**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. **Introductions:**
   - Present: Margaret Vacek, Shelly Salter, Dwite Pedersen, Eve Bleyhl, Lakeisha Phelps, Shannon Calabrese, Marlon Wofford, Christy Al-Nemah, Karen Sides, Janee Pannkuk, Debora Faga

2. **Updates:**
   - OYS
     - CBA: Rich Murcek has left the County, so Catherine Hall and Carrie Davis are going to be the contacts for CBA
     - Cynthia Kennedy has left the Crime Commission to work for the City of Omaha; her position with the Crime Commission hasn’t been filled yet so we don’t know who the CBA contact there will be
     - There is discussion that moving forward anything the State deems the County should be fiscally responsible for (i.e., JAC, the Home Program, OYS) would potentially not be eligible for CBA funding; work groups would still be able to apply, so we would still be able to re-apply for the video vignette project

**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.
b. Member and agency
   i. The last Brown Bagger of the year is on October 9, noon to 1 pm, at the Civic Center, Room 702; the topic is Restorative Practices: Casting a Wider Net than Restorative Justice (flyer attached)

3. Work Group Progress and Input from FWG members
   a. Juvenile Justice Council (JJC)
      i. Age had been lowered to 16 to include those youth who are still in the system, but concerns were expressed about the different ages being in a group together, so looking at having a younger group (14-18) separate from the older group (19-26)
      ii. Cannot have an open case and participate and cannot remain a participant if they reoffend; could ask for the date their case closed or closes; participation could be an incentive for them to not reoffend
      iii. Want to keep the older group active and working on their outcomes while getting the younger group going
      iv. The Young, Gifted & At-Risk Youth Conference will be August 5-9, at Trinity Lutheran Church; the Prevention WG, Families WG, NFSN, Sherwood and OYS are providing food each day; Families WG will be doing Tuesday, August 6th, looking for volunteers to help each day (Eve will be sending out a sign-up sheet)

   b. Family Advisory Council (FAC)
      i. Requested feedback on the flyer going out for recruitment to the FAC (final attached)
      ii. The goal of this counsel is to allow the families to guide how the process works, build a network within the families
      iii. Driven by what the families say, creating a true family voice
      iv. Once recommended changes are made to the flyer, a PDF will be sent to Debora and she will distribute to the entire group for them to be able to send out as they like
      v. Will request help with the meal (OYS will assist)

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c. Other
   i. Would like to have the JJC and the FAC eventually guide the Families Work Group’s work
   ii. Future Brown Bagger ideas:
       1. A’Jamal’s work with DMC/RED, either a panel or presentation
       2. The Georgetown Capstone group could give an update on the LGBTQ project
       3. No kids on probation for status offenses
       4. Addressing the language around sexual exploitation/abuse of youth possibly from Project Harmony, Tracy Scherer with OPD or Sarah Hayek
       5. Understanding the difference between evaluations (psychiatric/psychological/levels of care)
       6. Juvenile Justice 101
       7. Have some groups (Juvenile Justice Institute, OYS, etc.) present on funding, programs, rates, challenges, barriers, etc.

4. Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: August 20, 2019

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2019 Youth Impact! Brown Baggers

CLE's AVAILABLE!

What: A quarterly opportunity to share information and updates on the progress related to juvenile justice and child welfare initiatives in Douglas County and to learn about topics and trends relevant to children and families in our community.

Topic: Restorative Practices: Casting a Wider Net than Restorative Justice

Anne Hobbs JD, PhD- The Juvenile Justice Institute-UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

Monica Miles-Steffens- Director of Placement-Court Services at Nebraska Probation Administration

Learn more about Restorative Practices and how to cast a wider net than Restorative Justice.

Where: Civic Center Room 702

Date: October 9th, 2019 from noon-1:00

Who: Anyone working with children and families in Douglas County, including agency professionals, attorneys, families, and interested citizens.

All Brown Baggers are held from 12-1 pm
Are you an adult who has supported a young person who has been or is currently in the juvenile justice system?

Kids who have ongoing contact with the juvenile justice system are much more likely to:
- Drop out of school
- Use drugs/alcohol
- Engage in other risky behaviors
- Run away
- Get targeted by adult predators
- Become involved in the adult criminal system

NO ONE wants this to happen!

Please join us
Operation Youth Success/Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
Families Work Group & Nebraska Family Support Network
for a focus group of family and other supporters of youth in the juvenile justice system.
This will be the launching point of a Juvenile Justice Family Advisory Council.

Your thoughts and experiences matter!
All attendees will receive a $25 Gift Card for participating.

WHAT: Focus Group for supporters of youth in the Juvenile Justice System
When: September 10, 2019
What Time: 6-8:00 p.m. A light meal will be provided.
Location: Nebraska Family Support Network Offices, 3568 Dodge St., Ste # 2

To reserve your spot contact:
Marlon Wofford at mwofford@nefamilysupport.org or by calling 402 350-2088. You can park directly behind the building or in the parking lot on the East side of the building. NFSN is on the lower level – our entrance door faces West onto 36th St.
Young, Gifted & At-Risk Youth Conference

In partnership with the Sherwood Foundation and Operation Youth Success, the Nebraska Family Support Network presents the first annual “Young, Gifted and At Risk Conference. This free 5 day intensive workshop is for teens aged 12-19 who want to develop their leadership capacity, build new friendships, impact their communities and have fun doing it!

August 5-9, 9 AM to 3:30 PM
Trinity Lutheran Church
6340 N. 30th St

"When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts. Dalai Lama.

Register at: www.eventbrite.com
For additional information contact Lakeisha at (402)594-4702