

Family Advisory Committee – Meeting Notes

Date	Thursday September 17, 2020	
Location	on Zoom 6:30 to 8:00pm	

Strategic Area of Focus
Evolve Services

Nurture Relationships

Strengthen Capacities

No.	Area of Focus	Торіс	Discussion and Action Items
1.		Welcome and Introductions—sharing our talents!	Chair welcomed all to the meeting after the summer.
2.		Agenda –Any additional agenda items Meeting Notes –approval of May 28, 2020 meeting notes	Agenda: Approved no other agenda items added. Meeting Notes approved by Vice Chair
3.		Communication Update	Heather shared information re: changes CTN is making to the website to include a COVID section and banner on the opening screen. Section will help to answer questions related to services and how CTN is providing services. Would be good for families to know what family activities, coffee chats or other activities are being delivered. Heather also reported that there will be a re-vamping of the Programs and Services screen. Members shared that it would be good for each program to have its own page with information re: eligibility, wait times, and whether the service is free. Action: members are encouraged to send any ideas/thoughts to Heather.
4.		Standing item: Successes and Challenges	Challenge: Group Homes Lock down during COVID. Discussed the need for families to be recognized as care providers and members of the health team in order for them to see their children and ensure appropriate care and participate in group home activities. One member expressed concern that her child is missing the social activities during COVID.

		Success: One member shared that her child opted for on- line school and that it has been going very well. Several members felt that success has a lot to do with the teacher and how much they have prepared to meet each student's needs.
		Another member expressed that her children were back at school and doing well. She felt that things were working well for them and they were happy to be back with friends.
	Update on CTN's Pandemic Recovery	Kim and Michelle provided an update on CTN's pandemic recovery activities. Most services are being provided via videoconferencing however processes are in place for those children/youth that require a face to face visit. CTN is conducting an evaluation of telepractice for various programs and will report the results back to the FAC at a future meeting.
		One member raised the concern that videoconferencing can put considerable demand on a family's internet. This is especially true in rural areas. Also videoconferencing requires that the family do all the helping. It was also identified that for some appointments video is great and can reduce stress for some families (driving, taking time off).
	Terms of Reference-review of current TOR	Michelle shared the updates to the Terms of Reference for 2020. Membership was addressed —the service navigator position was removed from the list of CTN members. The group agreed that the emphasis should be on engaging more families and youth on the committee. There was a discussion on recruitment and that the FAC should look to having adults with disabilities to help inform the work in which case we may need to ensure meetings are accessible and held during hours that are convenient for family members. Meetings via video may address some of the accessibility issues.
5.	 Updates: DACS orientation Graduation Diversity Supporting Self Advocacy in Children and Youth COVID 19 – information for families 	DACS- Michelle reported that the Diagnostic Clinic has implemented the on-line orientation and was very appreciative of the feedback they received from the FAC. Graduation - no recent work on this topic Diversity and Inclusivity - CTN is working on its Work Plan. Will be brought to a future meeting. Plan is incorporating information from previous FAC discussions Self-Advocacy - continue to see this as a workshop topic that would be very valuable for families. COVID 19 Reference sheet for families - no recent work -to be brought forward
6.	Planning for 2020-2021 –	LM led a discussion on items to focus on over the upcoming months. Recruitment was raised as a major focus with attention to less connected families. Some of the items to be brought forward for feedback and input include:
		- Ongoing education and training topics for families

7.	Updates from Other Committees and Community Activities	 Family Resource Program Local Team events and programs CTN's Accreditation Youth and self-advocacy FAC recruitment One member reported on the Markham Accessibility Committee – the Accessibility Awards are coming soon. This award is specific to Markham. Member also informed us re: Safehaven and their campaign 'We Belong' which shows children and youth doing typical fun activities. Safehaven is also looking at how it can provide more respite beds in Vaughan and Toronto. They are looking at a variety of ways to increase beds such as working with Condo developers.
8.	Other	Members shared that it would be great for CTN to host fun events on line for kids to help them maintain connections with other kids. And also to continue with coffee chats to support families. One member shared that Kerry's Place held a 2 week camp over the summer on-line that was very successful. One idea was perhaps youth could volunteer to support and entertain kids via videoconferencing —this would be especially helpful for families who need to sit with their child while they participate on-line.
9.	Next Meeting: October 15, 2020 meeting	Next Regularly scheduled meeting: Thursday October 15, 2020 10am to noon by ZOOM