

November 14, 2013 YAB Statewide Meeting

Attendees:

NC Region: Youth: Joshua,

NC Staff: Stephanie Armbruster

NE Region: Youth: Bullock, Michael, Colin, Rob, DeMara, Juanita, Lisa, Shian, Brianna
Staff: Janice Reindel, Jenn Richter, Matt Sterndale, Lorie Chaffers, Rachel Green

South Central Region: Youth: Betty, Steven,

Staff: Leasia Ayers-Caswell, Betsy Glossner, Don Farner, Amanda Knaub

South East Region: Youth: Mariah,

Staff: Peggy Schmidt

South East Region (WebEx) Youth: April

Staff: Dawn Lucas

SW Region: Youth: Brandi,

Staff: Laura Wussick

JLC: Youth: Meghan

Staff: Kathy

OCYF: David Derbes, Grippi, Amy

CWRC: Cindy Gore, Barbara Huggins, Chris Nobles, Meghan O'Hare, Chris Reese,
Brand Duda

- Welcome, Introductions and Ice Breaker

- Reviewed Agenda
 - Explained the meetings taking place with *Youth Thrive* and the purpose of their visit
 - Reviewed and approved September 19, 2013 YAB Meeting Minute
 - Reviewed Submissions Handouts
 - Reviewed THE BLAST

- Affordable Care Act
 - Amy Grippi reviewed the special section in the Act for Foster Care Youth
 - Must be in care on or after 18th birthday and receiving medical assistance to be eligible. Can receive assistance up to age 26
 - Youth still in care as of January 1, 2013, will automatically be enrolled
 - ✓ Must re-enroll every year
 - ✓ Will receive paperwork to complete every year. Make sure these are completed and returned in or to continue the coverage
 - Youth over 18 and have left care must apply for medical assistance.
 - ✓ Go on line to the compass
 - ✓ County assistance office
 - ✓ Several different ways- check to find out where to go

November 14, 2013 YAB Statewide Meeting

- ✓ Make sure you check *Former Foster Youth*
- ✓ Youth are encouraged to apply now if they have left care
- PA is covering youth who were in foster care in another state and moved to PA. If a Pennsylvania youth, in foster care, moves to another state that youth must check with the that states policy to see if they would be able to receive the assistance in that state
- Make sure you provide all documentation they ask for
- All foster care youth are eligible, even if they have a job
- If you're having difficulty applying or receiving coverage for youth already in care, the best place to start is the local county assistance office
- The former Foster Care category is a new category, they will look at all information provided first
- At age of 21 the health insurance does change. There is less coverage for all adults
- Communication will sent to the Children and Youth offices soon
- Flyer being created to get out to youth as soon as possible to get the word out to all youth, even those who left, as soon as possible
- Documentation will be sent to the county offices soon
- Federally Affiliated Market Place is where everyone is encouraged to go to apply. Go into the state medical assistance website and apply through Compass because that is where the application will end up
- If the youth has a child they should applied together
- Documentation needed
- If the youth was in care in PA, they should be in the county assistance database and should not have to provide any documentation.
- If the youth came from another state they will need to get proof from the state they came from
- If the youth is over 18 and still in care they will be automatically enrolled. If they leave care, they need to update their address. The office cannot forward mail.

Contact Amy Grippi with questions you may have:

Amy Grippi | Chief of Staff

Department of Public Welfare | Office of Children, Youth and Families

625 Forster St. | Harrisburg, PA 17120

Phone: 717.787.4756 | Fax: 717.787.0414

www.dpw.state.pa.us

- Reviewed New Member Form for YAB recruitment. Asked that this be reviewed and used for recruiting new YAB members

November 14, 2013 YAB Statewide Meeting

- Independent Living Practice Standards – A document was created in 2006 by the South Central Region and the Juvenile Law as a start for youth developed standards. They were sent to several places / individuals statewide; however, there was not any further implementation to assure these standards were used. They began to revisit and see how it could be more user friendly and what things may have changed. They brought it to the Statewide Board for review and recommendations to see what is missing.
 1. Broke up into four groups to review and document via flip charts the four different sections
 - a. Dating: Privileges and responsibilities
 - b. Housing/ Placement Options
 - c. Various Privileges
 - d. Curfew / College and Education
 - e. Friends and Working Guidelines
- Report-out for Practice Standards – The report-outs were mailed out – and also attached to these minutes
- YAB members are to take the draft to your local regions and compile more youth feedback from the regions. Once feedback is obtained, the suggestions should be emailed to Janice at jtc30@pitt.edu. Janice will compile the suggestions. They will be distributed at the January Statewide YAB meeting and a vote will be taken on what will be included. Once vote is taken it will be compiled and send to system partners i.e. OCYF, AOPC, County Administrators, etc in order to address their concerns and have them sign on to it to strengthen our c. Once signed off, it will be the YAB Regions responsibility to present to the various counties

Action Item:

YAB County Region Representatives: Present draft of Practice Standards to county regions
And gather feedback / suggestions and send them to Janice
Janice: Compile feedback for presentation at January Statewide meeting

- Introduced members from Youth Thrive
- Broke out into regional workgroups to provide updates on the following:
 1. What are your regional projects / projects related to age appropriate freedoms
 2. What has been going well in the individual regions
 3. What challenges have there been
 4. How can the IL Practice standards be incorporated into the work in your region currently
 5. How can you use your current projects / products and the IL Practice Standards to keep moving forward. When is your next regional Meeting

- **SC- Region**

1. [What are your regional projects / projects related to age appropriate freedoms](#)
 - a. Review the standards at a regional meeting. Each county has or made plans to review them with administrative directors
 - b. Planned six extra meetings for officers to work on plan, including a possible stakeholder banquet
2. [What has been going well in the individual regions](#)
 - a. Our officer meetings help us with our regional meetings – More prepared
3. [What challenges have there been](#)
 - a. Struggling with participation from other counties. There are three active counties
4. [How can the IL Practice standards be incorporated into the work in your region currently](#)
 - a. Dickinson Law School panel presentation
 - b. Share with local youth about the IL Standards
5. [How can you use your current projects / products and the IL Practice Standards to keep moving forward](#)
 - a. All of Number 4
 - b. Have a Stakeholder Banquet
 - c. Made a meal for Ronald McDonald Drive
 - d. Penny Drive – Raised \$183
6. [When is your next regional Meeting](#)
 - a. Officer Meeting is December 12, 2013 to work on Strategic Plan and next year's meeting dates

- **SE / JLC Region**

Done a lot and feel it's not our part to change what we do. We struggle with involvement. Youth say they will participate, but then don't come. We need to lure them in and try to get them involved.

December 3, 2013 - Holiday Party
Job Core Speaker - Explaining the Job Core about

- **NC – Region**

1. [What are your regional projects / projects related to age appropriate freedoms](#)
 - a. Looking at IL Standards and talking about creating a survey to provide to out of home placements
2. [What has been going well in the individual regions](#)
 - a. Ideas and plans set forth
3. [What challenges have there been](#)
 - a. Youth dedication and participation. Have a lot come to meetings, but don't participate as much

November 14, 2013 YAB Statewide Meeting

4. [How can the IL Practice standards be incorporated into the work in your region currently](#)
 - a. Having different placement center areas – separate by age groups. Currently the age groups is 12 – 18 and the rules are the same regardless of the age
 5. [How can you use your current projects / products and the IL Practice Standards to keep moving forward](#)
 6. [When is your next regional Meeting](#)
- **NE - Region**
 1. [What are your regional projects / projects related to age appropriate freedoms](#)
 - a. Youth Satisfaction Survey – allows youth to give feedback about freedoms
 - b. Top Ten List
 - Addresses appropriate freedoms
 - Used to engage in conversation about realistic responsibilities, expectations and rules
 - c. Community Service Projects
 - d. SWAN - Presentation – Youth voice presented to CWs, Speaking Engagements
 - e. Recruitments – YAB present to IL group – Provides incentives
 - Three meetings = \$50 for Holiday Gifts
 - Movie and dinner nights
 - Group Outings
 - f. Recognition banquet (2nd annual) – People who influenced youth in positive ways
 2. [What has been going well in the individual regions](#)
 - a. Top Ten List is being well received by county offices
 3. [What challenges have there been](#)
 - a. Finding regular / committed members
 - b. Get Top 10 into provider agencies and partners
 4. [How can the IL Practice Standards be incorporated into the work in your region currently](#)
 - a. IL Practice Standards go hand in hand with Top Ten and Youth Satisfaction Survey
 5. [How can you use your current projects / products and the IL Practice Standards to keep moving forward](#)
 - a. Create a package deal with top 10, Youth Satisfaction Surveys, and IL Practice standards
 - b. Open discussion with YAB and Providers
 6. [When is your next regional Meeting](#)
 - a. December 5, 2013 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
 - SW Region
 1. [What are your regional projects / projects related to age appropriate freedoms](#)
 - a. Created a survey to give to foster parents about age appropriate freedoms to

November 14, 2013 YAB Statewide Meeting

- b. Planning to go to foster parent agency and will take the Practice Standards Plan to give them an overview from the youths perspective
 - 2. [What has been going well in the individual regions](#)
 - 3. [What challenges have there been](#)
 - 4. [How can the IL Practice standards be incorporated into the work in your region currently](#)
 - 5. [How can you use your current projects / products and the IL Practice Standards to keep moving forward.](#)
 - 6. [When is your next regional Meeting](#)
 - a. Tuesday, December 19 2013
- What was Good
 - Knowing what everyone is doing
 - Achieving and making progress
 - Getting a lot of new ideas to move forward
 - Working hard
 - Concrete things to work on and hearing what people are doing across the state
 - Like the Breaks
 - What can be Improved
 - Better Food
 - Better Coordination between the local regions
 - More time for sharing
 - Shorten the Ice Breakers
 - Less questions and focus on what the Regions are doing
 - Look forward to Report outs
 - Mail agenda's before hand

Next YAB Statewide Meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2014 – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Please have RSVP's, with names, of all attending to Janice by [December 30, 2013](mailto:jtc30@pitt.edu)
jtc30@pitt.edu