

COUNCIL ON WOMEN & GIRLS- SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH & SAFETY

DATE: February 1, 2021

TIME/ LOCATION: 10:00am - 12:00 pm/ Microsoft TEAMS Meeting

Members/Designees/Attendees: **Beth Bye** (Subcommittee Co-Chair: OEC); **Vannessa Dorantes** (Subcommittee Co-Chair: DCF); **Miriam Delphin-Rittmon** (Subcommittee Co-Chair: DMHAS); **Maggie Adair**; **Janet Alfano** (The Diaper Bank); **Collette Anderson** (CT Women's Consortium); **Valencia Bagby-Young** (for Comm. Jordan Scheff, DDS); **Candace Barriteau Phaire**; **Karin Bent**; **Anne Bonito**; **Rep. Dorinda Borer**; **Annmarie Boulay** (The Underground); **Mary Cooper** (CHA); **Matthew Drago** (Yale School of Medicine); **Karen DuBois-Walton** (NH Housing Authority); **Alice Forrester** (Clifford Beers); **Melissa Kane** (CT Against Gun Violence); **Kim Karanda** (DMHAS) **Kim Martone** (Office Health Strategy); **Ashley McAuliffe**; **Sarah Normandie**; **Donna Palomba** (Jane Doe No More); **Marcia Proto**; **Angel Quiros**; **Jennifer Serra**; **Jane Siegel** (for OHS CEO Victoria Veltri); **Marie Spivey** (SEET Consultants, LLC); **Ashley Starr Frechette** (CCADV); **Yvette Young** (The Village of Children and Families)

Visitors/Presenters: **Yvette Young**, The Village For Families and Children; **Marcia Proto**, CT League of Nursing

Recorder: **Marilyn Duran** (Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services)

MINUTES

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions	Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon, Commissioner Bye and Commissioner Dorantes welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at around 10:00 AM.	
Review and approval of Minutes from Last Meeting	Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon asked for review and approval of the December 7, 2020 meeting minutes.	Approved
Presentation	<p>Human Trafficking in CT- Yvette Young, The Village for Families and Children: The Village for Families and Children program on human trafficking provides help, information and a training curriculum on human trafficking. The federal definition of human trafficking is addressed in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA).</p> <p>In Connecticut, according to DCF data from 2016 through 2018, high risk or confirmed human trafficking data showed on average 208 total referrals per year; with an age range between 2-18 years old. Ninety percent of the DCF's total numbers of human trafficking cases are girls. Love146, Salvation Army and Underground Ministries also have data that show mostly women and/or girls are victims of human trafficking.</p> <p>Yvette Young shared some of the race-based myths about human trafficking. Most victims are people of color who are domestic born, exploited and trafficked. Legislative efforts to increase</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>protection for victims and accountability for buyers and traffickers continues.</p> <p>There are several organizations in Connecticut that provide victim and survivor services such as Love146, CIRI, PET, Salvation Army, and the Underground. Ways to help are by educating, advocating, protecting and supporting.</p> <p>Commissioners Dorantes, Delphin-Rittmon and Bye were very pleased and thankful for the presentation and of the awareness, knowledge, and efforts by Yvette Young and the group at The Village for Families and Children.</p>	
<p>Presentation</p>	<p>Increasing Nursing Representation in CT – Marcia Proto, CT League of Nursing</p> <p>Marcia Proto started the conversation by thanking Dr. Marie Spivey for all her nursing leadership, education, wisdom and guidance. The league has been around for 68 years and focuses on nursing education in CT. The league has all the schools for Nursing from Doctoral to LPN, as members. The Council of Deans and Directors meet on a monthly basis and talk about adopting and modifying curriculum; being proactive to the market place; development issues, enhancing faculty capacity and looking at student needs, to make sure that curricula both in the classroom and practice setting is robust and dynamic so that when nurses transition to practice they are confident and competent providers of care.</p> <p>A great nursing online tool the league has is <i>The CT Nursing Guide: Your Education Source</i> which provides lots of information and list of nursing programs. There are online courses for clinical faculty, those wanting to become clinical educators and RN refresher for inactive nurses who wish to return to staff level positions. There is a 2 year, 4 year or 15-month accelerated model to becoming a nurse in CT.</p> <p>The limited availability of nursing school slots due to instructional shortages is a barrier that was raised during the presentation. Only 2,800 out of approximately 10,000 applicants to the RN program are accepted, making up about 27% acceptance rate into the RN program. Private schools are admitting a lot of out-of- state students and only 32% of RN students are from CT. With only a 4% doctoral prepared faculty in the state of CT, for every 5 students there is only 1 clinical faculty. Currently, the age of part time and full time faculty is well over 55, so there is a great need in the state for nurses and doctorate prepared nursing faculty trained in diversity and inclusion. In addition, the state also need to increase nursing programs at community colleges and state universities.</p> <p>The CT Center for Nursing Workforce, Inc. (CCNW) has partnered with the CT Data Collaborative to collect education data as well as utilize DPH's supply data. With this</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>collaboration, they were able to produce lots of information including very well written white papers to share insights on what the state’s nursing workforce education and supply look like.</p> <p>The CT League of Nursing is on the Workforce Development Board.</p>	
Committee Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Bye provided an update for the MAPOC Women’s Sub-Committee on behalf of Rep. Gilcrest. She announced that Rep. Gilcrest wants people to know that in January they had a presentation on Doulas and heard from state and national leaders on the subject and how important Doulas are in reducing maternal poor health outcomes and disparities. The CT Doula Coalition is looking to have a definition of Doula passed into law. The subcommittee also recommended to expand Medicaid coverage for Maternity care to twelve months’ post pregnancy – HB 5329. • Janet Alfano added that The Diaper Bank continues to work with Rep. Gilcrest on the issue of diapers as a basic health need across the life span and what we can do to show associated cost savings and bringing in other interested partners. • Commissioner Dorantes thanked everyone working in the health care field for all their hard work during this pandemic. • Kim Karanda updated on the PROUD (Parents Recovering from Opioid Use Disorder) Grant SAMHSA award to DMHAS. The Providers that will be working and providing services as part of this grant are Intercommunity Mental Health Center and Wheeler Clinic. The focus of the grant will be in the Greater Hartford and New Britain areas. DMHAS will be collaborating with CT Hospital Association as well. Additional information on the PROUD grant can be found on the DMHAS website and the DMHAS Facebook page. 	
Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am</p> <p>Future Subcommittee Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 5, 2021 10am-noon; • June 7, 2021 10am – noon; • August 2, 2021 10am-noon; • October 4, 2021 10am-noon; • December 6, 2021 10am-noon 	