



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.
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- Welcome and Introductions
 - Present: Jill Anderson, Christine Henningsen, James Hubbard, Shelly Hug, Ronda Newman, Krynn Pekny, Colleen Roth, Lt. Tracy Scherer, Nicole Seymour, Cara Stirts, Amanda Nawrocki, Shelby Anderson-Holt, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush
 - Activity
 - Review last meeting's activity of the Participatory evaluation with Terra Luna (evaluation report attached)
 - Next Steps
 - Broke out into small groups to discuss the different current strategies on the work plan
 - Strategy #1: Develop a runaway education program that seeks to prevent runaway behaviors (similar to the DARE program)
 - Need to remove the DARE program as an example
 - Part of the grant that is going to be implemented by bringing NRS in
 - The resource list has been created, how do we disseminate? Possibly revisit the idea of a handout.
 - Strategy #2: Develop a coordinated response that addresses the safety and needs of runaway youth, when youth have run away from home/placement
 - Take 'placement' out because these are non-system kids
 - Need to push back the target dates
 - Looked at the identification of guardian/law enforcement and how that information is shared – connecting these for a more coordinated response
 - Take out the language of creating a safety plan, changing it to a family plan
 - Pushed back target dates to the spring
 - Added another action step under developing the matrix/educational tool
 - What are some options when that youth in on the run as opposed to when the youth returns
 - Talked about community response
 - Change strategy to: "Develop a coordinated response to address the safety and needs of youth when youth have run away."
 - Strategy #3: Develop a coordinated response that addresses the safety and needs of runaway youth, once they have been located
 - Family engagement
 - Identify respite care
 - Similar comments between #2 and #3
 - Strategy #4: Support collaborative efforts that ensure continuity of services through communication sharing amongst and within necessary professionals and entities

- Hoping the Sherwood funded OPD Analyst can be the central position for communication for all the organizations
 - We need to communicate the work and successes being made by this task force and other groups toward the goals; “we” being the backbone and the task force itself
 - Identify the speaking points and spaces to shares those points
 - The communication piece of all the strategies needs to start with us as a group
 - Workplan
- National Runaway Safeline (NRS) Grant Updates
 - Train the Trainer: Let’s Talk Runaway Prevention (am) and Solution-Focused Crisis Intervention (pm)
 - February 28, 9 – 5, at the CEC; lunch will be provided
 - Areas that NRS can offer support with grant outcomes, etc.
 - Certificates, survey/evaluation, data collection, etc.)
 - Update from small breakout group
 - List of agencies to invite (handout attached)
 - Thirty (30) total attendees
 - Target agencies that serve minority youth
 - Yellow highlighted are the ones we would reach out to (one seat per yellow)
 - Blue highlighted may be covered by one of the other listed agencies
 - Discuss invitation plan
 - Who has contacts with identified agencies?
 - Everyone please take a look at the list and see if you have contacts
 - Lt. has already reached out requesting identification of SROs
 - Can there be a shared file that this group can access that lists who has been contacted, who has responded, etc.
 - By next meeting, we need to have a list of attendees
 - Bullet points to include when reaching out
 - Karla will, by next Tuesday, have the talking points that need to be stressed (because this training requires some real commitment from attendees) and will create a google doc that everyone can access
 - Strongly encourage
 - Need to have RSVPs fairly quickly
 - Potential barriers, etc.
 - Short time frame
- Updates
 - OYS
 - Families WG “Pack the Closet” Drive through December
 - Member
- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Karla Google doc of attendees and talking points
- Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 10th, 8:30am-10am, UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 221

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**.