

## Youth and Family Commission

October 18, 2022

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Tyler Booth, Isabel Rolfe, Beth Hillson, Larissa Forsythe, Emilio Flores, Emily Shadron, Lori LaCapra, Mirela Mujcinovic

**Absent:** Matt Saunig, Mat Samuelson, Jesse Stone, Ann Purcell-Murray, Kelly Turner

#### **Meeting In-Person 6:00-7:00**

Minutes: 5/24/2022 minutes approved

Welcomed New Commission Member(s)

- New member/Student Representative Emily Shadron

Prevention Update

- Mirela Mujcinovic discussed recent opioid settlement which resulted in \$16,000 in funding to YFS; discussed the rise in drug overdoses due to fentanyl and other lethal drugs such as xylazine; discussed potential initiatives targeted at youth and parents to raise awareness of these dangers; appealed to Commission to help reach out/promote initiatives to community members. Informed commission of the 10/29 National Drug Take Back event in Glastonbury.

YFS Summer Programs

- Lori LaCapra updated the commission on summer programming-participants in the Welles Village Activities for Youth (WACY) program and the summer musical production have bounced back and programming is returning to pre-pandemic formats

YFS Staffing

- Discussed staffing needs given continued increase in clinical referrals and escalating needs; recruiting qualified applicants has been challenging as remote jobs, higher pay state positions, and private practice options are reducing interest in community based, in-person positions. Need to explore part time and contracted positions and widen recruitment efforts

Future Programming

- Discussed bringing back Peer Mediation at the middle school level, Parenting Education Forums and Support Groups, Community Conversations/Public Forums with students, parents, and community members to discuss "Keeping Kids Safe; increase partnering with stake holders in town such as Rotary Club, Boys Scouts, Glastonbury Public Schools, Glastonbury Police Department and the Interfaith Community Group

Next meeting (TBD – February 7<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

