
Birth to 25 Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2020

Members Present: Christine McClendon, Cynthia Jacobsen, Dylan Tran, Dr. Harbir Juj, Kyle Paskewitz, Nicole Franklin, Rodney Robinson, Sharon Hanek, Tanya Durand, TJ Bohl

Members Absent: Beverly Bowen-Bennett, George Conzuelo, Gina Cabiddu, Kristy Merritt (ex), Lauren Moore, Priscilla Lisicich (ex), Sharon Shadwell

Staff: Stephanie Bray, Vy Yun

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 am. Stephanie notified members and guests that the meeting would start recording.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda item tabled; quorum not present.

Approval of Minutes

Agenda item tabled; quorum not present.

B-25 work with The Forum in 2021, Tanya/Rodney

- Executive Subcommittee has met a few times to try to restart efforts and rewrap what our tasks are moving forward. One meeting included Merita from The Forum on October 20.
- B-25 members have a 2-year appointment term ending in December 2021, not sure if this will be extended so we have 2021 to accomplish work.
- Intensive reboot in the new year.
- Executive Subcommittee proposal:
 - o Break up work to clustering age ranges – will work with everyone to determine breakup.
 - o Create intensive work groups around age clusters.
 - o Continue to move research with intent that everyone has a chance to learn and have input.
 - o Hopes to see consistencies throughout age clusters.
 - o Welcoming members that would like to join the Exec's Subcommittee to help with the planning.

Discussion on proposal:

- o Identifying age buckets will be first part of planning.
- o There are topics that span all ages, such as mental health, family leave, food/security, housing, etc. Do not want to ignore topics to focus on age clusters specifically.
- o We have a lot of information in front of us, create a plan on how to dissect this and get members focused by breaking up into clusters and tapping into the expertise in the room.
- o Focusing on larger systemic issues and social determinants of health that impact all youth. Instead of age groups maybe issue focused (via chat)?
- o Hopes that there is flexibility in each focus group; not pigeonholed into certain categories. Stephanie explained that Subcommittee meetings are open to the public so other members/public would be able to join the meetings.
- o Subcommittees doing the work and bring it back to the group would be a time saving effort.

- Merita, The Forum, would like to know member's thoughts for structure/format of future meetings (i.e. 1 full day, 2 half days, etc.).
 - o Doodle poll will go out for the relaunch.
 - o Members expressed that participation is an extra challenge that they hope it is acknowledged.

Check-in with Members

Members shared in terms of work on B-25 Board, what about COVID or other conditions have them especially worried or hopeful.

- Lockdown is hardest on youngest citizens – not playing or interacting with other children. Worried about emotional implications.
 - Robbed of innate developmental needs.
 - Families do not have hotspot or internet for online learning.
 - Housing issues will be more challenging in winter i.e. utilities.
 - Hopes that 5-10 years from now, we can see there was positives from the early days of the pandemic.
 - Mental health issues were awful before pandemic, and atrocious now. How can we fix this now?
 - Knows families that are doing great and things are going fine working from home, but there are many families that are saying they have to go to work and do not know what to do with their kids. This has created an imbalance for families.
 - Concern for students we are not reaching – students that aren't showing up for class. Of those showing up, only a handful participate. Virtual participation is tough.
 - Students that are unaccounted for – we don't know where they are.
 - Criminal referrals and abuse down. Not thinking that people are not being harmed, but that they aren't coming to our attention. If something is happening, we need someone to intervene.
 - There are groups of parents that are restructuring their home for homeschooling and networking with other parents to help their children. They are engaging in playdates, so children are not suffering from being alone and they are looking for resources.
 - What can we do to provide safe childcare for parents that need to be outside their home?
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- Director Moss announced that Nicole Franklin, Tacoma/Pierce County Health Department will be joining B-25 to fill the Public Health seat.
 - Director Moss will share with Stephanie to share with members County Council considering a plan for how to use mental health revenue stream if they were to pass the 1/10 of 1% sales tax increase (via chat).

Public Comment

- Arrika says a lot of what members are saying resonates with behavior health. There is no easy answer right now. Must weight pros/cons and risks/benefits.

Good of the Order

- Executive Subcommittee is cancelling the December meeting. Executive Subcommittee will be preplanning with Merita for the relaunch after the new year.
- Stephanie and Tanya will be going in front of Human Services Committee on Tuesday, November 17 (9:30-11 am) to give an update on B-25 progress. Stephanie will send out calendar invite for those that would like to watch – feel free to email Stephanie or Tanya if you want to include anything.
- Tanya asked members to please volunteer to join Exec in planning our relaunch (via chat).

- Director Moss adds that B-25 issues are not going away and that it's important that we do this work to understand gaps and overlaps as needs are going for youth in the community.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 am.