



**Operation Youth Success
Prevention Work Group Notes
Wednesday, April 15, 2020
3:00-5:00 PM
Zoom Video Conference**

Prevention Work Group Purpose Statement

Reduce system entry and recidivism by strengthening community support and increasing access to preventative services.

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Present: Jessica Coffman, Jennifer Skala, Melissa Schaefer, Darren Flores, Kyra Larsen, Chase Vedder, Andrea Wright, Kyle Kinney, Ronda Newman, Emily Weber, Lakeisha Phelps, Deborah Neary, Fred Ross, Janee Pannkuk, Karla Dush, Debora Faga
- II. Member Check-In and Agency Updates
 - a. Andrea Wright
 - i. Self-Care: Trying restrain herself from doing on-line shopping
 - ii. Heartland Workforce Service: Doing a lot on the Zoom platform and of the telephone; still doing deliveries of food, prescriptions, etc. Providing self-care kits for families
 - iii. A gap identified was protective equipment for staff and families they work with
 - b. Ronda Newman
 - i. Project Everlast: Still taking referrals, doing pantry deliveries every Tuesday, everything else is being done virtually (cooking classes, groups, readings, meditation, yoga, etc. to stay connected with the young people). Just now starting to talk about how they will work when everyone is allowed to come back.
 - ii. Staff are making pantry deliveries to young people every Tuesday. Young people just need to like the Project Everlast Facebook page and request a delivery through the page.
 - c. Kyle Kinney
 - i. Helpline: Most people are working from home
 - d. Chase Vedder
 - i. Nebraska Children's Home Society: Works in after-school programming in middle schools; doing visitations through Zoom.
 - e. Emily Weber
 - i. Self-Care: On lockdown

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- ii. Nebraska Children’s Home Society: Works with Chase in the middle schools; doing a lot of Zoom stuff
 - f. Kyra Larsen
 - i. Nebraska Children’s Home Society: Youth Education Specialist with the Youth Education Team, working on Zoom. Shared they have put together sanitation kits.
 - g. Darren Flores
 - i. Nebraska Children’s Home Society: Works in after-school programming in middle schools; doing visitations through Zoom.
 - h. Lakeisha Phelps
 - i. Self-Care: Reading and resting.
 - ii. Nebraska Family Support Network: All contact is remote which has been a challenge. Making sure that the families and youth are aware of what resources are available.
 - i. Deborah Neary
 - i. Self-Care: Team has decided that they will take 2 extra days off every month.
 - ii. Mentor Nebraska: Mobilizing volunteers to distribute food. They are still matching youth.
 - j. Jessica Coffman
 - i. Youth Emergency Services: Everyone is working remotely; doing delivery services for whatever they need, helping out with rent, etc.
 - k. Fred Ross
 - i. Self-Care: This has hit close to home for Fred; trying to stay healthy!
 - ii. Heartland Family Service: Doing a lot of learning curve stuff, same as everyone else, trying to stay ahead of it.
 - l. Janee Pannkuk
 - i. Self-Care: Reading, getting out with the dogs, and the family is doing well.
 - ii. Operation Youth Success (OYS) The learning curve is steep as well, but a lot of these practices may be adopted in the long term as we slowly come back to our new reality. Trying to make decisions about events coming up and how they will be handled.
 - m. Melissa Schaefer
 - i. Region Six: Was having microphone issues 😊
 - n. Karla Dush
 - i. Self-Care: Doing meditation and cooking; feeling thankful
- III. Activity
 - a. Discuss Community Partner Update excel form

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- i. Reviewed the spreadsheet entries so far and asked for people to enter their information if they haven't already
- ii. Can we assist with gaps identified?
 1. One of the gaps identified so far is laptops for students
 - a. Heartland has been trying to get the refugee community, especially, connected to laptops.
 - b. Within the last week, OPS has committed to every student (K-12) having access to a Chromebook; no time frame as of yet
 2. Project Everlast has been purchasing phones for some folks who need them because they have no other way of communicating. They are seeing a lot of young people who are having more trouble regarding transportation; they can't get to work, they can't get to pantries or other food giveaways, etc. Anyone who expresses a need on their Facebook page is put on a list and they try to figure out how to assist.
 3. YES Outreach is also doing delivery every day between 1 and 3; if someone reaches out on the YES Outreach Facebook page, they can deliver.
 4. Transportation is being seen as a gap by several agencies
 - a. Project Everlast is handling it ok right now, but are concerned with sustainability
 - b. Agencies are concerned with their personnel's safety when handling deliveries
 - c. Instead of delivering, Heartland is setting up a food pantry out the old St. Richard's for current clients (hoping to make it grow) with culturally appropriate foods
 5. In picking up food/pantry items, have there been work-arounds found to having to have the child in the car?
 - a. Iowa doesn't require that the children be in the car when picking up items to deliver
 6. Agencies are seeing abuse/neglect and domestic violence cases not being reported and are concerned about it
 7. In Sarpy County, through the Bellevue Housing Authority, there is assistance available for select persons (have to be a state ward). Contact Deanna Brakahage, DHHS, at 402-314-8294, or Carolyn Pospisil, the Executive Director of Bellevue Housing Authority, at 402-734-4358 ext. 105
 8. Youth Emergency Services has housing assistance through Goodfellows; there is also a new program, Rapid Rehousing, but there are

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requirements from MAACH; can call the YES Outreach number 402-502-1636, or contact Jessica Coffman on her cell 531-222-7936

9. How are agencies supporting families with mental health services
 - a. Mental health providers are still serving families via tele-health
 - b. Nebraska Family Helpline 888-866-8660
 - c. Boys Town Helpline (800-448-3000) is available 24/7
 - d. Your Life, Your Voice (yourlifeyourvoice.org iOS app –
 - e. WCA has Domestic Violence support groups on-line. They also have these in Spanish.

- b. 68111 One-page flyers
 - i. Feel free to share these flyers (sent in the invite email and available on the Operation Youth Success website resource page)

IV. Feedback Survey – Sent by email

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 20, 2020, location TBD

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