

Regional Advisory Council (RAC)

Location: WYS Prospect St. Waterbury

September 24, 2015

Meeting time 3-4:30 pm

Attendance: Cassie Manger, Sandy Porteus, RC- Youth, YG – Youth, JK- Youth, MW- youth, Diane Capaldo, IA- youth, John Doucette, Laura Cummings, Valerie Ventura, Joseph Dobbins, Taylor Hogan, Jill Schoenfuss, Colleen Kaplan, K Monahan, Kathi Crowe, Pamela Dirzius Wright, Josephine Bennett, Yvette Tucker, Sandy Phair, Lori Hart, Precious Price, Deb Kelleher, and Erika Mongrain

Welcome and Introductions by Deb K

Deb K mentioned our co-chair David Oyola resigned as co-facilitator of the RAC, and that we need to fill his position

Pam D-W accepted last months' minutes, Sandy P seconded the motion to accept

Presentation by Bridge to Success (BTS) Executive Director, Lori Hart

Ann H distributed 2015 Community Report Card from the Waterbury BTS community Partnership, and also a powerpoint of the presentation:

There are five indicators of child and youth success:

- 1) Personal/Social Skills
- 2) Third Grade CMT Reading Scores
- 3) 8th Grade CMT Math Scores
- 4) High School Graduation rates
- 5) Secondary School Education

Strategies for Bridge to Success, Community Partnership

- 1) Best Practices from national and local initiatives to assure Waterbury's youth succeed in school, work and life
- 2) Attendance Matters
- 3) Building Child and Youth Assets
- 4) Addressing Disparities, gender, economic and racial/ethnicity

For more information and to subscribe to the BTS Weekly Newsletter can email:

info@WaterburyBTS.org or visit website: www.WaterburyBTS.org

Update from SAC:

Deb K reported on the difference other RAC's are spending the CRP funds on. We do have options to use the money for, i.e. food at the meetings

Deb K distributed the communication form that gets sent to the SAC as a communication tool from each RAC monthly.

Colleen K discussed the need for children to have access to all needed mental health service types despite pay source. Working collectively to start a group with provider, parent and agency involvement collaborating and ensuring adequate resource connection for individualized needs. There will be an executive team for this group that meets quarterly. The meeting is Oct 2nd, and some RAC members received an invite via email already. Any parent interested in attending added a check by their name on the RAC attendance sheet. Josephine B mentioned that youth attendance at this meeting will be improved if held after school, or at a school location. Y Tucker mentioned options for college kids to be involved, can contact NVCC Student Government or Student Activities. Josephine B also mentioned the Board Of Education member, Mary Ann Marold (Liaison to Government, Business and Community) may be a consumer for this group.

Erika M updated group re: data, next meeting will distribute and discuss data dashboard and review this monthly. Mentioned that the SAC mentioned that they are working on consistent data to distribute for each RAC.

Danbury representatives offered to host meetings from time to time. The group presented issues regarding transportation. There are youth available to participate in Danbury. **This idea will be tabled until next month.**

Options for increasing participation in meetings:

- Video conferencing
- Recording the meeting? Would need youth permission and might dampen the conversation
- Skype
- Teleconferencing
- Find another way to utilize technology

FSGW – has Teleconferencing in the conference room

Membership

Voting Members and Advisory members. Many of the voting members no longer attend. 3 missed meetings= resigning. 21 members choose the additional members. Of the voting membership the group needs to figure out who is still interested and who else should be represented.

Currently there is web space on anniec.org website under the Community Tab and then click on RAC

We need to **save time for community updates** in future meetings.

There is an Open house on Oct. 8th 3:30-6:30 @ Waterbury Youth Services – to learn about the agency and they will be kicking off their art gallery

Essay, Short Story, Poetry Competition Nov 21st, 1-4pm at Mattatuck Museum for ages 9-21

Danbury representatives are compiling a list of Acronyms for anyone who is interested.

Next Steps:

Next Meeting on Oct 29th at WTS 3:00- 4:30 pm

Data will be presented at the next RAC