



Accountability Workgroup
Thursday, June 30, 2022
3:30 PM- 5:00 PM
Government Center, Room 232 and Zoom

Members Present: John Cook (Chair), Chris Davies (Staff), Andréa Nunes Gardner (Staff), Kevin Ochs (CYF, CPS, PPS), Joe Meyer (Shelter House), Katrina Smith (JDRDC), Dawn Butorac (Public Defender), Jonathan Yglesias (VSDVAA), Courtenay Schwartz (VSDVAA), Brittany Davis (CCI), Dr. Brenda McBorrough (FCIA), Pia Miller (Deputy Commonwealth Attorney), Jaya Nelloit (Board of Ashiyanaa)

I. Approve remote attenders and adopt a Remote Participation Policy

- a. Joe Meyer motion to approve, Dawn Butorac seconded, motion passes.
- b. Kevin Ochs is attending the meeting remotely due to personal reason, having been invited to the meeting at short notice.
- c. Jaya Nelloit is attending the meeting remotely due to personal reason, having been invited to the meeting at short notice.
- d. Brittany Davis is attending the meeting remotely, as she lives more than 60 miles away from where the meeting is held.
- e. Jonathan Yglesias remote is attending the meeting remotely, as he lives more than 60 miles away from where the meeting is held.
- f. Courtenay Schwartz is attending the meeting remotely, as she is caring for a sick child.
- g. Dr. Brenda McBorrough is attending the meeting remotely for health reasons.
- h. Joe Meyer motion to approve that remote members' voices were adequately heard and that their remote participation comports with our Policy for Participation in Meetings by Electronic Communication. Dawn Butorac seconded. Motion passes.

II. Review/Approval of June 2nd, 2022 minutes

- a. No changes. Minutes are approved as written.

III. Review mission statement

- a. Workgroup members agreed to move the mission statement to the top of the overview document.

- b. Workgroup reviewed the mission statement Joe Meyer created based on last meeting discussion: “to eliminate recidivism by implementing evidence-informed and community-based solutions to domestic violence prevention and intervention to promote accountability through centering the voices who have been harmed and by providing comprehensive services to people who have done harm to restore hope and dignity.”
- c. Workgroup discussed about recidivism being goal of the workgroup. However, the mission of workgroup is more comprehensive than only focusing on recidivism. Recidivism is a criminal justice system measure. Brittany Davis shared that nationally programs are exploring more survivor-driven measures, asking what survivors needs and thinking about other metrics.
- d. Workgroup re-worded the mission statement as follows:
“To support existing measures to reduce domestic violence by enhancing accountability mechanisms for those who cause harm and provide community opportunities for violence prevention and intervention to restore safety, hope and dignity to all impacted by domestic violence.”
- e. Workgroup members agreed with the draft mission statement and will finalize the mission statement in the next meeting.

IV. Review One Page Overview

- a. Mr. Cook highlighted Brittany Davis’ observations regarding changes made on the overview page might lose the fidelity to CCI guiding principles of accountability.
- b. Brittany Davis highlighted the importance use of person-centered language, rather than dehumanizing labels like “offender” or “perpetrator”.
- c. Workgroup members discussed about the current overview page being used to inform and guide the workgroup itself but not being well-suited to inform the public.
- d. Workgroup discussed about creating a separate one-page overview for the public that includes the mission statement and goals, rather than updating the existing one-page overview.
- e. Workgroup members brainstorm draft goals to be explored in next meetings:
 - 1. Reduction of recidivism
 - 2. Survivors' voices in what they want accountability to entail (survivor-directed)

3. Community involvement in prevention and intervention to implement a variety of pathways beyond the criminal justice system
 4. Change in attitudes and behavior of those who cause harm
 5. Retaining the opportunity for family relationships
 6. Ensuring equity and cultural relevance of prevention and intervention
 7. Hope and dignity (to be further defined)
 8. Improving safety (to be further defined)
 9. Using evidence-based and measuring success
- f. Mr. Cook will work on a draft for the goals and circulate via email.

V. Follow up on Identification of members to add to the Workgroup

- a. Membership to be identified: Survivor and someone who have caused harm
 - Joe is working on identifying someone who has survived domestic violence
 - Andréa Nunes-Gardner is working on identifying someone who has caused harm and is working on their accountability process
- b. Future Workgroup members from other fields identified at the prior meeting have either confirmed intent to participate or are amid discussions with Workgroup staffers about participating.
- c. Is there anyone else missing?
 - None identified.
- d. Staffers will follow up on the membership needed.

VI. Scheduling of future meetings frequency and timing and location

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for the fourth Thursday of August, which is August 25th, from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm.
- b. A reoccurring meeting date and time will be decide in the next meeting.

VII. Adjourn