STATE ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) MEETING

May 15, 2023
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Held Via Videoconference

MINUTES

Participating Members:
Joe Rossow, Chair
Jenny Egan
Derrell Frazier
Miya Horsey
Loney Nguyen
Heidi Rochon
Laura Wilt
Therese Wolf
Kya Hector
Janet Furman
Lajan Cephas

Staff:
Christina Drushel-Williams
Aubrey Gerhardt
Chris Miele
Bill Harper
Jenny Krabill

Guests:
Georgia Noone-Sherrod, Acting Vice-Chair
Tamerdis Hollywood

I. Welcome & Roll Call

Chris Miele called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

II. Chairs Remarks

Joe Rossow, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for joining. He expressed his sincerest gratitude for members' hard work through the strategic planning process, noting that if members have questions, they are always welcome to reach out to him or Chris Miele anytime.

III. Gathering

Georgia Noone-Sherrod engaged members by explaining and demonstrating the gathering. The gathering is a technique used to bring members together by reintroducing oneself and answering a

given question, committing everyone to the group. Today's gathering question was "What is your SAG superpower?" Georgia began the gathering by introducing herself and stated that her SAG superpower was positivity; knowing how to make something out of nothing. Members began introducing themselves and naming their SAG superpowers which ranged from being vulnerable, finding resolutions, listening to others, being authentic, using lived experiences, being flexible/ shapeshifting at times, institutional knowledge, embracing change, building relationships, and perseverance through problems.

IV. Old / New Business

A. *Promoting Youth Voice and Engagement* - Christina Drushel-Williams, Kya Hector, and Derrell Frazier gave an update on the Emerging Leaders Committee. The Emerging Leaders recently met with the Youth Action Board of Homelessness to inspire and develop onboarding materials for new Emerging Leaders. The Emerging Leaders are also working on creating a video and flyers to further drive recruitment efforts. Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM) is quickly approaching and the Emerging Leaders are discussing preliminary plans/ ideas. Kya Hector and Derrell Frazier agreed that Emerging Leaders should have space at each SAG meeting to give updates on their projects and ask questions of other SAG members.

B. *Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes* - January and March meeting minutes were not approved because a quorum was not present.

V. 2023 SAG Strategic Planning Updates and Discussion

Chris Miele reiterated that the OJJDP conference in San Diego reframed the work on what SAG's can do and encouraged members and staff to take a closer look at what the Maryland SAG should do and where it can go in terms of youth justice.

The April Strategic Planning session was successful. At the April Strategic Planning session, members modified a form that allows members to express their intent to be on the strategic planning committee. Chris Miele instructed members to take time to fill out the form and reconvene in five minutes. If you have not already done so, please fill out this form. Chris Miele gave a brief overview of the form responses. He will be reaching out to members who expressed interest to be on the strategic planning committee to determine the best meeting times, develop goals and objectives, and assess previous goals and objectives. Strategic Planning sessions will occur every other month, in the months between State Advisory Group Meetings.

Through the strategic planning process, there has been an emphasis on centering youth voice, connecting to other state agencies, reaching out to other successful State Advisory Groups, and centering equity in the SAG's mission which is not developed yet. Georgia Noone-Sherrod added that we must understand where each member is, professionally and acknowledging all the stakeholders involved in this process. This will ensure we have the correct people at the decision-making table and that youth voice is centered.

VI. Roundtable and Announcements

A. *Juvenile Justice Legislative Efforts* - Mr. Harper extended his thanks to members Laura Wilt and Jenny Egan for their efforts on garnering support around legislation surrounding juveniles charged as adults and placed in adult facilities in Maryland. They recently met with the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association (MCAA) to discuss legislative support regarding this population. Additional meetings will be held with MCAA and more updates will be provided in July.

B. *GOCPYVS Youth Division Representation* - Georgia Noone-Sherrod extended thanks to Christina Drushel-Williams for joining the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center (AACRC) among other agencies and organizations at their 30th Anniversary Celebration. Georgia was very grateful to have Christina represent the office and meet contacts within the community that are interested in partnering with the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services. Christina commended Georgia and the AACRC on 30 years of great work serving the community.

C. *Maryland Youth Advisory Council* - Christina Drushel-Williams staffs the Maryland Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) and announced that MYAC applications are open and members are welcome to share the application with those they think may be interested in joining. For more information, please contact Christina Drushel-Williams at christina.drushel@maryland.gov or attend an application information session. Eligible MYAC members include Maryland residents ages 14-22 years old. There is no GPA requirement and applicants from Western Maryland and the Eastern Shore are desired. More information on MYAC can be found here.

D. *Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator Position* - The Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator position at the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) is open and posted here. Please share this posting with your contacts who may be interested in applying for this position.

E. *Interim Executive Director Update* - GOCPYVS now has an interim executive director. Sam Abed, known for his extensive career serving as the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Services for twelve years under multiple administrations, is the new interim executive director while the Moore administration conducts a nationwide search to permanently fill the position.

F. *Upcoming CJJ Conference* - Loney Nguyen shared that she will be attending the upcoming CJJ Conference on behalf of the SAG. Aubrey Gerhardt will send out an email to conference attendees to facilitate the connection between the members that are attending on the SAG's behalf. It is crucial that members who are attending the conference note their takeaways to share with the SAG at the July meeting.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on **July 10, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Upcoming SAG Meetings and Other Events**:**
Upcoming Strategic Planning Session: June 5, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
In-person SAG Strategic Planning Retreat: July 17th (*Location and time TBD*)

State Advisory Group Website: http://goccp.maryland.gov/children-and-youth/council/