



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: Tracy Scherer, Taylor Newton, Teffany Murphy, Kim Hawekotte, Krynn Pekny, Keenan Page, Rebekka Hall, Andrea Wright, Jim Hubbard, Julie Mason, Rosy Htu, Nicole Seymour, Jessica Coffman, Karla Dush, Debora Faga
 - Activity
 - Follow-up items
 - Report out from small workgroups
 - Communication and Training
 - Want to hold an in-person training sometime this summer, probably at Project Harmony because of the space, where we can present this data for people showing the need to respond differently, who should be responding, and training them on how the community can do that
 - Intended audience will be focused on OYS Task Force members, NRS training invite list, Missing Youth Services (MYS) at Project Harmony, Heartland Family Service (HFS), 1184 missing youth treatment team members
 - The training will be back to basics: purpose of task force, purpose of MYS, present the data and explain the need from what we know so far, go over the vision board and go over what we want to do in response to this and discuss next steps to achieve this vision
 - Talked about who would present at this training; Taylor reached out to Missing Youth Services (MYS) for their response and thought they could present on how they are responding to missing youth reports; they were on board to present
 - Taylor will follow up with HFS about them presenting also
 - Reception Center
 - OPD will refer youth to the CSI reception center when they have been reported missing during working hours. MYS will continue to be the resource during off-hours. Criteria for referral will be similar to when referred to MYS (youth who is involved in high risk activities, repeat runner, etc.)
 - Discussed the steps we need to take moving forward, staffing, etc.
 - Projected start date is June 1
 - Interviewing for staff now; staff will be on an on-call status
 - There will be a 30-minute response time for staff to respond to OPD
 - Will have a separate space at the Child Saving Institute (CSI) specifically for the missing youth program
 - Want to coordinate closely with Project Harmony so we are using the same assessments

- OPD is currently looking at their policies so they can communicate that the program is available and working on law enforcement using CSI as a resource
- CSI will be in constant communication with Breanna Delp at Project Harmony as the case manager
- Data
 - Rebekka has put together a spreadsheet to track numbers and is entering data as missing reports come in
 - May 1, 2020 is the start date for the data being collected
 - Tracking race, sex, date of birth, age, LGBTQ+, zip code, # of runs, run date, return date, # of CAN reports, juvenile justice history, current status, state ward, reason for run (away or to), mental health diagnosis, sex trafficking risk, gang affiliation and assigning a data # for tracking purposes
 - Will add columns for refugee, primary language and student ID
 - One of the questions that came up was about pre-adjudicated youth; at this time they will not be included in this spreadsheet, MYS will track them
 - In the future, can we track the youth as they are referred (interventions used, length of time, success)? Possibly through partnerships with community providers
 - Need to put together an MOU in order to work with providers and be able to share this data; Kim is willing to assist with MOU's
 - Tracy, Colleen Roth, and Gene Klein met with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; they are working to put out a "best practices" regarding missing youth and they are looking specifically at what we are doing. They asked if there was anything they can do for us and Gene talked about getting some type of shared database so that these systems can work together
 - Can we ask Yosef Siegel, the JAC Data Analyst, to join this group to assist with the data piece
 - Do we need a "customer relations manager" that would grant access to approved individuals, so that individual information is secure (could use data # as a unique ID#)
 - Identify an agreed upon definition of system-involved
- Lancaster County's RED Data/Community Response-Kim
 - Tabled to next meeting
 - Rebekka's position at OPD is now full-time
- Decision Making/Next Steps
 - Have the small work groups meet again before the main task force reconvenes and have them check in at the next meeting
 - Lt. Scherer will send an email to the task force members showing exactly what they are capturing on the spreadsheets and would like everyone to take review and see if there are any categories being missed; will add columns for refugee, primary language and student ID
 - Kim will reach out to Shawne Coonfare about Yosef helping with the data piece
- Feedback Survey – Sent out

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 11, 2020, from 8:30am-10am, via Zoom conference

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**.