

YAB Statewide Meeting

September 18, 2014

Attendees:

NC Region: Youth: Rebecca, Ryan, Colin

Staff: Stephanie Salvatori, Hope Tressler

(WebEx): Staff: Hope Tressler

North East Region: Youth: None

Staff: None

(WebEx): None

South Central Region: Youth: Betty, Stephen, Maranda, Robert, Michelle, Alyssa, Adam, Destynie and Timberly

Staff: Leasia Ayers-Caswell, Betsy Glossner, Amanda Knaub, Jesse Norfthridge

South East Region: Youth: Alaysia

Staff: Tiffany Thornton

(WebEx): None

JLC: Youth: None

Staff: None

SW Region: Youth:

(WebEx): Staff: Rebecca Shaffer, Kaeleigh Gagnon

OCYF: David Derbes

PA Partnership: (WebEx): None

CWRC: Barbara Huggins, Chris Nobles, Denise Hoffman, Meghan O'Hare, Cindy Gore, Demara Williams

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

- Welcome and review agenda items
- Maranda led the ice breaker with everyone introducing themselves and doing their favorite dance

2. Developmentally Appropriate Freedoms (DAF)

- Provided, reviewed and discussed the Developmentally Appropriate Freedoms Guide final draft. This was written by youth for the people who make things happen at the counties – who make the rules and guidelines
✓
- It was agreed the DAF document should be finalized
 - ✓ A "Quote" sheet was distributed. Youth are encouraged to send a quote and possibly a life story or personal example of how and why the DAF affected them. This is to confirm that this document was approved and accepted by the youth – not that an adult said it was

- These can be handed in today or – take to the local and regional meetings and distribute
- Once collected, they will be sent to our graphic designer and then inserted it into the guide
- ✓ A DAF group will be working on a communication plan and how the guide will distributed. A sign-up sheet was distributed for volunteers to sign if they want to be on the DAF work group
- ✓ To avoid sending out so many documents, they will not be sent out via email. They will be put on google drive – an online cloud for data and documents. It is a link that you would go to for your information
- ✓ Reviewed the DAF timeline showing the progress of the DAF project
- ✓ Next Steps for DAF Workgroup:
 - Distribution and Training for Youth to present
 - Role Play to act the training
- Provided, reviewed the Teen Success Agreement. This was developed by Youth Fostering Change. It is a conversation guide that will assist Foster Parents and youth as they discuss their age appropriate activities, responsibilities and life skills for youth ages 13 – 21
 - ✓ Discussed decision making factors
 - ✓ Teen Success Agreement and the top 10 list for resource parents
 - ✓ Special Population

3. YAB Summit Discussion

- Recap of 2014 Youth Summit
 - ✓ Favorite Part
 - Food and Cupcake bar
 - Special Speaker – Stacy Johnson – She shared her story as she went through care
 - Having the Youth in the front and the staff in the back
 - More county participation
- Planning for 2015 Youth Summit
 - ✓ Will be planned and organized by the youth
 - ✓ Things to look for in the Summit are:
 - Recap of the year
 - Training
 - Interaction with other youth
 - Entertainment
 - ✓ Discussion took place regarding if the Summit should be 1 day or 2 days
 - Some youth preferred 1 day because of working/ personal issues with planning for two days

- It was suggested having it be 2 days, with the option for some to leave if they need to. Suggestion was made if this is done, make both days unique
- Staff provided feedback
 - Felt it was good for youth to have two days – Good interaction with roommates and other youth
 - Many youth don't have the opportunity to stay in a hotel and it provides a good experience
 - Not sure if agency would permit two days
 - Good for people driving long distance
- It was agreed that the summit will be 2 days
- ✓ A work group will be formed to plan the Summit. Those who wanted to be a part of the workgroup signed up
- ✓ Discussed having a guest speaker or have the youth share their stories
 - What youth would want in a guest speaker
 - Should be entertaining – also have a story the youth can relate to
 - Suggested having Richard Santana coming back as a guest speaker. Like how he shared his story
 - Some liked the year they had the Sacred Circle with Jaiya John. Felt he really brought youth together
 - Suggested having Stacy Johnson come back
 - Eric Anderson, the *Magic Man* was suggested
- ✓ Additional feedback
 - Have the main project done before the Youth Summit because the summit can be more like a congratulations / it's over and come up with new projects possible for the next year

4. **Regional Report Out** - Reviewed the report out process for new members. Each region reports what has been happening in their region since the last state meeting

➤ South Central Region

- When new youth attend we try to let them talk.
- The youth sit together and the staff sit together
- Officers have been consistent for the last year so when youth come they know they have familiar faces and will get updated
- When they see the officers committed, it makes them want to commit
- ✓ *Goals for the 2014 – 2015 YAB Year*
 - Train new officers - current officers term about to expire
 - Visit Nursing Home

- Resource Table – Will be having an information table for Youth Advisory Board at State Recourse Parent Association Conference coming up in October
- ✓ *Our strengths and tasks completed to move towards accomplishing the goals:*
 - First time three solid officers for one year
 - Implemented an extra meeting – the Officers Meeting. These meetings take place on the off month when there is no Regional meeting
 - There's an extra bond, due to officers meeting
 - Had an Empowerment Camp for the SC Region – Had youth attend that never came before
 - Shared stories and bonded
 - Nine youth attended the state meeting
- ✓ *Our challenges have been / Next Steps*
 - Officers not wanting to give up their spot
- ✓ *Meeting Information:*
 - Last regional meeting was September 11, 2014
 - Ten youth attended, of those, 5 were new members
 - SC next regional meeting is November 6, 2104

➤ North Central

- ✓ Issues with consistency of members
- ✓ People say they will a this project, but then don't
- ✓ *Goals for the 2014 – 2015 YAB Year*
 - Back to basics, Trainings, Prepare for panels and speaking engagements
 - Centre County is making a video to recruit foster parents
- ✓ *Our strengths and tasks completed to move towards accomplishing the goals:*
 - Quality in four members
 - Getting tasks completed
 - Community clean up
 - Adopt a student – back to school. Helping get school supplies for a child
 - Created expectation for Leaders and Members
- ✓ *Our challenges have been*
 - Attendance
 - Reliability
 - Staying focused
- ✓ *Next Steps*

- Meetings with foster care worker within county
 - Working on poster for event, recruitment - being involved
 - ✓ *Meeting Information:*
 - Last regional meeting was in May
 - 18 youth that attended
 - Of those, 8 were new members
 - NC next regional meeting is October 14. Cooking meals at the Ronald McDonald House
- South West
- ✓ *Goals for the 2014 – 2015 YAB Year*
 - Working in the soup kitchen in the fall
 - Valentines for Vets in February
 - Adopt a highway
 - ✓ *Our strengths and tasks completed to move towards accomplishing the goals:*
 - Consistency
 - ✓ *Our challenges have been*
 - Recruitment
 - ✓ *Meeting Information:*
 - Last regional meeting was September 8, 2014
 - Seven youth that attended
 - None were new members
 - NW next regional meeting is November 3, 2014
- North East – (No representation from NE were able to attend meeting. Youth Ambassador for the NE, Demara spoke regarding the Regional Meetings and projects)
- ✓ Not using the Buddy System as much now. The officers changed and the new members were getting comfortable
 - ✓ *Goals for the 2014 – 2015 YAB Year*
 - Will set goals in November at the next regional since just completed last year's regional goal
 - ✓ *Our strengths*
 - Consistent with veteran members
 - Continuing with low members
 - ✓ *Tasks accomplished :*
 - Speaking
 - Recruitment
 - Starting up new counties
 - Setting goals

- Worked on Community Service in July
 - ✓ *Our challenges have been*
 - Consistency
 - Keeping motivation
 - Communication between counties in region
 - ✓ *Next Steps*
 - Setting year goals
 - Officer elections
 - New members running YAB
 - ✓ *Meeting Information:*
 - Last regional meeting was in July
 - Between 10-20 youth that attended
 - Majority were new members
 - NE next regional meeting is November 6th
- South East – (Philadelphia County)
- ✓ *Goals for the 2014 – 2015 YAB Year*
 - Membership Recruitment
 - Retaining Members
 - Working on having a youth leadership role outside of YAB
 - Public Speaking Opportunities – Chestnut Hill, Penn State, Temple and La Salle and Wagner
 - Participation in the Youth Point and Time Count – Count the homeless youth in the city. Work with HUD to do this. It's a survey tool put out through the city
 - ✓ *Our strengths and tasks completed to move towards accomplishing the goals:*
 - Still working on ways to complete goals
 - ✓ *Our challenges have been / Next Steps*
 - Recruiting members and Keeping them on board
 - Plan on having a group / youth leadership role to keep and regain members
 - ✓ *Meeting Information:*
 - Last regional meeting was Last Spring
 - 10 – 14 youth attended
 - All youth were new
 - SE next regional meeting is Not Available at this time

5. Statewide Discussion on 2014 -2015 YAB Project

- The process for the YAB Project each year will be for the youth to select a project for the year

- ✓ The youth will work on the project selected throughout the year both at the statewide meeting – and the regional meetings
- ✓ The goal will be for the project to be completed in June by the time of the Youth Summit
- After youth discussion on the topics, with staff providing their input, the project selected for the 2014 – 2015 year is

*Fostering Older Youth Training
The Teenage Experience*

- ✓ Reviewed Action Plan Template to – which creates a timeline with due dates. These dates keep you accountable and will be reviewed at each meeting
- ✓ Ways to begin developing
 - Create a Foster Parent Survey
 - Create a curriculum or guide Time and dates for the Foster Parent Training once
 - Decide how many meetings for the actual training / Possibility for multiple trainings
 - Determine who will give the training
 - Comparing youth in care and out. Also, don't forget about DAF. Relate and Compare families part of Care and those that are not
 - Hearing from other fostering groups
 - Hear from the Foster Parents from their point of view
 - using resources we currently have
 - This will be a presentation – not training. People and agencies will be more receptive
 - Youth go out and train Foster Parents in the regions
- ✓ All regions should be on board. Rough draft of task for Regions by next Statewide Meeting on 11/20/14. Create an outline for the following
 - NC Region – Create a survey for foster parents
 - SC Region – Create an outline or guideline for the guide to Foster Older Youth Training and decide how many meetings for the F.O.Y. Training are needed
 - NE Region – Comparing Youth in Care and Out of Care. Relate and compare families part of care and that are not part of care
 - SE Region - Comparing Youth in Care and Out of Care. Relate and compare families part of care and that are not
 - Create a By-in Plan – All regions will do this

6. After Action Review

➤ Positive

- ✓ Everyone had input
 - ✓ Everyone came together
 - Good Feedback
 - Everyone involved
 - ✓ Everyone had a chance to talk and put their input
 - ✓ New youth spoke up – this was great
 - ✓ Relax and new people had a good time participating just lis us long timer comers
 - ✓ We went through the whole agenda and stayed on topic
 - ✓ Report out went well
 - ✓ People did not interrupt each other
- Good Be Improved
- ✓ Have more extended time for each region to report out
 - Encouraged regions to have report out prepared prior to coming
 - ✓ Pay more attention to those on WebEx
 - ✓ Have more time for youth to mingle

7. Thank You:

- Special thanks to Miranda for facilitating the ice breaker
- Special thanks to Betty for flip chart note taking
- Special thanks to Colin for facilitating the Region Report Outs
- Special tanks to Stephen for facilitating the After Action Review and Next Meeting Agenda Items

8. Suggestions for Next State Meeting Agenda Items

- Follow-up on Regular tasks for the FOY Training
- Summit workgroup check in
- DAF workgroup check in
- Region Report Out
- AAR
- Ice Breaker Volunteer - Maranda

9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Timing of Agenda - The beginning was rushed

Next YAB Statewide Meeting Thursday, November 20, 2014 – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm