



## **Commission on Children and Youth Meeting Summary February 21, 2018**

**Members Present:** Quajalyn Amos, Anniaka Attah, William (Billy) Chen, Dr. Leslie Copeland-Tune, Serena Debesai, Karen Duffy, Laura Espinoza, Lynne Harris, Debbie Iwanczuk, Stella Masucci, Elizabeth McGlynn, Chloe Perez, Carolyn (Cali) Tamarkin

**Members Absent:** Kirsten Andersen, Owoade Ayorinde, Shruti Bhatnagar, Cecily Darden-Adams, Renae McPherson, Assya Pascalev, Sinclair Redding and Eric Rossen

**Staff Present:** Erin Stillwell (DHHS)

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Elizabeth Mc Glynn, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **Chair's Update**

- MLK Day of Service was a success! CCY members and volunteers assembled 95 self-care bags.
- Youth Having a Voice Roundtable was also a huge success! The youth provided an interesting perspective on the selected topics and youth commissioners did a great job keeping the participants on track.

**Minutes:** Review of meeting minutes from January 10, 2018

**ACTION:** Motion to approve the minutes from January 10, 2018 as distributed electronically.

**Motion by:** Lynne Harris

**Seconded by:** Karen Duffy

**All in Favor**

### **Debrief of the Youth Having a Voice Roundtable-February 8, 2018**

- Heavy on the middle school participation, but provided a great perspective from different age ranges
- Some of the middle schoolers were overheard having side conversations about being undocumented or having undocumented family members, but did not feel comfortable sharing with the entire group
- A consistent theme was about school counselors being stretched to their limits and not available to meet with students (same theme was present in the SMOB Mental Health Forum earlier in the week)
- Concern that students are using other students to help solve their problems and these students are not aware of resources available

- School climate issues tended to focus around student vs. teacher issues (less on student vs. student issues)
- Would like to see better diversity next year (different areas of the County, middle school vs. high school, etc.)

### **Subcommittee Report Out**

- **Youth who are Undocumented:**
  - Ms. Maritz Solano from CASA of Maryland was the guest speaker this evening
  - Spoke about CASA services and services to undocumented youth
  - Also shared about legal, healthcare, education services in the County
  - Subcommittee is trying to create information cards sharing these health care resources
- **Promoting Mental Wellness Subcommittee:**
  - Look at possible recommendations to raise mental health and wellness awareness and various audiences
- **Youth Advisory Subcommittee**
  - Organized 95 self-care bags
  - Bags will be distributed to EveryMind, Hearts and Homes for Youth and Family Justice Center

### **Discussion on 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dr. Dworkin Outstanding Service to Youth Awards**

- Ad hoc nominating committee will be meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 from 5:45 to 7:00 p.m. to review nominations and determine award recipients
- Erin will be circulating the call for nominations in the next few weeks and commissioners are encouraged to share with their groups/organizations/colleagues/friends
- The CCY is looking for entertainment for the event (i.e., youth bands, acapella groups, singers, poets, etc.)
- The awards ceremony is on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

### **Announcements**

- Choose Respect Montgomery April 15<sup>th</sup> at Richard Montgomery HS
- March 24<sup>th</sup> is “March for our Lives”

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

### **Executive Committee**

The executive committee did not meet due to absences