2/1/2024

Meeting Minutes

**Attendance**

Sanford Starr, Department of Children and Families

Patty Mojta, Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey

Wendi White, Department of Corrections

Corissa Kazar, Embrella

Jessica Cowan, Montclair University

**Guests**

Adrian Diogo, Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative

Jennie Sherlock-Loeb, Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative

Shakira Lindsey, Director of Maternal Infant Health, March of Dimes

Jory Catalpa, Department of Children and Families

Pam Lilleston, Department of Children and Families

Veronica Ford, Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey

Jaqueline Duron, Rutgers School of Social Work

Victoria Spera-Ballesteros, Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey

**Staff**

Bethany D’Amelio, Department of Children and Families

**1. Opening Remarks**

* The meeting commenced with the reading of the public notice.
* Acknowledgment was given to the attendees and guests were introduced.

**2. Priority Area Discussions**

* Each priority area was discussed, focusing on updates and progress since the last meeting.
* Areas covered:
  + Community engagement and recruitment strategies.
  + Challenges and solutions in qualified workforce retention.
  + Updates on strategic initiatives and goals.

**5. Presentations**

* Guest speakers were invited to present on specific topics related to strategic priorities.
* Key points from presentations included:
  + Data-driven programming and its impact on child protection and prevention services.
  + Integration of new technologies in service delivery and community engagement.
  + Cross-sector collaboration to enhance service accessibility.

**6. Committee Reports**

* Reports from the subcommittees highlighted:
  + Progress on current projects and initiatives.
  + Challenges faced and proposed solutions.
  + Upcoming events and participation details.

**7. Open Forum for Discussion**

* Members engaged in an open forum to discuss additional points not on the agenda.
* Important issues raised included:
  + Improving the visibility and understanding of available services.
  + Enhancing community partnerships through better communication.

**8. Action Items**

* Identified action items include:
  + Updating the strategic plan based on today's discussions.
  + Subcommittee membership and recruitment efforts need to begin.
  + Scheduling follow-up meetings to ensure continuity of discussions.

**9. Closing Remarks**

* The committee closed the meeting, reiterating the importance of ongoing collaboration.

*This memo aims to maintain transparency and provide the public with an overview of the task force's recent deliberations. The committee values community input and engagement as we collectively strive to enhance the welfare of children and families across New Jersey. This meeting report was prepared, in part, with the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).*

*For further information or queries, the public can reach out via the contact channels provided by the Department of Children and Families.*