

NARRATIVE TEAM EFFECTIVENESS QUESTIONNAIRE

December 2020

Due to the constraints placed on in person meetings during the pandemic and to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this questionnaire was conducted using menti.com to collect responses from the group.

What is working?

Southwest Washington has many aspects that are working. These include; motivating incentives for youth, consistent connection and communication that quickly adapted to the needs of the members, loyal attendance from some long-time members, consistent tri-leads that came prepared, relevant presenters on topics requested by the group, interactive members, youth-led virtual activities both in and out of meetings, education on resources available in the community and the Youth Advocacy and Empowerment (YA&E) meeting. The Youth Report Out and activities generated from the YA&E meetings have also garnered positive feedback, Adulting 101 being one example. The group had an overall positive perception of FYSPRTs proactive COVID-19 response which included the continuation of meetings virtually, increased focus on connections during times of isolation and identifying presentations that were relevant to the communities current needs.

What is not working?

There are two continued areas of improvement for the Southwest Washington FYSPRT. This improvement is centered on getting more youth, adolescent, family-focused providers (i.e. schools, DCYF) at the roundtable to hear our discussions as they are heavily related to their students and youth. We have had several members from the ESD and DSHS attend but only on a limited basis, and youth consistently provide feedback on "Zoom Burnout". We would like to see individual schools and school coalitions start attending once these groups resume meeting. Our recent SWOT feedback received continues to make this a topic to continue to work on. The Tri-leads have done a great job initiating this thus far despite constraints placed on outreach due to COVID-19. Another area of focus is increasing diversity among FYSPRT members to better reflect the diverse needs of the community.

What would work?

It would work to continue to encourage current members of FYSPRT to reach out and make contact with the schools and appropriate officials to see if they would attend our monthly FYSPRT meetings. To combat "Zoom Burnout" and increase involvement, members requested activities that engage all members such as a talent show, a "What's New" segment each month to inform the group on events taking place locally, and ways for youth to make a difference and get involved, such as volunteering. In respect to family and youth retention, we could reach out to families that have left the group and ask what the circumstances were for not returning. With this feedback and the monthly feedback from current members, we could see if there was anything that could be done differently to keep retention rates high.

How would you know it is working?

We would know that it was working when families and youth show consistently and youth and family presence continues to grow at the monthly FYSPRT meetings. Also, improved feedback from the group on a monthly bases would help us to know that an increased focus on engagement is working. Finally an increased knowledge of community resources would reflect the diverse presenters throughout the year.

What could we do better?

Some of the ideas generated from the Narrative Team Effectiveness Questionnaire include an increase in advertising through social media and promotion of our regional FYSPRT page to adapt to outreach in an increasingly virtual world. We are currently implementing some of these recommendations and feedback regarding these changes has been seen through an increase in activity on our Facebook page. Members also overwhelmingly requested presentations tailored toward adapting to the new world both during and post pandemic, this included a focus on connections, healing, support, community building, advocacy, volunteerism, navigating school, and leadership.

What can we stop/start doing?

We can start encouraging members to reach out to not only school and other youth, adolescent, family-focused providers and WISe providers, but to others with lived experience that they are already speaking with in a variety of settings. We have incorporated more youth led activities in our meeting and we can discuss what aspects of youth comments about engagement to include during FYSPRT meetings. Lastly, we can start reaching out to families and youth as well as system partners who have stopped attending and see what we can do about retention rates.