



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Subcommittee Meeting

Ad-hoc Committee:

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee (FAYCES)	6:00 -7:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Facilitators: Sandra McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Jocelyn Nunez, Kayla Iliff

Foster Alumni and Youth Community Empowerment Subcommittee Summary:

48 attendees took part in the Subcommittee.

Advisory Members Participating: Simone Hidds-Monroe, Ana Espana, Carolyn Griesemer, Joy Singleton, Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Scott Huizar, Stephen Moore, Sade Burell, Khylan Bolden

Sarah Mostofi opened the meeting and passed it over to Jocelyn Nunez to introduce the introduction poll. Jocelyn informed participants that the poll will assist in directing the conversation and tracking participation over time. Sarah then asked for individuals to introduce themselves in the chat. Sarah then introduced Simone Hidds-Monroe and Stephanie Gioia-Beckman to provide an introduction and overview of FAYCES.

Sarah reviewed how the meeting was being conducted via the Zoom platform and provided attendees multiple ways to ask questions during the meeting. Sarah encouraged participation via the chat and raise your hand feature. She also reminded current foster youth to turn off their camera for confidentially purposes.

Career Pathways for Foster Youth

Sarah introduced Simone to present on Career Pathways for Foster Youth. Simone provided an overview of Career Pathways for Foster Youth and what she is asking from the FAYCES subcommittee.

- The goal of Career Pathways for Foster Youth is to provide educational & career exploration, experiences, and expertise to current and transition age foster youth.
- Role of FAYCES in this project:
 - To provide recommendations and input on the impact, opportunities, and implementation of the funding (5 million dollars) for the Career Pathways for Foster Youth program.

To begin the discussion Simone posed several questions to the group.

- How old were you when college was introduced to you?
- How old were you when explored careers/jobs of interest?

- How old were you when you could answer, “What do I want to be/do when I grow up?”
- What resources/support/opportunities helped you get to these answers?
- What impact do we want the funding to have on our community?
- What are potential areas of impact?

Simone also shared a poll to determine priority areas for funding.

- Poll results
 - 80% of participants selected Paid internships/student worker positions
 - 74% of participants selected financial assistance
 - 71% of participants selected mentoring/coaching
 - 69% of participants selected certifications/trainings
 - 60% of participants selected emotional support
 - 49% of participants selected College tours
 - 40% of participants selected Job Shadowing
 - 31% of participants selected Business/company tours
 - 14% of participants selected other

This prompted a robust discussion with meeting participants. Meeting participants came up with several other focus areas for the funding.

- Legal Assistance
- Readiness Assessment
- Nutrition/Nourishment
- Providing a navigator or liaison to connect individuals to resources
- Education scholarships
- Interview readiness
- Banking (savings, checking’s, purchasing a car or house)
- Housing
- Programs that assist in breaking the generational chain of incarceration
- Providing luggage
- Daycare
- Graduate School
- Vocational School opportunities

The group also discussed in detail the age requirements to receive the above services. The meeting participants were unable to come to a consensus on this topic but provide the below recommended age ranges.

- 12 years and older
- 9-27 years of age
- 12-24 years of age
- 12-30 years of age
- 13-18 years of age
- 14-22 years of age
- 17 years and older to focus on career development
- 18-24 years of age
- High school aged youth and above
- Any foster youth to 30 years of age
- No age limit to receive these services

Due to time constraints all other agenda items were tabled for next meeting.

Story of SPA - Through the Lens of Alumni & Youth - Survey Development

Tabled due to time constraints. This agenda item will be discussed at the November meeting.

2022 Future Meeting Days and Times

Tabled due to time constraints. This agenda item will be discussed at the November meeting.

Simone concluded the meeting by providing next steps and reminding everyone of the next meeting.

Next Steps:

- Continue reaching out to SPA alumni to test the survey to continue it moving forward.
- Follow up with the County of San Diego to determine who are the youth that went to San Pasqual Academy (SPA).
- Determine the deadline for the Career Pathways for Foster Youth proposal to ensure FAYCES continues to be part of the conversation.

Date of Next Meeting – November 18, 2021 (instead of November 11, Veterans Day)