

**Healthy Youth Action Team-Zoom Meeting 10/21/2024 @1:00pm**

**Attendees:**

Co-Chairs: Lisa Smith

Victoria Ingerle-CRMC Injury Prevention

Jessica Sayers-Unaccompanied Students Initiative

Melissa Johnson-Boys and Girls Club

Lindsey Humble-Cheyenne Children’s Clinic

Chris Zimny-LCSD #1

**Information and Data**

This meeting began with the usual sharing of exciting things happening and data to share. Jessica shared that USI is at the highest intake that they have had in the fall at potentially 10 students in housing, when the capacity is 12. They are in some transition with a house manager, but just hired a new case manager. Victoria shared about last month being Child Passenger Safety Month with some successful car seat events occurring. They are still struggling to make connections in the county and Lisa will hopefully be able to connect her with the fire chief in Pine Bluffs so they can explore further opportunities for collaboration.

Discussion then continued to the recent LCSD #1 board meeting, at which a decision was made to accept a MCER Study recommendation to close 8 elementary schools and build mega schools. The question was posed for people to share how this will affect their agency and to share any thoughts on what we can do to support and help. The majority of attendees are in a holding pattern of wait and see for what the potential changes will mean for them. All agencies will still be working hard towards safety and inclusion and how that looks will depend on where the final decisions land. Information was given out about the petition started by parents to consider one of the other options proposed by the plan, as well as directing people to the district website to watch the board meeting. A general consensus was reached that most people feel like key stakeholders were not included in the decision and that there should have been an opportunity for public comment. There was also discussion of the fact that Cheyenne continues to grow on the East side. That there aren’t good options for all in any of the plans, but the consideration of parent and family needs seemed to be lacking in the initial discussions.

Frustration continues at planning that doesn’t match growth as the district and state can’t plan based on projections and it was brought up that this team has heard about the ongoing concerns about buildings that are out of date and a lack of funding to make things right. Concerns were brought up about the ASK program and that a majority of their schools are included in the plan to close which could hugely impact their program. Basically, there is a lot of frustration, but most will have to wait to see where some of the decisions start to land before taking action. The state funding structure is really leaning towards some of these things being a community-based cost, though funding goes through the constitution. There are future meetings and some grassroots action happening so this is a topic that we will continue to monitor and support where we can as a team.

**LCCP Needs Assessment Action Item-Economic Stability**

The meeting transitioned to a discussion of moving the upcoming Families Finding Connections Dinner to the spring rather than fall. This was briefly discussed at the last meeting and the consensus continues to be that there will be more capacity for planning and participation in February, March or April. Potential St. Patty’s themes, spring themes or winter themes were discussed. Also, the Youth Survey flyer will be revamped to be able to bring to youth at the event, due to its small response in our first round of trying to put it out to the community. It was shared that the co-chairs got to talking about how we could get the survey in front of a youth audience and that we also have intentions of having some more youth driven track with the event. These 2 things should go well together so as we develop a youth track, we should be able to include the survey as a potential piece of participation. Jessisca shared that she thinks that they could have their caseworker give the survey to their youth once we get the flyer revamped as well.

Next meeting will focus continued planning of our event, potential for in person meetings and any updates on the Needs Assessment and School Board decisions.

**Next Steps:**

* Lisa will get information out about the parent group organizing for a different MCER solution.
* Team members are encouraged to fill out the survey about in person meetings.
* Team members will get information they want posted on the newer FaceBook to Lisa.
* Lisa and Evalyn will look at potential dates for the Families Finding Connections Dinner.
* There is always an IdeaBoardz created for the monthly Clear As Mud ending of the meeting. If unfamiliar, Clear As Mud is an opportunity for team members to ask any unresolved burning questions, voice needs for clarifications or specifics of constructive criticism anonymously and the co-chairs can then address these questions, curiosities or comments to the entire team. If you would like to participate you may do so here. <https://ideaboardz.com/for/Clear%20As%20Mud/3274717>

Next meeting: November 18th at 1:00pm by Zoom