



Youth Services Advisory Board Meeting
January Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2023, from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Members in Attendance: Patty Van de Bogart, Ian Schachner, Khaki Wunderlich, Marnie Kirchgessner, Susan Ainslie, Lisa Monroe, Pat Buechel, Kate Kelley-Mackenzie and Randy Brown,

Members not in Attendance: Leonardo Vargas-Mendez, and Mike Jordan.

Staff: Rick Alvord, Kate Shanks-Booth, and Theresa Albert

Guest(s): Mike Ellis, Jamie Sorrentino, and Ruth Merle-Doyle

Welcome - Meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm

Items to be voted on: We did not have quorum so we could not vote on these

- October 22' Minutes
- November 22' Minutes
- 2023 Slate of Officers

Presentation: Open Doors by Mike Ellis

- Mike Ellis presented a PPT that he created to give an overview of Open Doors.
- He pointed out that there is a lot more outreach and push out of information to the rural areas.
- Mike Ellis: mellis@fcsith.org. People can also access services through the Family and Children's Service website: www.fcsith.org
- Warmline: 301-3002
- The program was reopened in 2022 and is for youth between the ages of 12 to 21 years old. Housing is the center of all they do, but they do provide other times of preventative supports and services.
- The are currently not operating the Host Home portion of the program, but hope that opening those is only is only two or three months out.
- The staff hosted a Runaway and Homeless Youth Event in November 2022, and has been using funds to put advertaintments on and in the TCAT buses, along with creating additional/new outreach materials.
- Total number of youths served 69
- Total number of services rendered to youth 176
- Total number of services rendered to parents/guardians and other service providers 383
- Total number of youths formally enrolled in program 26
- Enrolled youth that met engagement targets 96%
- Mike said future goals for Open Doors is opening Host Homes, increasing presence in schools on designated weekly days, more outreach to rural areas, and having youth set up SMART goals.
- Mike was asked what he thought was the reason for youth homelessness, he said the lack of housing stock, lots of youth who are LGBTQ+ are pushed out of there homes, and mental health struggles in youth and their families.
- Mike also said that because many different stores no longer stay open 24 hours a day, lots of unofficial resources to keep kids overnight have gone away.

- Lisa Monroe asked about Opens Doors corrections with Rural Youth Services. Mike said they had not connected with them, and Kate said that they would be happy to make that connection to help them reach out.
- Jenn Dean did offer to connect Mike to the Librarian out in Groton.
- Mike also reported that Nadie Phoenix, the Team Leader, has left her job and he would be taking over that job for right now.
- Mike thanked the Board for their support for Open Doors, and said he appreciated the chance to come talk to them.

Link to Mike's Slides:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAFXfbx4VoU/77cCOPrdPjN1ffPZjmhHIA/view?utm_content=DAFXfbx4VoU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer

Director's Report

- Norma Jane is the next Deputy County Administrator
- Kate provided an updated on the Open Doors Host Home process, and that Rick has stepped into the RHY Coordinator Role for Tompkins County.
- Marnie asked what the RAP is from OCFA, and Theresa offered her an examination.
- MYSS is going through the Vitality Checklist annually and working on that currently with them.
- MYSS is looking for new Rural Youth Managers in Groton, Newfield, and Trumansburg.
- Kate also said that the Project Assistant Job Description has been approved and it would be posted soon. Kate also spoke a little bit about what the OTR project is, and what the person would be doing.

Discussion: 2023 Goal Setting Process

- Board was provided a copy of the last goals that were established.
- Patty shared that the board was going to back to the goals set before, and focus more of them in 2023.
- Kate went over the RBA goals that impact the Youth Advisory Board
- Randy said he really liked the first goal that the Youth Board had set, he says that he is learning about what different programs are happening in the rural areas of the county.
- The board was introduced to the idea of using the Vitality Checklist to help narrow down the areas that we might want to focus on and set goals. The Board suggested that some of the questions/language be changed within it so that it would related more to the board. Kate said she would do that and get it out for them to complete ASAP.
- Marnie highlighted to importance of getting more funds for youth employment. Theresa added that each municipality does YES differently (2008 \$150,000 was cut in that budget year). She also said that the minimum wages it makes it very hard to get youth into jobs, because they are competing with adults more than they used to.

New/Old Business

- Marnie asked about the Learning Web's report that put out every 4 years, and Rick said he would follow up with Olan.

Adjourn Next meeting:

- February 27, 2023, at 5 pm.

The meeting was called at 6:26 pm

Respectfully submitted by Kate Shanks-Booth