

Youth and Family Services Committee Meeting

April 5, 2023

Meeting called to order at: 6:07 PM

In attendance: Megan Traficano Youth and Family Services Director, Jacob Matson Youth and Family Services Community Justice Manager, Anne Fussichen, Colleen Norton, Deana Herrman, Ade Onayemi, and Cal Davis

Approval of last meeting's minutes (October): Note changes (if any), if approved- who motioned, who seconded. Tabled no quorum.

Public Comments (if any): None

Director's Report:

Our FY23 ended March 31st. 95 youth served in the YEP program. GOTR had 125 girls in their program. CJ had 34 kids completing over 300 hours of Community Engagement work. We serviced almost 1000 kids and families! Jacob is now the full time Community Justice Manager and are interviewing candidates for the Administrative Assistant. Hope to fill it by May 1st. The financial aid scholarship was changed to \$300 per child and \$600 for a family with program prices increasing. Oak Park board of trustees approved both Oak Park and Joint programs. River Forest Township board has not voted, will be on April 11th.

Liaison Reports (brief summary of OP & RF Reports):

Ade Onayemi OP:

The board unanimously passed the contracted programs. The decennial committee is being set up and will start working this summer. Need 3 members of the community. Assessing existing programs is the main goal and providing feedback and recommendations. Oak Park resident, voter, 3-4 meetings. General Assistance program now is asking to bring in the emergency assistance for families, capped at \$1200 per household to cover basic needs. The household income must be below \$4,800 a month. This program will need staffing. April 11th is the annual meeting. Supervisor will give an annual review; each program will be giving a report. Senior Services presented about affordable housing for seniors. CMHB will be moving to the CRC which opens the 21st. The Hub is being phased out and being replaced by SPREAD through the state of Illinois.

Deana Herrman RF:

Phasing out HUB. Annual meeting the 11th. Efficiency study is also going, needs two RF residents, first meeting in June. April 3rd the emergency assistance program will be ready but waiting on Oak Park. Website is almost done. April 19th is parent university at OPRFHS. In need of a new clerk. The committee discussed ISearch funding last month. Carla agreed with all recommendations for funding except ISearch. Reasoning: Not sure the disconnect between grant application and recommendations. Would like to give ISearch the benefit of the doubt and fund for \$6,000 because Officer Ben Ransom could be moving on and the administrator will have a large burden.

Old Business:

New Business:

Slam visit by Anne at Irving Elementary. 18 students, 4 teachers meeting 1-2 times per week. Had a check in at the beginning, a smart goal session, and homework time. Planned to work with an Austin school and have done Restorative Justice Circles. Anne really liked it.

Oak Park Public Library opened their mini hygiene closet late last year. Genevieve has been working on helping the Park District to see if they would like to do something like this at the CRC.

5th Annual School Supply Drive and Back to School Social: May 15th we start collecting donations and start our ad campaigns! We usually are lacking quality back packs. Last year we gave out 222 back packs and the goal this year is 250. Back to School Social is August 11th from 4pm to 6pm. GOTR and the new Administrative Assistant will be leading the way with planning. Hygiene closet table will be set up, food will be offered, barber, face paintings and better music! D97 has a lot of refugee families that will be getting assistance too.

Miscellaneous Notes or info: None

Meeting Adjourned at: 6:40 PM Motioned by: Anne Seconded by: All