

Family Services Collaborative Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Present: Catie Michaelson (chair), Lucy Rosario, Jackie Weber, Sully Sullivan, Jeff Ozanne (secretary), Clare Rodrigues-Henderson

Welcome and introductions: Lucy explained the circle process as an alternative to Robert's Rules of Order. Process starts with a moment of grounding. Often the next step is to name the ground rules and guiding principles or norms of the group. One core one is that it is okay to pass. Others named by the group were:

- important to speak up or have a voice.
- Working towards a common goal and being collaborative.
- Being inclusive and restorative
- Centering youth and families
- Have uncomfortable conversations
- Its okay to make mistakes and acknowledge them and move towards repair
- Being okay with non-closure (not everything will get fixed)
- Lean into discomfort

Next steps would be to have a facilitator each week and perhaps print out norms to have for transparency. Begin and end times passing the talking piece but allow for times in the middle where there can be more back and forth conversation.

Update on Waiver Process: We can only have four years' worth of funds at the end of a year, about \$100,000 for our group. We currently have about \$140,000. Wendy is working with Ann to provide more fiscal data to see if we can have a waiver for the use of the funds over our cap. We do not know when we will hear more about this. Catie will follow-up with Wendy on this process and report. Disappointment was expressed at how we had reached the point where we might lose funds which could benefit mental health in our community. We identified the use of these funds as an urgent priority for us. We discussed the need for an equitable policy for distribution of funds.

Review Draft of Proposed Bylaws: Catie began by naming that what was asked of the group was that this was a lot of work. People were invited to share their questions for the group. We started by looking at who is currently a member of the Collaborative. Catie shared that the police officers have asked to be removed from the Collaborative since they are no longer require to attend. They would be willing to come to discuss a specific topic. The group discussed their disappointment at losing their voices. Time was then spent looking at how people have gotten on the board and the possibilities that exist for rebuilding it based on the current lack of membership. We talked about the need to focus on the membership of the bylaws would be our first focus. Catie and Jeff will send out a summary of the proposed structure for membership and how the sub-group arrived there.

Technology Update: Jackie briefly shared her research on video camera options and will send it out to the group as well. She will discuss some of the options with Wendy as well.

Next meeting: Monday, November 7th, 4-5:30 location to be determined (ideally CS9) and a hybrid option