



Children's Working Group Give Every Child a Chance to Succeed

**Co-Chairs: Jacqueline Hall, ECDSS
Aimee Neri, NYS Family Court Improvement Project
May 15, 2020
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**

Attendees: Aimee Neri, Jacqueline Hall, Hannah Holden, Dennis Kuo, Kinzer Pointer, Alan Delmerico, Diann Takens, Jan Burns, Catie Gavin, Connie Desmarais, Anna Michotek, Has Wah, Kaley Donaldson, Lisa Neff, Lynn Pullano, Broderick Cason, Bonnie Beck, Johanna Caplan, Kelly Dodd, Libby Wilkeson, Maria Ryan, Mary Ieraci, Tieza Jonas, Tiffany Malone, Robin Witkowski-Reynolds, Tierney Smith, Mary Goodwill, Heidi Milch.

Welcome: Ms. Hall opened the meeting by welcoming the members. Ms. Neri shared the results of the survey of the members regarding the pivot in the committee's work toward the Live Well Erie focus on racially based health disparities. The preferred initiative was "Improve Services by Implementing Evidence-based Models including Trauma Informed Care and Strengthening Families."

Ms. Hall reviewed a slide on the disproportionate effects of COVID-19 on communities of color. Ms. Holden shared the Erie County Department of Health COVID-19 incidence map (www.erie.gov/covidmap).

Ms. Neri introduced a presentation by Dr. Alan Delmerico on updated data related to the Children's Working Group metrics. His presentation is included with these minutes. Dr. Delmerico indicated that firearms data and child welfare data are difficult to obtain. Ms. Gavin of Erie County Department of Social Services offered to make child welfare data available to the group. Dr. Delmerico shared the Erie County Risk Indicator database maintained by the Center for Social and Health Research (www.erieridb.org). Ms. Pullano also shared a link to research specifically on childhood wellbeing (https://www.nyskwic.org/get_data/county_report_detail.cfm?countyid=36029&profileType=1&Go.x=13&Go.y=13).

Ms. Neri introduced Rev. Kinzer Pointer to speak about the African American Health Equity Task Force. The task force is responding to the needs of the African American community during the COVID-19 pandemic by organizing a campaign of phone calls to seniors which identify needs in those households. The group will be making deliveries of food to households in need. The call centers will be located in and staffed by youth from a group of fifteen churches.

Ms. Neri introduced Dr. Dennis Kuo to speak about the Early Childhood Initiative he and Project Manager Lea Passage are leading. His presentation is included with these minutes. The initiative is known as COLLIN (Collaborative Improvement and innovation Network). The goal of the collaborative is to support early childhood development through evidence-based programs, including screening, parenting support, referrals, and tracking.

Ms. Hall reviewed the ways in which Working Group members can contribute to either or both of the presented initiatives – funding, advocacy, membership, and outreach. Ms. Neri led a round robin discussion of the two initiatives and how the membership feel they could become involved. Committee members participated in a poll indicating to which initiative they would like to contribute. Subsequent meetings of the interested participants will be organized in the coming week.

Ms. Hall and Ms. Neri closed the meeting.

The next meeting of the Live Well Erie Children's Working Group will take place on Friday, June 19th at 9 AM.