

Region 4 Area Advisory Council Meeting

September 24, 2013

East Hartford Community Cultural Center

50 Chapman Place

East Hartford, CT.

Present: Batsie, Deb; Brown, Sophia; Caban-Hernandez, Janier; Denué, Ann, Farinella, Ivy; Farrell, Alice; Goodwin, Shauna; Harris-Wilson, Tammy; Hernandez-Young, Maria; Hunter, Colinda; Jefferson, Tina; Johnson, Wayne; Johnson, Winston; Larsen, Tanja; Lawrence, Greg; Lehane, Jamie; Maitland-Ward, Donna; Neal, Alesandra; Nolen, Cephus; Parkinson, Alana; Plante, Paula; Robles, Josie; Roundtree, Regina; Sargeant, Camille; Schiessl, Kathy; Thames, Dyshawn; Toni, Amanda; Turchi, Maria; Trocchi, Sabrina; Waterhouse, Kelly; Williams, Michael; Wilson, Beresford.

The meeting was hosted by Cephas Nolen from the East Hartford Community Cultural Center. Lunch was provided by DCF Region 4. The meeting was held from 12- 2 PM.

Committee Report: Community Partnerships-Sarah Becker

Presentation by Natalia Liriano, DCF Region 4

Natalia Liriano, DCF Program Manager gave a presentation on the new direction of the Child Placement and Support Services unit, formerly known as the Foster care & Adoption Services Unit (FASU). The presentation included the following information:

- The mission of the newly named Child Placement and Support Services department is: To provide stable, safe and supportive living options that appropriately meet the needs of children at the moment of placement.
- Goals include:
 - Having enough placement resources to meet the placement needs of children;
 - Trying to ensure that all children be placed in the appropriate placement the first time.;
 - Having appropriate services to meet the needs of children and caregivers;
 - Having staff strategically aligned to recruit and fully support an array of placement providers.
- The new organization structure was discussed that is designed to better support kinship and non-kinship placements.

RAC Business

- The process for nominating the 21 voting members, by-laws and nomination forms were discussed by Regina Roundtree and distributed to the members in attendance.
- Nomination forms were collected by the Membership Committee.
- The next meeting will be held on October 15, 2013 at 12 noon in the Large Conference at the Hartford DCF Office located at 250 Hamilton Street in Hartford. Parking is available at the parking lot at 237 Hamilton Street, across the street and about a ½ block from the Hartford Office.

The RAC meeting was adjourned around 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Johnson, Children's Services Consultant