

Chafee Advisory Group

Kick-Off Meeting

December 12, 2019

Minutes

In Attendance: Jessica Trombetta, Kelli Puryear, Niambi London, Michele Safrin, Susan Radosti, Tatianna Mickens, Tosca Blandford-Bynoe, David Rosen, Mary Coogan, Tyhesha White, Kelly Nestor, Stefani Thachik, Janel Winter, Yolanda Allen, Alice Foulkes-Garcia, Anita Costello, Durell Clark

Absent: Randi Mandelbaum, Suzanne Kreie, Steven Kairys, Dan Rhoton

1. Welcome & Introductions by Jessica

- a. Introductions and ice breaker
- b. Reviewed agenda & handouts
- c. Group Agreements/OAS Commitments (see PowerPoint slides 1-4)

2. Context Settings by Jessica

- a. Overview of DCF Structure (see PowerPoint slides 5-6)
- b. Overview of OAS
 - i. 1 pager “snap-shot” of OAS work (tri-color handout)
 - ii. OAS team directory handout review
- c. Overview of Youth Thrive (see PowerPoint slide 7)
 - i. Gave out Youth Thrive guide
 - ii. Goes beyond life skills
 1. Need personal resilience
 2. Social connections
 3. Concrete support

3. Chafee 101 by Kelli (see PowerPoint slides 7-14)

4. ETV 101 (see PowerPoint slides 15-22)

- a. CAG discussed trends related to a decrease in out of home placements.
 - i. CAG discussed trends related to a decrease in out of home placements and families being served in-home.
 - ii. CAG provided information that CP&P data is online at the child welfare data HUB: <https://njchilddata.rutgers.edu/>
 - iii. ETV federal funds have decreased due to formula funding based on number of youth in care, however youth requesting ETV funds continues to increase.
 - iv. Dialogue around OOH placements & the Opioid Crisis
 - v. Some counties have a high number of Opioid abuse cases but not necessarily with OOH placements resulting

- vi. CAG member indicated that NJ has not had an increase in foster care due to opioid addiction, unlike other states
 - vii. CAG Member suggested that open CP&P services/cases depend on the reason CP&P cases are being opened for and for what services
 - viii. CAG Member spoke of her own experience with CP&P and lack of comprehensive assessments and action to address substance use disorders in the home.
- 5. CP&P Youth in Foster Care Data Overview by Niambi (see PowerPoint slides 23-26)**
- a. Data used from November 2019
 - b. Measured Ages 14-21 years
 - i. Total number of Youth in care
 - ii. Broken out by County, by Placement Type and by Goal
- 6. Overview of the 2020-2024 Chafee Plan by Jessica (see PowerPoint slides 27-41)**
- a. Plan submitted June 2019 and federally approved by Fall 2019
 - b. Chafee Advisory Group is a new initiative (Strategy #1)
 - c. Overview of the Teaming Structure
 - i. Plan is to have all CAG members participate on at least one team
 - ii. Reviewed power point on team membership (10 different strategy teams)
 - iii. OAS will send a survey to find out which Strategy Team (s) CAG members are interested in participating on.
- 7. Review of the By-Laws/Charter**
- a. Final version to be provided at next meeting in February – if anyone has edits/comments please let Niambi London know by January 24th.
- 8. Action Items**
- a. Find a co-chair for the Group – if anyone is interested please contact Jessica Trombetta.
 - b. Any recommendations for a faith-based representative please let Jessica Trombetta know.
 - c. Expectant and Parenting Youth plan review for February Meeting
 - i. Will be sent to members by January 24, 2020
 - d. Next meeting date is Friday, February 7, 2020 in New Brunswick

All ideas reflected are not endorsed by the agency