

Family Advisory Committee – Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 22, 2021 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Zoom

Strategic Area of Focus

Evolve Services

Nurture
Relationships

Strengthen Capacities

No.	Topic
1.	Welcome and Introductions
2.	Agenda – approved. Meeting Notes – minutes approved.
3.	Successes and Challenges (standing item) One parent shared a success in having her son vaccinated (age 16) as well as her husband as a caregiver. Members discussed that getting the vaccine for 16+ can still be very site dependent.
4.	CTN Annual General Meeting (AGM) Heather presented an update. Panel will consist of 2 youth and 2 parents. Theme is 'staying connected'. Possibility of having an FAC member act as moderator of the panel. There will be a meet and greet prior to the June 16 th AGM to help participants feel comfortable. ACTION: Heather will follow up with FAC members re: moderator.

5.	CTN Family Mentor Program -EvaluationWhat do we want to know?
	CTN would like to hear from parents participating in the Family Mentor Program to understand their experience with the program and how we might improve the program. Question to the FAC is what is it we would like to ask our 'mentees'.
	-Mentoring isn't always or only about resourcing, there is also the element of emotional support one might receive when talking to another parent. There might have been more emphasis on emotional support during COVID due to the lack of camps and other recreational and respite programs.
	-What was most helpful to you when talking to another parent?
	-Is there anything they didn't cover?
	-What were your expectations? Did we meet them?
	-Matching mentors to mentees—how important was it to have a match with a parent who has had a similar experience? Is the match critical?
	-Did connecting with a mentor add more stress?
	-How important was it to be compatible with your mentor?
	-Did you need help completing forms? Was your mentor able to help with this?
	-Important to try to connect with those families who have faded from the program.
	Action: Heather and Michelle will incorporate these ideas into the evaluation.
6.	Terms of Reference and Nominations for Vice Chair
	Item Deferred until May meeting. Several FAC members unable to attend tonight's meeting.
	Action: Michelle to send out list of members and when they joined the FAC to assist in informing the Terms of Reference Discussion at the May meeting.
7.	CTN's Pandemic Recovery (standing item)
	8 out of 10 sites are now open to in-person visits when necessary. Newmarket (Southlake) site and Collingwood (YMCA) site remain closed during this lock down.
	Family Support
	Discussion followed re: the impact of the pandemic and how to reach out to families.

	-One parent reported that Collingwood families are certainly missing the social and holiday events that were held at the site and in the community with CTN's support.
	-recommended that CTN offer more ways for families to connect especially when families who are new to an area
	-many families reporting zoom fatigue –spending considerable time videoconferencing with work and children's school
	-families need to connect with other families – challenging with current school situation
	-people need a safe space to vent
	-Clubhouse – new platform - provides live podcasts, moderators. May be a way to re-engage families. Or closed Facebook account. Facebook is where people are -families aren't on zoom.
	- Coffee chats seem to work in some communities and are not well attended in others. Coffee chats are on zoom however conversations can be more stilted. Breakout rooms might be helpful. Can be challenging for parents who may have children who can listen/overhear conversation. Families may need to phone in if they are in that type of situation.
	-a survey of coffee chats may be helpful—what are the barriers to participating?
	-does having a core group of families who attend help others to attend?
	-maybe we need to try some activities such as dance night, painting, baking, Family trivia, or other games to have people join. Many people are apprehensive about just joining to talk. An activity would take the pressure off talking. In the community this was easier families could just join to have coffee- participants are more exposed on zoom.
	-bandwidth can present challenge however people can always just use the phone
	Vaccinations
	Waiting for Health Canada approval for children age 12 years and up for Pfizer. CTN will post information on website.
	Action: Further discussion as to how CTN could support families to access the vaccine. Michelle to contact Catulpa as to how they set up vaccines for clients.
8.	Updates from Other Committees and Community Activities No updates reported.
9.	Next Meeting: May 20, 2021 Terms of Reference.