8:30am – 10:00am

UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 118

Runaway Taskforce Purpose Statement

The Purpose of the Runaway Taskforce is two-fold:

- Prevent youth who are exhibiting runaway risk factors and behaviors from entering the juvenile justice system, by ensuring that appropriate community resources exist and meet the needs of youth.
- Ensure the justice system is effective, compassionate and empowers youth and their families to succeed while building an environment of mutual trust and accountability.

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Present: Lt. Tracy Scherer, Nicole Seymour, Shelly Hug, Ronda Newman, James Hubbard, Mary Vicek, Shawne Coonfare, Colleen Roth, Stephanie Hoelsing, Cindy Goodin, Karla Dush, Amber Parker, Janee Pannkuk, Debora Faga
 - New Members Jill Anderson and Krynn Pekny
 - OYS Updates
 - CBA training for current sub-grantees is on July 20
 - For CBA, every quarter, meetings are held to try to project any dollars that may come back to the fund (sub-grant adjustments). It's a good idea for all working groups to have draft applications prepared so that when sub grant adjustments are announced, the preparation will be minimal. The Crime Commission has required Douglas County to develop a formal process for the latter.
 - Juneteenth parade went very well, there was good participation and involvement.
 - JJPF is Monday, July 30th, 2-4 pm at the County Extension Office
 - Member Updates
 - PromiseShip has a meeting tomorrow with Tracy and Colleen to talk about what they are doing to enhance or change the structure of the MDT for missing youth specifically.
 - OPD is having continued discussions with Heartland Family Service to discuss refugee runaways.
 - Sherwood Foundation's program grants are open on the website and are due on August 1st this year; check the website for more information.
 - OPD applied for a grant for a coordinator position that would be able to review current missing youth's system involvement (if any) and make appropriate contact notifications. This was not approved as the feedback indicated that it did not speak to how it related to juvenile justice. OPD is going back to the drawing board and adding in stats on how many times a youth runs before a crime is committed.
 - Project Everlast is expanding who they serve, to include opportunity youth; young people age 16-25 who are not successfully engaged in education or employment. The youth do not have to be current or former wards to be eligible. They also have flex funding available to assist with housing
 - Project Everlast would like this taskforce to keep in mind the Community Well-being group; funds come into that group, there are 8 organizations who have flex funds available for the sole purpose of keeping families out of the system. Ronda will get the list of the organizations to Karla.
 - Project Harmony wrote a grant which was funded for two full-time positions; an intake coordinator and a mental health therapist should be in place in about 6 weeks. The positions will work with missing youth who are non-system involved.
 - Probation is looking at the system-involved youth and the runaways, with the changes in the law as of July 1, 2019; what are we going to do with these kids who don't qualify for detention that

maybe are being detained now. Talking with current providers and looking at other services that are available, trying to keep kids from going deeper into the system; talking about crisis stabilization pieces, how can we make the stays shorter, can agencies provide services in the home to support their success.

- CSI is having discussions about possibly expanding, opening another shelter, talking about the idea of a reception center.

- Review
 - Summary of prior meeting's activities
 - Fremont's community response team

- Activity
 - Discussion occurred regarding having a list available of resources, Region 6 has a book that is a good place to start.
 - Discussion occurred about all of the different organizations/resources that are currently available and could possibly be, or should be, working together.
 - Discussion occurred regarding what constitutes risk-to-self youth and the lack of resources for these youth.
 - National Runaway Safeline: Professional Development Trainings
 - Previously agreed on Let's Talk Runaway Prevention (3 hours) and Trauma Sensitive Solution-Focused Crisis Intervention (4 hours) modules
 - Train the Trainer
 - Who should attend? Maxed out at 30 participants – this group should come up with an idea of who
 - Do all the trainers get trained in both modules or keep them separate?
 - Keep them separate – Let's Talk: Runaway Prevention focuses on youth
 - Schools
 - Collective for Youth
 - P4 Kids
 - Completely Kid
 - Boys and Girls Club
 - Girls, Inc.
 - Northstar
 - You Turn
 - Hope Center
 - Charles Drew
 - YES
 - Project Harmony
 - Latino Center of the Midlands
 - Thrive
 - Urban League
 - Empowerment Network
 - Faith-based organizations and their youth groups
 - PromiseShip
 - Boys Town
 - One World
 - Community Centers (refugees)
 - Heartland Family Services
 - Lutheran Family Services
 - YMCA
 - Tribal organizations
 - What is the message we want to project when we talk to them

- Goals for those in attendance (willing to teach the curriculum, train others in their organization, report back to NRS via the NRS pre/post test) – tabled to next meeting
- How do we message the invitation to them? Does anyone have connections at the identified agencies? – tabled to next meeting

- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Will put together some draft invitations
 - Email Karla ideas for attendees for the Trauma module training
 - Ronda will send Karla a list of the 8 organizations that are part of the Community Well-being group, to send out to the group.

- Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 9th, from 8:30am-10am, UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 118

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**.