**INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (ILSAC)**

Mentors vs Mentoring Workgroup Meeting

Monday, February 26th, 2024, 2:00– 4:00 pm EST

Microsoft Teams: Meeting ID: 276 667 536 844
Passcode: F7AZAT

***Please note the following agenda is for reference purposes only. To eliminate unnecessary delays for the public and the council, the Chairs at their discretion may deviate from the published agenda.***

AGENDA

1. **Welcome, Review of 2/12/24 Meeting Minutes, Agenda Overview**

*Chair*

*Reviewed meeting minutes from 2/12/24 meeting- they were accepted by the committee.*

1. **Purpose and Framework of Research and Presentations**

*Workgroup Lead- John Watson*

*John presented about subcommittee meeting regarding mentoring vs mentor workgroup. Discussed policy vs. best practice, difference between. positive adult connections documented in FSFN vs. what our young adults need. How to define successful outcomes and the difficulty of that given different situations/circumstances our young adults are challenged with.*

*Discussed research collected in the past regarding supportive connections: 2023 OPAGA report- section about supportive adults, CIAD, and CBC Data Collection Forms. Also reviewed previous ILSAC reports and reccomendations. Regina shared 2023 DCF response in e-mail dated 2/23/24. Discussed that the YARS report is also captures connections that are documented in FSFN.*

*Eric sent out 2023 DCF response. YARS report supportive adults as well.*

*The subgroup will reach out to different advisory groups to discuss positive/supportive adult connections to determine how the youth define a positive adult connection, and to determine the value of the adult connection to the youth. Maria Batista from FYS will be assisting John with this endeavor. John will also reach out to his contacts to gather additional data from youth/young adults.*

*This subgroup would also like to address compensation for youth/young adults with lived experience who participate in committees such as the ILSAC, to determine if that will garner more participation.*

*(see attached)*

1. **Workgroup Discussions: Review of 2023 DCF Response to ILSAC Report, Review of 2023 Data Collections Forms, YARS Report and other relevant information**

*CoChair*

*Reviewed 2023 report recommendations (was sent to committee on 2/23/24 as well). Reviewed report starting at ILP overview: Data and Outcomes- pg. 4.*

*Jumped to pg. 13 and read positive/supportive adult connections section of 2023 report.*

*Reviewed dept. response to previous recommendations.*

*Provided opportunity for the council to discuss their feelings regarding DCF’s response to the 2023 recommendations.*

*Council discussed getting feedback/processes from agencies/CBCs who already have a mentoring program in place and discuss challenges with developing and sustaining a mentoring program. Demarco Mott and Dietra will reach out to their agency point of contacts regarding the mentoring programs in their area, to gather information about development, sustainability and populations served. Will also gather feedback abot outcome measures and if the programs are having a positive impact on the youth/young adults they serve.*

*Cal advised the council that DCF is currently tracking documentation of supportive adults in FSFN. Currently, approx. 400 of more than 1,000 young adults have a documented supportive connection. The Department’s first goal is to get CBC’s/Agencies documenting appropriately in FSFN. Once DCF has a verified that all information is being documented appropriately, their focus will shift to the quality/type of relationship being documented.*

1. **Review Continual Improvement Action Deck (CIAD) related to EFC program implementation.**

*Chair*

*On the CIAD, there are two areas that focus on supportive adult connections:*

*1)Working to increase youth engagement,*

*2) develop a mentoring program that meets best practices and statute, and permanency pledge vs. mentoring- defining the difference*

1. **Member Attendance, Final Rounds & Public Comments**

*Secretary*

*Sherika Morris- attended the meeting and provided feedback about her son’s experience in EFC. She was provided with the CBC point of contact, who can address her concerns. If her concerns remain after speaking with the CBC POC, she can reach out to the Office of Continuing Care for further support. She was also provided programmatic information that is relevant to her son’s circumstance.*

*Next meeting 3/11- Regina will not be in attendance- Chrstine will chair.*

*Christine is the lead for the next subcommittee meeting- which is housing. That workgroup remained on the meeting to prep for the workgroup meeting scheduled for 3/25 .*

*Attendance was completed via Teams participant list by the Secretary.*

1. **Adjourn**

*CoChair*