**Older Youth Workgroup (OYWG)**

**January 11, 2023**

**Attendees:**

Kathy Hanafan

Chris Koepplin

Lori Shultice

Bethany Kohoutek

Kristina Seier

Tonya Blasen

**Meeting Purpose:** To continue momentum toward creating a system where “Families & Children in Iowa are safe & secure, healthy & well in their communities.

**Meeting Results:** Ensure momentum between work sessions. Create space to problem solve barriers to progress. Make action commitments that sustain the work.

**Result:** Group shares work since the last meeting and creates shared accountability.

Community updates: **Ellipsis** is working to add onto their campus which will provide additional space and beds. The construction is ongoing, and the hope is for completion to be in August.

\***Green Hills AEA** is working on addressing & increasing family engagement rather than focus on just the child in services to embrace a more hopeful and trauma-informed stance on treatment and experience.

\***Scanlan** presented to the Children’s Behavioral Health Systems State Board on 1.10.2023 and updates include: working on creating an intake process and form that can be utilitarian for all uses that parents will fill out to create family engagement buy-in, in the works to create an internship program with Scanlan so that bachelor’s level social workers at the University of Iowa can get direct experience and encourage more school social workers/clinicians, working to create a contract to have telehealth services for youth in shelters, and **YSS** reported that they are working with Iowa State University (ISU) to create a channel for master's level clinicians. ISU currently has a doctoral counseling program but would create more opportunities for students in their bachelor’s program to stay involved and get their license for mental health counseling (LMHC) with them. YSS is hoping for a turnaround time of 3 years.

The Healing Centered Engagement (HCE) book club reading of [The Four Pivots](https://www.amazon.com/Four-Pivots-Reimagining-Justice-Ourselves/dp/1623175429/ref=asc_df_1623175429/?tag=hyprod-20&linkCode=df0&hvadid=532384509515&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=14143192521794509164&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9017954&hvtargid=pla-1392679564002&psc=1) has yet to start, but those that have been a part of the conversation are in favor of jumping in. Kayla & Andrea have been the leaders in this motion but were unable to attend today’s meeting, however, the group did not want to stall. HCE book club would depend on what people can commit to but it would be beneficial to meet in person to discuss with a mini guide of questions to facilitate systems work conversation. Reading one pivot a month includes 3-4 chapters per pivot with a weekly check-in through a live document to throw any thoughts on questions to either refer to during the monthly meeting, or for conversation between others utilizing the document. This creates a multitude of settings so that those that cannot attend monthly meetings consistently can still stay a part of the conversation and stay engaged. What type of document should we use? Will google docs work for everyone in the Vision Council? Will the meetings be separate from OYWG or invite other Vision Council members to the group? What kind of space will we need to discuss at the next Vision Council meeting in March? The plan is to reach out to Kayla & Andrea to confirm the direction of this group, opinions on questions for the mini-guide, and for agreement on the timetable with a start date of mid-February.

[Project Harmony](https://projectharmony.com/) in Omaha has been interested in bringing their integration system work and efforts to Iowa. They have the capability to have space for emergency shelters that are a ‘hangout’ space for youth that have been removed from home, but do not yet have a placement to decrease trauma. How do we know that this placement works? It is still another in-between placement, but with fewer exposures to violent behavior? Chris and Kristie are meeting with them next week (of 1/20) to investigate and see if there is collaborative effort that will work for Iowa.

The Qualified Residential Treatment Program(s) (QRTP) are touring the State Training School on 1/20/23 with Dr. Hess to learn more about their 6 domain process and how it can benefit all congregant care for youth. We need to ensure we keep our target population at our focus when exploring this and what will work for each agency. Greg is working with HHS to gather data on number of beds and other data to help us be more in the know, and this group is interested in the BIPOC population Kristie took [notes](https://cfcs.memberclicks.net/assets/VisionCouncil/12-7-22%20Conversation%20with%20Dr.%20Hess%20Notes%20%281%29.docx) from the Dr. Hess meeting in December if OYWG members are interested in learning more before the report outs come back from the tour.

Indirectly related, the Crisis, Intervention, Stabilization, and Reunification (CISR) contracts will begin bidding efforts for beds in February. We are aware that there are not enough beds for the number of youth, and a hyper focus for the agencies that are still open and the services they provide are more congruent, or prefer Juvenile Court Services (JCS) over Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) workers. The mental model still exists and trust will take time. What can the Vision Council do to help continue these hard conversations to help develop that trust and shift the paradigm? Are there other places they can be fostered naturally?

**Result:** Identify measurable actions to make progress forward.

Action commitments (AC): Kathy will connect with Gina who is the Early Access Regional Coordinator to find if they are working on HCE as well, and if there are core questions she has about HCE to help formulate a mini guide. She will forward response to Kristina to share with the group.

AC: Chris will report out about the STS tour and efforts of QRTP with focus on our target population. She will also report about Project Harmony and relate back to our efforts within the results action plan.

AC: Kristina will connect with Kayla & Andrea regarding their thoughts on HCE book club and brainstorming from today’s meeting, and if Iowa ACEs 360 will still provide books/timeline. She will connect with Brad (Kathy?) and report out necessary connections to OYWG and Vision Council. She will send out results action plan goals pertinent to this group to help foster conversation if there are other areas to explore should space and capacity allow.

**Result:** Share reflections and insights to create alignment.

The group feels confident in their work towards starting the HCE book club and in keeping the dots connected in work outside of this group.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”  
― Margaret Mead