

5.16.24

Welcome

In Attendance: PDI, Make the Road NY, TYSA, PCCS, A Chance in Life

Future of the Policy & Advocacy WG

- Working Group Goals
 - Help parents better advocate for their children
 - TYSA P&A WG Model-
 - Mental health concerns in younger and younger children
 - Higher demand than available resources
 - Advocate for better mental health resources for children (therapy)
 - Well paid and sustainable workforce
 - More funding for SEL
 - Living document (agenda)
 - Guides priorities for the legislative breakfast
 - Have partners speak on why [this issue] is important
 - Ad-hoc events
 - Will show up to events when presented to advocate when possible
 - Occasionally last minute
 - Host legislative breakfasts in the fall (~ Nov)
 - Plan event when state legislators are not in session
 - Pin down main (specific) concerns that this WG can work toward advocating for
 - Let the WG evolve as needed to better help advocate for the community
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- Legislative Breakfast (EI)
 - Have a first version of a Policy Paper completed by then
 - Have the P&A WG facilitate the event
 - Future meetings – coordination of the legislative breakfast for October

- Assign roles
 - [PCCS] expert presenter
- Work Plan (possible re-working of the working group)

EI Equity Project

- Collaborative Policy Paper First Draft (Located in Google Drive)
- Additional issues:
 - Immigrant parents – afraid to refer their child due to their status
 - Mental Health bias
 - Community stigmas surrounding developmental disabilities
 - Make the language accessible for parents
- **Have the group review the Policy Paper and discuss at next meeting**
 - Make sure all P&A members have access to the draft document for them to review
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Closing

- Next Meeting: June 20, 2024