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.

Prevention Work Group Purpose Statement
Reduce system entry and recidivism by strengthening community support and increasing access to preventative services.

I. Welcome and Introductions

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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Activity

a. Discuss Community Partner Update excel form
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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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 – https://apps.apple.com/us/app/my-life-my-voice/id626899759?ign-mpt+uo% is available for youth, they can call, chat or text; they can also call the Helpline and they will be connected
   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