

Lancaster County Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Committee

Quarterly Meeting

April 3, 2020

Attendance: Casey Karges (Mediation Center), Kay Mathews (Friendship Home), Angela Washington (YWCA), Lesley Ahrens (Human Services), Chris Turner (County Attorney), Vicky Smith (Cedars), Joe Wright (LPS), Jason Stille (LPD), Russ Uhing (LPS), Matt Baker (OTP), Josh Clark (LSO), Krista Burks (CASA), Mindy Vogel (Juvenile Probation), Sara Hoyle (Human Services), Becky Steiner (Human Services), and Jenni Ryan (Human Services)

This was the quarterly meeting that is open to the community.

1. RESTORE Update

Please see attached handout. July 2019-March 2020 we've had 123 youth referred, 87 accepted. The partnership with the YWCA is going well. It's been helpful for families to feel they have an advocate to explain the program and help them overcome barriers such as dealing with a warrant or meeting some basic needs. Chris asked about how expanding the age range has worked – so far families have been super appreciative.

2. SAMI Update

Please see attached handout. The data only includes cases that have come through the County Attorney's office. The majority of cases have been ineligible due to LB567 (legalized hemp).

3. Dr. Weiner's Data

He found some disparities with Latino juvenile justice contacts. Matt discussed several Latino gangs that have had young members getting involved with the juvenile justice system and Probation. He's been trying to set up zoom activities for Take Pause and maintain contact through calls. Gangs have been taking advantage of this time to recruit youth. Russ shared that remote learning with new, graded materials starts next week. Chris's prosecution data also showed a higher likelihood of filing on Hispanic youth. They're already discussing what additional questions we can ask the data to look deeper into the reasons behind the disparity. Sara asked if there are any other recommendations for what we should be tracking or other data related questions we should be asking. None were offered.

4. Next Meeting: July 3, 2020, 12pm-1pm TBD

Respectfully Submitted:

Jenni Ryan, Lancaster County Human Services