



Operation Youth Success Families Work Group Notes

Tuesday, October 16, 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

- Introductions
 - Present: Judith Gutierrez, Dwite Pedersen, Andrea Wright, Mary Jo Thompson, Davannis Donaldson
- Updates
 - OYS
 - Karla is at the Collective Impact Conference in CA this week
 - Next week the 7-member team goes to Georgetown for the LGBTQ Certification
 - Judith is on the DMC team going to Georgetown for the DMC Certification
 - Members
 - Heartland team worked on moving refugees out of Yale Park this last month into new housing. A lot of things that still need to happen to get everyone into safe housing; they are aware of and working on getting these situations resolved. A lot of families are buying houses, which they are happy about, and a lot of families are still in long-term hotels. She can get this group numbers of refugees who are involved in the juvenile justice system. Trying to procure funding to start a program to be able to

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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**.

- go in and do in-home resource building with the families before they have become involved in the system.
 - Omaha World Herald reported last week that the Trump administration has stated that if people are receiving services (need to find out the definition of services) that would count against them in applications for citizenship. Andrea is concerned that this will affect their ability to work with families.
 - Andrea would like to bring information to this group about the refugee population that they are serving, and see if we can help get information out to them. Discussed the translation of the Family Guide and the possibility of including a Karen and, possibly, Arabic translation.
 - Mary Jo – Fall is their busy time. Mobile Crisis in Douglas and Sarpy Counties have had some successes. Have had a few bumps in the road on their continuum of care notification of schools, so they are working on ironing those out.
- Juvenile Justice Council-progress and updates
 - Lakeisha and Alexander – were unavailable for update
 - Karla’s report out-we have 6 individuals who completed the pre-screening and are set to attend the 22nd meeting. I’ve emailed them the agenda and will send a reminder email or two next week. Chaplain Ron with YouTurn may also attend and bring a couple individuals. No one has indicated they need daycare. Just need to determine refreshments and who can assist with picking it up; how many from the workgroup plan on attending?
- Parent and Youth Survey
 - Finalize draft and discuss distribution plan
 - Have a short explanation as to what this is going to be used for and that this is anonymous
 - Dwite would like to hand it out to youth he sees at DCYC
 - Have available at courthouse, libraries, DCYC, probation offices, JAC, etc.
 - Have drop boxes available for collection (have envelopes available for the survey to be put into before dropping in the box?)
- Annual Linen Drive with a community agency discussion
 - Last year we worked with DCYC and it was a success

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- Possibly expand this year's drive to include paper goods
- This year we would like to continue with DCYC and add another agency
 - Bring ideas for different agencies we would want to partner with
- Feedback Surveys – Handed out

Move next month's meeting to Tuesday, November 13 at 9:00 a.m.

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