



The Timothy Montoya Task Force To Prevent Children From Running Away From Out-Of-Home Placement

June 12th, 2024, 8:00 am-10:00 am Virtual Meeting (Zoom)
Facilitators: Keystone Policy Center (Trace Faust & Doris Tolliver)
Members: See Appendix A

Welcome & Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task Force Vice Chair Beth McNalley welcomed the task force. She then turned to approval of the previous meeting's materials. Brandon Miller motioned; Jenelle Goodrich seconded. The minutes were approved. Beth turned to the prevention recap. Lynette Overmeyer motioned; Brandon seconded. The recap was approved.
Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trace Faust electronically displayed the roadmap of upcoming meetings. They explained the topics for the upcoming meetings and provided instructions for the subcommittee conversations for today's meeting.
Prevention Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes
Intervention Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes
Large Group Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trace welcomed back the full task force and asked for public comment.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Fisher said that he is a civil engineer and said that he is a board member on Families for Children and Mental Health Colorado; he lives across the street from the Tennyson Center since 1995 and has seen hundreds of runs and rescues. He thanked the task force for the opportunity to speak. He electronically shared pictures of public and charter schools with secure perimeters. He said that for some task force members- based on the minutes and the summaries- trauma informed care means a least secured perimeter as possible and that there is a gradation of secure facilities. He said that there is no prohibition on a secure perimeter because then why would the schools have a secure perimeter. He said that delay bars make unsafe situations and he has seen staff drawn out into the street to negotiate with children. He also said that has seen situations where staff opened the gate for children to leave, even though running from facilities is a new fight or flight response precipitated by facility staff. He said that getting hit by a car would add trauma as well as a fight or flight response. He said that since restraints present challenges, staff have to further traumatize children since there is no secure perimeter. He asked if there was anything about a secure facility that would induce trauma compared to the trauma incurred by running like gangs and police interactions. He said that there has become an acceptance of death as an outcome as it relates to trauma informed care. He continued that there is no lack of trauma stacked on trauma on these children; it is a spectrum rather than a binary. He asked which is worse, staying on campus or getting apprehended by police. Trace thanked him and asked for more public comments; there were none.



Next Steps and Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trace thanked the task force for their conversations. • Lynette Overmeyer recounted a child’s situation and how Colorado statutes (in licensing regulations) do not allow for ANGEL SEDS (a GPS tracking for lower functioning and IDD youth) tracking which is recommended by ABA therapists; she brings this up as a future topic to discuss. Trace thanked her. • Trace thanked everyone for their time; they dismissed the group; the task force adjourned at 10:02 AM. The next meeting is July 31st.
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Appendix A:

- Beth McNalley
- Bryan Kelley
- Jordan Steffen
- Anna Cole
- David Lee
- Jenna Coleman
- Lynette Overmeyer
- Elizabeth Montoya
- Becky Miller Updike
- Doris Tolliver
- Michelle Bradley
- Stephanie Villafuerte
- Kelly Abbott
- Jenelle Goodrich
- Renee Marguardt
- Jana Zinser
- Brandon Miller