



Operation Youth Success
Families Work Group Notes
Tuesday, September 17, 2019
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
1. Introductions
 - a. Present: Dawn Stroud, Judy Gutierrez, Shannon Calabrese, Lesli Alexander, Margaret Vacek, Lakeisha Phelps, Karen Sides, Vicki Brewer, Dwite Pedersen, Karla Dush, Debora Faga
 2. OYS Updates
 - a. Lakeisha received the Resiliency Award at the CIP conference
 - b. Mark and Karla will begin the Re-imagining Juvenile Justice training this week with a diverse group stakeholders; both community agencies and system points.
 3. Member Updates
 - a. St. Francis has announced that they have hired some personnel and an article in the paper stated they would start taking over cases in October
 - b. October 9th, 12-1pm, Civic Center in Room 903, Restorative Justice Brown Bagger

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**.

4. Work Plan
 - a. Family Council
 - i. Dawn Stroud advised the group that Eve asked her to step in for Marlon and coordinate the Family Council as he is no longer with NE Family Support Network
 - ii. Hoped that more people would be there but were pleased with the meeting (had four parents); need to keep recruiting
 - iii. Spent a lot of time getting to know each other
 - iv. Lakeisha suggested sharing the flyers in the areas where it will reach people. For example, grocery stores, hair salons, daycares, dance studios, gas stations, etc.
 - v. This is not a support group, but a council and will be driven by what the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, kin (caregivers) feel needs to change
 - vi. Next steps according to Family Council:
 1. Collaboration needs to occur with law enforcement
 2. We need more caregiver input
 3. Caregiver education regarding the system needs to happen
 - vii. Intent of the Family Council is similar to the JJC –to help us transform the juvenile justice system through communication with caregivers who have experienced the system; we want to give the caregivers a way to use their voice
 - viii. Next meeting is yet to be determined but would like it within 30 days of the last meeting
 - b. Juvenile Justice Council
 - i. October 14th is the next informational meeting at 6 pm at NFSN
 - ii. There will be two council groups: 14-18 and 19-26
 - iii. Informational meeting will be for both age groups
 - c. Video Input
 - i. Should know about the grant by the first week in October

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- d. Pack the Closet Drive
 - i. Hold mid-October through November (end before Thanksgiving) this year
 - ii. Do NFSN again this year, since last year we didn't come up with much
 - iii. Hygiene, personal care, cleaning items
 - iv. Will start getting the information out to the work groups October 1st

- e. Next steps:
 - i. Dawn will facilitate the Families Council planning meeting
 - ii. Dawn will check with NFSN and make sure that the items for Pack the Closet is what they need
 - iii. Karla will send out the informational flyer for the JJC
 - iv. Get the "Pack the Closet" flyer done and start distributing

Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: October 15, 2019

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