



SUBCOMMITTEE ON RACE POVERTY AND NEGLECT

Katherine Stoehr, Chair

“In compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Trenton Times and the Newark Star Ledger and posted at the Department of State, 125 West State St., 1st Floor, Trenton, New Jersey.”

**Please note the meeting was recorded for the transcription of minutes.*

July 29, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Katherine Stoehr, Department of Children and Families

Wendy Yallowitz, Department of Children and Families

Sonia Moticha, Department of Education

Larry Braasch, Department of Human Services

Natasha Johnson, Department of Human Services

Mary Coogan, Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Veronica Ford, Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey

Staff:

Bethany D’Amelio, Department of Children and Families

1. Introduction

- The committee welcomed the task force members, read the public notice aloud and set the agenda for the meeting.

2. Focus Groups Update

- The research firm, Action Research, is confirmed.
- Action Research has begun fact gathering and reviewing recommendations and feedback regarding the suggested focus group protocol.
- Focus group scheduling will begin in the very near future using an elaborate scheduling tool created by the research team.
- There was a review of previous focus group findings with discussions on upcoming strategies.

3. Fall Conference Planning

- Keynote presentations, panel discussions and updates on ongoing Fall conference planning activities were the main topic of conversation.
- Discussions surrounding a collaboration between Action Research and conference attendees to enrich work group participation by integrating innovative ideas and methodologies. Members contributed suggestions for conducting surveys among conference participants to capture actionable insights.

4. Poverty and Policy Initiatives

- **Child Poverty Reduction:** An in-depth examination of the recent National Academy of Sciences report was conducted to identify existing policies in New Jersey that align with suggested federal policies.
- Discussion focused on identifying gaps in existing measures and potential steps for improvement.

5. Feedback on California's Presentation regarding Shifting from Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting:

- **California Workgroup Reports:** Each workgroup was tasked with presenting detailed reports on their respective domains. The slides exhibited the workgroup findings. A call for more comprehensive data integration was emphasized.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** This subcommittee recognized the need to engage potential stakeholders for involvement in upcoming initiatives, providing a concise framework for community partnerships.

6. Next Steps

- Members proposed the construction of a detailed timeline to serve as a comprehensive guide to better clarify the procedural framework of the subcommittee's efforts and illuminate potential areas for active participation.

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.