



Community Transition Services Stakeholder Group

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2021 – 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Virtual Meeting

Welcome, Virtual Meeting Protocols, and Introductions

DCYF’s Deputy Director of Community Engagement Deanna Stewart welcomed attendees and walked through virtual meeting protocols. DCYF’s Community Engagement Manager Erin Kerrigan initiated introductions.

Esperanza: Homework Recap Activity and Share Out

Members engaged in an individual homework recap activity and provided feedback.

- [Esperanza: Homework Recap Activity and Share Out Feedback](#)

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A big need is baton passing, for someone to carry and guide this young person through and meet the needs of this person that has been denied to them for so long. Through collaboration we can help provide that to them.
-------------------	---

Youth Risk and Protective Factor Domain Conversation: Attitude/Behavior

DCYF’s Clinical Director of Juvenile Rehabilitation Ted Ryle shared insight and engaged in group conversation regarding the Domain of Attitude/Behavior.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitudes are learned and behavior is functional. • Impact of family when one transitions from Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) back into the community and importance of engagement with community and family. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Obviously, family is essential and circumstances around family vary. There are some young people that involving the whole family is essential to the family’s functioning and how do we help the whole family connect with resources and tools we can offer. Also, how does the youth define family, who are those forever people in their lives? • If I was a parent of a young man at Greenhill, what would I know in terms of intervention that he would be getting? How would the line staff let me know what he is getting and where he is at in the process? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Right now the expectation is case managers are in touch with the family every month and talking about what the young person is up to in general programming. There may be the specialist who is engaging the family in treatment activities the youth is getting as well. This is discussed in re-entry team meetings too. • Once a month is unacceptable to me, it sounds like a convenience. It sounds like we need to ramp up the community and family engagement with this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I would agree. The frequency of contact is not sufficient. We want the resources to be available at all facilities and to be equitable. • When thinking about attitudes and behavior, we have to remember that it is not adaptation or something a kid started doing when they were 11, 12 or 13 that led them to getting locked up. These issues are deeper and multigenerational and when engaging with young people to help them with these attitudes and behaviors, we are trying to dismantle their culture and who they have grown to be. • A parent may feel fatigued with their child entering into JR or may have their own issues that get in the way of wanting to meet with their child more often or be able to be participatory.
-------------------	---



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking about a strength based approach and looking at what got a young person where they are. Being at a place where we aren't just treating a young person like they are a problem. • The stigma a parent faces if their child is in JR is difficult because going to these meetings they may be asked well what did you do wrong as a parent? Also, how we can change the frame of this and to see what the youth needs. • Looking at how we support young people to the generalization of skills to where they are going home to. • My question is regarding dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) and cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT). I know, and have experienced the positive outcomes on youth that have gone through these practices, but wonder if anyone has ever used those DBT/CBT approaches with the families and adults associated with the youth? • When I was in direct care, we held family sessions and multifamily groups with the young people and their families and did DBT skill building work - like any intervention, the ones that dug it really liked it - and those that didn't love it had a shared framework they could build on if they decided they wanted to in their family. It was fun to see how and where that showed up for them over time... this was substance use/mental health care, would be interesting to hear from JR teams about it too... if the parole and community sites are doing work in that way with families... • We have in the past implemented Multi-Systemic Therapy: Family Integrated Transitions (MST/FIT) which works with parents /caregivers two months prior to a youth transitioning and four to six months while the youth is in the community coaching them on the DBT, parenting and systems strategies that enhance the family strengths. Parents/caregivers often find the DBT skills that the youth have learned useful for them as well.
--	---

Youth Risk and Protective Factor Domain Conversation: Living Arrangements

Dr. Felisa Bryant shared insight and engaged in group conversation regarding the Domain of Living Arrangements.

<p>Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not a lot of housing for women who are reunifying with their children after re-entering into the community. • Re-entry does not start when you walk out the door, there needs to be planning prior to this, in regards to where you will live, counseling needed, mental health needs, etc. • There is a gap in accessibility to housing for families. • What about those individuals who have not been involved in drugs or have children, what about housing for those folks? What about the folks who don't fit into those pre-made categories? Outside the box is where we need to put some focus and that is where a lot of people have been missed. • Everybody's needs are very different. Re-entry programming is different; we all know that this has been created towards men's programming. • There are a lot of barriers to traditional housing, a felony or bad credit for example. Affordability can be a huge barrier as well. • The piece of transportation, if someone is being released and they are going to be reliant on public transportation that adds another layer to finding adequate housing. The fact that King County and the greater Seattle area are very expensive, more affordable housing usually is outside of this area and then that is farther away from public transportation. • Another barrier can be someone who used to be gang affiliated, they may not be able to travel through or live in certain areas because it can be dangerous. • Economics and community economics, for communities who allow treatment programs and housing are usually a lower economic community. When you think about what happens in those communities in regards to drug use and gangs, unfortunately those
--------------------------	---



	things have a place holder in those lower economic communities and that can be a part of why the youth got into JR to begin with.
--	---

Assessment Center Model Presentation

The IF Project’s Strategic Consultant Bonnie Sultan provided an overview of the assessment center model and participated in a large group discussion.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there examples in Washington where there are some models like this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To my understanding, I don’t think there are any in Washington state. • In Pierce county, Sarah Walker's group has a pilot project working with probation - https://www.acgov.org/probation/documents/ProbationSupervision_SarahWalker1.22.19.pdf • Are there other models in other parts of the country that you can speak to? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ohio and Florida have some models similar to this. • Peer driven supportive conversations are very important. There needs to be people involved who are directly impacted and solutions driven that are representative of the population. • Very helpful to have peer navigators as part of the assessment center.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For further questions, feel free to reach out to Bonnie at : Sultan.justice.consulting@gmail.com

Wrap Up Activity

Members completed reflection questions about attitude/behavior and living arrangements and provided feedback.

- [Wrap Up Activity Feedback](#)

Legislative Report Draft Review

This item was skipped due to time and attendance and will be revisited during the December 2 meeting.

Closing Remarks/Next Meeting/Adjourn

Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Community Transition Services Stakeholder Group meeting will be on December 2, 2021 from 9:00am-12:00pm.
-----------------------------	---