

Communications Report Out on Youth Engagement

1) Quarterly Statewide Ohio Youth Advisory Board (OYAB) – 04/18/2019

Common Themes:

Treatment Model Considerations

- *24/7 Nursing and Clinical staff*
 - Staff to handle crises need to be available 24/7, not just for ER situations where an emergency room visit is required
 - Youth in crisis need 24/7 supports. Examples of Crisis: self-harm/harming others, panic/anxiety attacks, not feeling safe/triggers
 - Youth in crisis need to know how to access crisis services at all hours (nurse, clinician)
- *Family Engagement*
 - Prioritize family engagement with family members (fictive and relative) with whom youth feel safe and comfortable.
 - Let (safe, healthy) family members be a part of treatment.
- *Trauma-informed model*
 - Many Group Homes and CRCs, as well as foster homes, have a behavior 'Level system.' This level system impacts recreational activities, school functions, visits with family, access to call family and caseworker, etc.
 - Individualized treatment: Let youth be part of the plan and attend meetings

Level of Care

- Need to ask questions about how youth are feeling with ***no retaliation*** for youth who share. Questions to ask youth:
 - Are you comfortable?
 - How do you like other people in the placement?
 - Do you feel supported?
 - Do you understand why you are here?
- Desire for focus on successful reintegration into society.
- Youth feel seeing family members would have been helpful and supportive. Youth reported many instances of "having to earn the right to see family members."
- Youth in residential facilities can have a lack of access to share concerns about what is going on

2) Youth/Young Adult Focus Groups

- Existing Meetings/Events/Conferences
- Local YAB Forums
- Other suggestions?