



May 18, 2018 ✨ 12:00-1:30pm

Monthly Meeting Agenda

12:00

Welcome and intros

- **Tym**
- **Keisha Freeman**
- **Avid - Peloton U**
- **Tacolya Singletary - Sup for PAL**
- **Gabrielle McDonald - TX Appleseed**
- **Karen Yand - Community Member**
- **Angel - Safe Alliance**
 - *Can help with housing, bus passes, depends on what youth needs at the time*
- **Camille - Lifeworks**
 - *Youth 16-21 w/ complex trauma history - connect with peers, more accessible & flexible*
 - *Lead the Trauma Informed Agency Task Force*
 - *Rep from TICC*
- Erin - YES Mentor Coordinator
 - Not exclusive to youth - primarily 14-21
- Superior Health

12:10

Video & Debrief (*Camille*)

- **Learning Brain & Survival Brain**
- Designed for teachers, designed to illustrate what trauma does to the brain.
- Teaching teachers about the learning brain vs survival mode
- Learning Brain - Completely ok with ambiguity, can figure things out
 - Emotional level: Calm, peaceful, curious, not afraid to make mistakes
- Survival Brain - Hyper focused on threat, wants clear facts, no gray, black and white
 - Don't feel calm - they are panicky, don't want to make mistakes, don't want to raise their hands and feel stupid



- Surv Brain always trumps Learning Brain
 - Tricky b/c as SB is on longer and longer it's harder and harder to get out of
 - LB Gives you a wide view of the "mountain" but it's easy to slip into SB when you are stressed. The more stressed you feel the quicker you go to SB
 - For traumatized people - it's a bigger rock than it normally would be
- Good news - more you control stress the smaller the rock is
- Students learn best when they are safe and supported by the adults around them
 - Ex Baby Elephant - whole group of momma elephants that supports the baby and they can play and learn, but if they are not supported they are hyper focused looking for threats and danger.
- Schools and orgs need to create env where they make the students and youth feel surrounded by the momma elephants

Thoughts:

- Complex trauma has a big impact on survival brain and in order to grow in self sufficiency they have to be able to learn and grow
- Tym: Healing begins with the supportive adults and people around you - kids in FC don't always have that
 - How do you bring the relationships to the kids that need it?
- Camille: Question → Research on authentic relationships
 - TYPs Study
- Tym: Could also be a peer - helping the individual to heal and grow
 - Some kids are often prohibited from developing social relationships - looking at trauma lens from having ways to bring peers to the fold.
 - More concerned about kids in rural areas in center/group homes



- Tym: TYPERS REPORT: → **ADD SOCIAL MEDIA AND LINKS**
 - Remember that social connectedness is what works best - the kids in care don't get to make choices (caseworker, homes, drs, ect). they don't have positive authentic relationships
 - Q - Are there orgs that are doing that here?
 - Youth.Boston.Gov → peer to peer support groups

12:30

Workgroup Updates

- **Opportunity Youth**

First of all, here is the link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uZEfCRhRKsXp6MlvxcrfqVrSitHYK9dMUkDG9ccMEgk/edit?usp=sharing>

- There are three tabs: Overview, Requirements and Services Offered
- The Youth Employment Partnership Member participants information has been populated, but there are still a lot of holes to fill in. I am working on that from this end with our partners
- We would LOVE to have more organizations in the matrix. For organizations who would like to be added, please have them send me an email at texmolly@gmail.com and I will get them connected to the team that is helping to design and build-out the matrix.

Other fun facts:

- I showcased this work at the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions Convening this week and people thought it was VERY cool
- I am exploring ideas for AI programs that could help us identify the gaps and find new ways to blend resources.



Homeless Youth & Aging out Workgroup:

- Freedom Wheels:
- ***See notes from last meeting to get more details about Freedom Wheels***
 - Passionate about getting youth DL
 - Starting pathway to what it takes to get DL to youth that need them
 - NC has a champion in the legislature there that is advocating to get the process funded.
 - NC did a needs assessment, included community partners and right now the numbers are really small
 - TAY wants to do something to do this - Needs Assessment together
 - using the whole group to make community partners/steering committee - resources/needs
 - Anticipate needing program funding to do needs assessment
 - Mentoring does a lot of kids in FC
 - Want to set up platform to assist with funding for the kids - it's really unrealistic to expect kids to be able to work for min wage and get a place to live, pay for gas, car, insurance
 - Need to connect this to higher ideas (health,etc)
- NEEDS ASSESSMENT:
 - Need to look at case studies
 - What happened here and how X dealt with it.
 - What happened there and how X dealt with it
- TXICFW & Tex Protects - Focus Group: what it looks like if they really access services
 - Participants: 1-2 hours, each participant gets a gift card
 - Tex Protects will bring food
 - Have some proposed dates:
 - June 4
 - June 13, 14 or 15



- Texas CASA - Working on the Freedom Wheels work as well.
 - Hard for kids in care to get DL, here we are focusing on 18+ b/c it will eliminate barriers
 - Under 18 → will start the original doc recovery to make that process easier
 - DFPS and DPS are trying to make friends - want to have a way to mark (former foster youth) so that they won't have to have original docs every time
 - Currently lost in the abyss and they are working to bring that back
 - Also working with kids to create DropBoxes and they want to have a way to get things available

- CASA - Working to unify the steps → DFPS and DPS working together, 2 forms instead of 3
 - putting into leg that anytime there is a replacement fee they will waive for former foster youth
 - Steps on hand out for the youth
 - Warrant issue - tickets in one county, that stays in that county and turns into a warrant - how to report that and catch it before it catches up to a kid
 - DL Voiding issue - Right now the caseworkers can call if a kid is on "Runaway" that they can void their DL. Depending on their other charges that is class A and is arrestable offense
 - Want to remove that as a possibility

 - [CASA → Brief with policy Numbers? LINK HERE!](#)

- Recommended:
 - NA → Talk to homeless liaisons at schools
 - Might need to put something in the legislature that helps kids that are homeless/without addresses that they are able to get DL and what they need



- Challenges/Barriers:
 - Recently - Youth that had drug charge under the age of 18, some are involved in JJ and some charges impact them in other ways
 - That will require a legislative fix
 - CASA working on this, especially for those that have instability b/c they moved and they have warrants or charges that have not been taken care of

1:10

Announcements & Events

- *New events on calendar (Shannon)*
- *Open floor!*

Foster Walk on June 9th → Foster Alumni of America

Former Foster Youth → Working in professional capacity in Child Welfare - DC hiring for advisor

Crawfish Boil for Change → 12-6 Change 1

- *Local NPO, advocate and Courtney Jones is the ED and she is amazing*

St David's Episcopal Church - New event coord to put it out there as an event space and want to target NPO

- *Jennifer still there?*

Matter Media - Creating videos for youth in group homes, he is an adoptive parent who is really excited about the work and he is an excellent resources for video and marketing

- *Example: Getting things ready for Freedom Wheels*

www.Homelessyouth.org → Updated and it's pretty! If you see info that needs to be updated please let Texas Appleseed know...



Excel Center applications are closed till June 15th

Safe Alliance

- New program that we are implementing @ Safe in November
- Help with wide variety of assistance
 - including Child Care services: Petra Child Care recently
- We help with baby items and essentials that they need
- Help with legal documents
- Working with Rapid Re-housing
- No age requirement
 - <http://www.safeaustin.org/2017/03/03/safe-seeks-donations-for-foster-alumni-program/>

ACC - Hosting DFPS Statewide Teen Conference on Aug 16-17

- Eastview Campus
- 60-80 youth from around the state
- Drafthouse for movie and pizza bar night of 16th
- **ALLISON IS WILLING TO VOLUNTEER AND HELP!**

1:20

Wrap up & Feedback

- Website: <http://www.taycollaborative.org>
 - Resource page
 - Calendar of events
 - Job Board
 - Any interest in adding funding opportunities?
- Email: tayatxcollaborative@gmail.com
- Next Meeting!
 - June 15, 2018