



Timothy Montoya Task Force | Meeting 20

July 31, 2024, Meeting Recap

Overview

The Timothy Montoya Task Force to Prevent Children from Running Away from Out-of-home Placement is legislatively charged with analyzing the root causes of why children and youth run from out-of-home care to help develop a consistent, prompt and effective response for when children and youth do run. It is also charged with assessing how to address the safety and well-being of children and youth upon their return to care.

Recommendations Review

This task force meeting started with Stephanie Villafuerte calling for the approval of meeting minutes detailing the most recent task force and subcommittee discussions. Once this was accomplished, Jordan Steffen introduced the primary focus of the day: reviewing and commenting on the first four draft recommendations of the task force. This draft recommendation can be found [here](#), and a recording of the meeting can be found [here](#).

These draft recommendations were responsive to four directives from the task force's enabling legislation:

1. Directive One (C.R.S. 19-3.3-111(5)(a)): "Analyze the sufficiency of statewide data that measures the quantitative and Qualitative experiences of children who have run away from out-of-home placement."
2. Directive Two (C.R.S. 19-3.3-111(5)(b)): "Analyze the root causes of why children run away from out-of-home placement."
3. Directive Three: (C.R.S. 19-3.3-111(5)(c)): "Identify and analyze behaviors that constitute running away from out-of-home placement, analyze differences between runaway behavior and age-appropriate behaviors outside of the home or out-of-home placement, and identify behaviors that should lead to a person or facility filing a missing person report about a child."
4. Directive Four: (C.R.S. 19-3.3-111(5)(d)): "Analyze the relationship between children who have run away from out-of-home placement and the likelihood that the child will become a victim of crime."

As the task force worked through reviewing each draft recommendation, Jordan explained their context, origin, and other important factors behind their creation. The task force was then allotted time to read and reflect on each directive, and then had time to discuss each directive and provide feedback. After four substantive and constructive conversations, the task force was concluded with reminders that the next meeting would be the following week to discuss the remaining draft recommendations.