

## Chafee Advisory Group Meeting

May 10, 2021

### Minutes

**Present:** Niambi London, Kelli Puryear, Michele Safrin, Ben Magnussen, Betsy Montalvo, Shannon Lain, Alice Foulkes-Garcia, Mary Coogan, Jessie Steiger, Kelly Nestor, Tosca Blandford-Bynoe, Mai Nguyen, Randi Mandelbaum, Janel Winter, Tyhesha White, David Rosen, Dr. Steven Kairys, Susan Radosti

**Absent:** Dan Rhoton, Tatianna Mickens, Durell Clark, Dr. Yolanda Allen

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Welcome by Niambi
- b. Individual introductions & Ice Breaker – “What app are you currently using the most?”
- c. Alice led the team in a breathing/relaxation exercise

#### 2. February meeting minutes reviewed

- a. No comments/changes
- b. Minutes approved

#### 3. Agency Spotlight (Sharing the adolescent work of your agency)

##### a. *David Rosen spotlighted Hudson PRIDE*

- i. Working remotely since pandemic began
  1. Has resulted in attracting youth from other areas & states, even countries
  2. May continue utilizing remote access for those who need
- ii. Most youth come from below the poverty line
- iii. Offering:
  1. After school programming
  2. Drug & alcohol-free social time
  3. Social education group
    - a. Cooking/Online grocery shopping
    - b. Safe sex
    - c. Relationships
  4. LGBTQI Prom
  5. Grants
    - a. To provide hotel rooms for 3-4 nights while permanent housing is found (for 18-24 year olds)
    - b. For needs of trans youth
      - i. Personal hygiene products
  6. Assist with college essays and dressing for success
  7. Talks/Discussions on LGBTQI sensitivity
    - a. Hudson County high schools
    - b. Social service agencies

#### **4. Chafee Logic Model Presentation (Mai Nguyen, DCF)**

- a. Power Point presentation (will be sent to the group)
- b. Logic Model
  - i. Visual roadmap between programs, resources & activities and how they work to achieve desired goals & outcomes
    - 1. Inputs
    - 2. Activities
    - 3. Outputs
    - 4. Short-term outcomes
    - 5. Intermediate outcomes
    - 6. Long-term outcomes
  - ii. Presentation to also be shared with the Youth Council
- c. Comments, Questions, Observations
  - i. CP&P caseworkers are also working towards these goals. How should DCP&P and other offices be incorporated into the logic model?
  - ii. Additional activities: some combination of outreach, advocacy, engagement, and education. Emphasize skill building for communication and relationships. Include helping youth with long-term planning (both in actively engaging in planning process and learning to do long-term planning).
  - iii. Mentoring programs affected by budget cuts
    - 1. LifeSet is still going!
  - iv. Relational permanency
    - 1. How are we engaging youth?
    - 2. Network of connections
      - a. Job of everyone who comes in contact with youth
    - 3. Why were some programs under-utilized?
    - 4. Relationship building should be under “activities”
      - a. Social skills & relationships
    - 5. Outcomes: needed emphasis on permanency and building a network of supportive and caring adults, as is developmentally appropriate.
- d. The draft logic model will also be shared with the DCF Youth Council for feedback. Once all necessary parties have reviewed and provided input the updated version will be shared with the CAG before it is finalized.

#### **5. Round Table Discussion**

- a. Goal is to make Chafee meeting more interactive
- b. Janel discussed housing options
  - i. Millions received for rental assistance
  - ii. Lottery system in place
    - 1. Accessed via the DCA webpage/portal and a phone line
    - 2. Can provide up to 12 months rent (future or arrears)
  - iii. Funding available for homeless families as well
  - iv. Just have to show need
  - v. DCA utilizing a lot of outreach programs to get the word out!

- c. Federal funding during pandemic made for additional Chafee funds
- d. RFP for Peer to Peer
  - i. 3 agencies awarded
    - 1. Oaks Integrated
    - 2. Children's Home Society
    - 3. Children's Aid and Family Services

## **6. Closing**

- a. Next meeting is September 14, 2021
- b. Plan to have faith-based provider and DCF contracted provider identified by then
- c. Need volunteer for next "Agency Spotlight" segment

*All ideas reflected are not endorsed by the agency.*