



**Operation Youth Success
Runaway Taskforce Notes**

Thursday, January 9, 2020

8:30am – 10:00am

UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 128

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: Jim Hubbard, Jennifer Beck, Tracy Scherer, Krynn Pekny, Shelly Salter, Cara Stirts, Taylor Newton, Jill Anderson, Rebekka Hall, Julie Mason, Jessica Coffman, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush, Debora Faga
 - Activity
 - Community Partnership discussion
 - DCYC allowed Rosy Htu come in with a family and she was able to walk through the visitation process with them
 - Each month Taylor will get a list from OPD of listed runaways (non-system involved), go through it to see if they can identify at least 1-10 of those youth (it's a long list) who may be connected with other partners
 - YES is getting the list of reported runs and comparing with clients to see if they have any connections so they can potentially reach out to the youth; if there is a connection they will reach out to Taylor, and Brianna, the MYS coordinator
 - We need to identify organizations currently working with youth and families that would be interested in collaborating to support this population
 - Would like to have Fremont come speak again about their community response model and invite potential partners who are not aware of the model
 - Proposed: set up an event, invite the people who attended the Runaway Safeline Training and others, have someone present on the Fremont model along with other presenters; Taylor and Tracy are going to look at finding a space and time to hold it
 - Work Plan Updates
 - Strategy 1-has been completed; action step-Create a resource list that can be handed off to the Helpline and Project Harmony; action step-Create a family plan template has been moved to Strategy 2
 - Strategy 2-adding an action step: Invite community partners to vision board/Fremont meeting with the target date of March 2020; after that is when the real work begins
 - Look at how we can add the youth and family voice to the development of the coordinated response

- Are some TF members willing to come up with a few questions for the youth they see and then collect that information informally to share with the group?
 - Taylor will talk to MYS, Jen will see what she can do with DCYC, Jessica will see what she can do with the schools

- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Reach out to the people who came to last month's meeting and invite them back to continue the community partnership discussion
 - Reach out to Fremont's United Way to come in and discuss the Fremont model
 - Have someone come in from Mentor Nebraska to present
 - Next month work on the proposed presentation
 - Taylor, Jessica and Jen will touch base regarding youth input and questions
 - A small group will meet prior to next meeting to prepare suggested outline of March's event; Tracy and Taylor will organize the small workgroup
 - Karla will reach out to Fremont's United Way

- Feedback Survey – Handed out

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 8:30am-10am, UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 128

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**.