



Operation Youth Success Families Work Group

Tuesday, November 19, 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

- Introductions
 - Present: Judith Gutierrez, Margaret Vacek, Andrea Wright, Shelly Salter, Vicki Brewer, Tom Hanks, Janee Pannkuk, Debora Faga
- Updates
 - OYS
 - Catherine Rivier's last day with OYS was Friday, November 18
 - Reimagining Juvenile Justice: Positive Youth Development third and final training session is this Thursday and Friday
 - December 5, 8:00 am – 10:30 am, Community-Based Aid Steering Committee Meeting in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room at the Civic Center
 - Juvenile Justice Center lawsuit went to court on Friday, the 15th; have no further information on that
 - Member and Community Updates
 - Most of PromiseShip's staff has either transitioned to St. Francis or moved to other positions; will be completely done by the end of December
 - Probation has been given a tool to become more of a strength-driven, more specific needs, individualized recommendations organization; change is sometimes difficult but it is happening

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**.

- The JAC is pretty busy getting additional staff on board and working with the families
 - Heartland: the Fremont in-home program has merged into Andrea's program; Kamu, who works with the Karen community, is coming into the refugee advocate program with Andrea; and then starting December 1 they should be able to start taking over referrals for a restorative practices program (family support with a restorative element)
- Workgroup updates and report back to the group
 - Strategy 1 Updates – tabled to next meeting
 - Strategy 2 Updates – tabled to next meeting
 - Strategy 3 Updates
 - “Pack the Closet” drive – do we need to do another big push for donations?
- Planning for 2020 – Tabled to next meeting
- Next Steps:
 - Develop a Families Cookbook that would highlight low cost, nutritionally sound, easy to make, great tasting meals
 - Debora will send out the “Pack the Closet” flyer to all the work groups again; WG members should distribute to as many people as possible – look at extending it to December 13
- Feedback Surveys – Handed out

Next Meeting: December 17, 2019, 9-11am, Heartland Workforce Solutions

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.

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