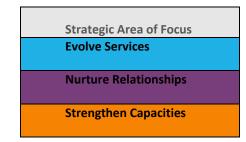


## Family Advisory Committee – Meeting Notes



Date	Thursday October 15, 2020	
Location	Zoom 10 am to 12 noon	

No.	Area of Focus	Торіс	Discussion and Action Items
1.		Welcome and Introductions—sharing our talents!	Vice Chair welcomed all to the meeting.
2.		Agenda –Any additional agenda items Meeting Notes –approval of September 17, 2020 meeting notes	Agenda: Approved no other agenda items added. Meeting Notes: Apologies for late delivery of materials. Action: All members to review and discuss changes/approval at the November meeting.
3.		Standing item: Successes and Challenges	<ul> <li>Success: Heather shared the Back to School Video. 33 submissions. One of CTN's best on-line engagement activities. Question asked whether CTN has a sense of how many clients have chosen school in person versus on-line school. There is a feeling that 50% of families have chosen on line learning. Acknowledged how challenging it is for families to also act as teachers.</li> <li>Success: For one member on-line school remains a positive experience. The teacher is able to gear activities to everyone's abilities.</li> <li>Challenge: One member shared that an experience –her son was having considerable troubling focusing and was able to let his teacher know that having words and numbers on the screen/board made it very hard for him to focus. This is something to consider when teaching/working with children with ASD or learning challenges. Mixing letters and numbers may be confusing and distracting children. The pandemic has enabled teachers to view their</li> </ul>

	students in different settings and may provide us all with new insights.
Communication Update	Heather provided an update. CTN is working on its website to ensure easier navigation for families. The Psychology program will provide a video with very detailed instructions for preparing for the psychology assessment.
	Action: Heather will send an email and link to members of the FAC for feedback on the changes to the website.
CTN's Pandemic Recovery Update	CTN continues to expand its in person visits in alignment with Public Health guidelines. Therapists can now book time at the Oakridges, Barrie and Orillia sites. The Diagnostic Assessment Clinic continues to do virtual assessments for the most part but where necessary is doing in person assessments. Staff continue to work from home for the most part however those staff who support in person visits are working from the sites when required.
Family Mentor Program- Evaluation Summary and Plan	<ul> <li>CTN's co-op Student, Thecla Oreme, presented the results of a recent survey of mentors for CTN Mentor Program. The presentation is attached. 17 out of 33 mentors (53%) completed the survey.</li> <li>Action: Heather/Thecla to clarify the following: <ul> <li>Average number of hours per week/month that mentors contribute</li> <li>Influence of other mentor training programs</li> <li>Potential of a refresher course for mentors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Next steps to the survey include a focus group with Thecla and Marisha (CTN evaluation team) to delve deeper into some of the issues such as training, volunteer time, communication.
	Question from FAC is to explore why mentors leave the program? Heather explained that it is usually due to family circumstances. CTN will look at how we might get more information about this. Information re: transition to adult services may be a gap –important to have mentors available who have gone through this –may not be diagnosis dependent.
<ul> <li>Updates:</li> <li>Terms of Reference</li> <li>EKO Summit</li> <li>Graduation</li> <li>Accreditation</li> <li>Diversity and Inclusion</li> <li>Supporting Self Advocacy in Children and Youth</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Terms of Reference-were finalized for 2020-21. Changes were made as of the September meeting.</li> <li>EKO Summit- RC is participating on a steering committee spearheaded by Empowered Kids Ontario (EKO) the provincial organization that represents Children's Treatment Centres and various children's agencies. The committee is looking at engaging families and youth in various focus groups to help guide EKO's annual policy summit. This is an important step in engaging clients to help inform EKO and the government as to what is important and where improvements can be made.</li> <li>Accreditation- CTN will be participating in another accreditation survey in Jan- Feb 2021. Accreditation involves a review by a third party, CARF, to assess CTN's ability to meet recognized standards in how it organizes as a network to deliver services. Family members will be involved in interviews with the survey team. The survey will be done on-line.</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>Graduation- no updates at this time</li> <li>Diversity and Inclusion-CTN is developing its plan and looking to agencies such as Holland Bloorview for some input. Michelle will bring the plan to FAC for input.</li> <li>Self-Advocacy-CTN has been hosting a course for managers and interested partners on implementation science. One of the topics is on transition planning as youth move into adult services. Self-Advocacy is an important element as youth prepare for the transition. Discussion re: value of having a panel to talk to youth and parents.</li> <li>The discussion continued from September related to planning and items to focus on over the</li> </ul>
4.	Planning for 2020-2021 –	<ul> <li>Recruitment was raised as a major focus with attention to less connected families.</li> <li>Youth and self-advocacy- does anyone know of a speaker? Having a speaker and then a panel may be a way to present this topic.</li> <li>Sharing information with teachers –possibly F Words –Kim shared that CTN is working with the school boards. Video conferencing may provide more opportunities for CTN to share information.</li> <li>Events for families –to brainstorm at next meeting. Some ideas build on what is already happening, chai and chat again, IPRC and IEP workshops started last month. Coffee chats are happening again virtually.</li> <li>Self-advocacy for families – how to write a letter to an MPP. What/how to write to get ideas and concerns across. Comment that we would need to look at a social view of disability versus a medical view of disability.</li> </ul>
5.	Updates from Other Committees and Community Activities	Community Living York South –forum on October 20 <sup>th</sup> . Information has been shared.
6.	Other	<ul> <li>Heather shared the upcoming virtual Halloween events:</li> <li>Youth dance</li> <li>Netflix movie night</li> <li>Monster Mash: show and share, freeze dance and contests</li> </ul>
7.	Next Meeting:	Next regularly scheduled meeting: Thursday November 19th, 2020 10am to noon by ZOOM