

OOFY Advisory Board Meeting (June 2026)

6/2/2026

1. Circle (9-9:30)

2. Meeting Begins (Co-chairs, 9:30-9:35)

- Recap of the last meeting
- Board vote to accept May minutes: PASSED

3. Updates from the Foster World (Co-chairs, 9:35-9:45)

- Sage: [MN Promise One Year Celebration](#) is on 6/11 from 4-6, there is childcare (by Sage). [Register Here](#).
- Charie: Foster Advisory Council co-facilitated by Peris, Wilder, Foster Advocates . Council is for Fosters 18-30 years of age virtually. \$100 compensation for each meeting, 4 meetings total between July-November! Please join and share looking for foster representation across the state! [Foster Advisory Council Application](#). Deadline to apply is 6/14.
- Sage: Save The Date: [Foster Advocates Annual Summer Celebration](#) on 7/25/26.

4. Board Business (Co-chairs + OOFY staff, 9:45-10:10)

- Update on Board Appointments (Robin): we are hopeful appointments will be made in June.
- Updated Board Charter: OOFY Values, Gratitude/Concerns, role of the board in the Ombudsperson's performance review (Robin). Robin will send the draft out, vote next month.
- Survey results (Robin): need more feedback from new members.
- Discuss rotating v. permanent co-chairs (Nia).
 - o Does it make sense to continue with rotating co chairs? It has been working well so far. Nia thinks that it gives board members an opportunity to try co chairing, could make people more comfortable to step into the role. Most people are supportive!
 - o Charie can co-chair in September.
 - o Misty: is the co chair model in the bylaws the one the board wants? Rotating co chairs for the next few months or forever?
 - o Nia: people might be more likely to take on the year long co chair role once we have a better sense of the schedule.

- Vivian: the board should think about it and review.
- Sasha: it depends on if two people can step up to be co chair, if not then we might want to consider changing the bylaws. We can discuss with the new members.

5. Ombuds Report (Misty, 10:10-10:50)

- Overview of Year 3 Priorities:
 - Priority areas - foundational projects, foster youth rights materials, agency evaluation, agency reporting, legislative priorities. Seeking Advisory Board input - what's missing? Input on focus of systemic report.
 - Foundational Projects: Overall objective: Ensure and improve basic agency organization and structure. Fill and onboard open position for Foster Youth Outreach and Engagement Specialist, Continue exploration of YakChat to increase accessibility, Website updating, Finalize and update agency policies, Explore options for office space, Case management system updates, Continue efforts to increase data access.
 - Foster Youth Rights Materials: Overall objective: Ensure high quality materials are available to help foster youth understand their current rights. Handbook, pocket guide, flyer/poster, info on OOFY website.
 - Agency Evaluation: Overall objective: Determine a plan for evaluating OOFY's effectiveness as an agency. What to evaluate? Point-in-time vs. ongoing. What do we have capacity to do on our own vs need help? This state evaluation tool was discussed: <https://mn.gov/mmb-stat/equal-opportunity/office-of-inclusion/equity-analysis-toolkit.pdf>.
 - Agency Reporting: Overall objective: Complete required and additional reports within agency's capacity. Annual report, mid-year data reports, investigate/systemic report. Misty requests input from the board about choosing systemic report priorities.
- 2026 Legislative Session (brief review)
 - FYBOR SF 3154/HF 3024: Did not pass. Wins: Bi-partisan support and awareness for the bill, Broad support from Fosters, community and state agencies, Better awareness. Challenges: Bi-partisan support and awareness for the bill, Broad support from Fosters, community and state agencies, Better awareness.
 - [Minnesota's Foster Youth Bill of Rights Stalls in Legislature | The Imprint](#)
 - OOFY Statutory Refinement SF 3881/HF 3901: Did not pass. Wins: Increased awareness of impact of records access, Bill was heard in 2 committees. Challenges: Concerns about data access overshadowed other aspects of the bill.
- Questions: With YakChat, there will be an uptick in submissions. What is the plan to add capacity to respond in a timely fashion? Filters?: Misty: everything is filtered through Robin to identify the scope. Robin can share about intakes at another meeting.

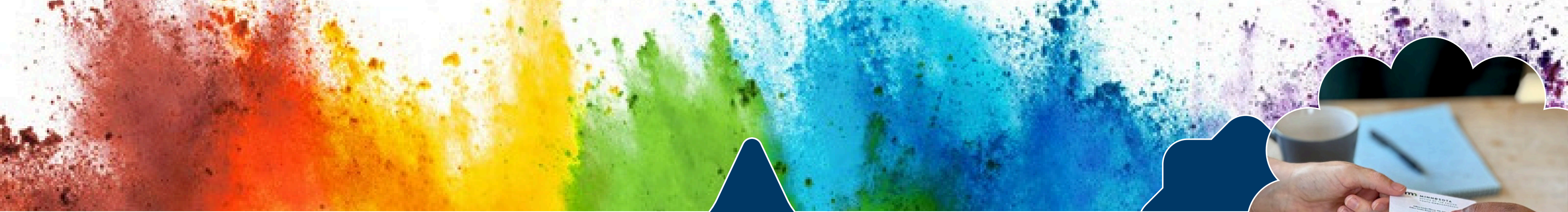
6. Public Comment (10:50-10:55)

None

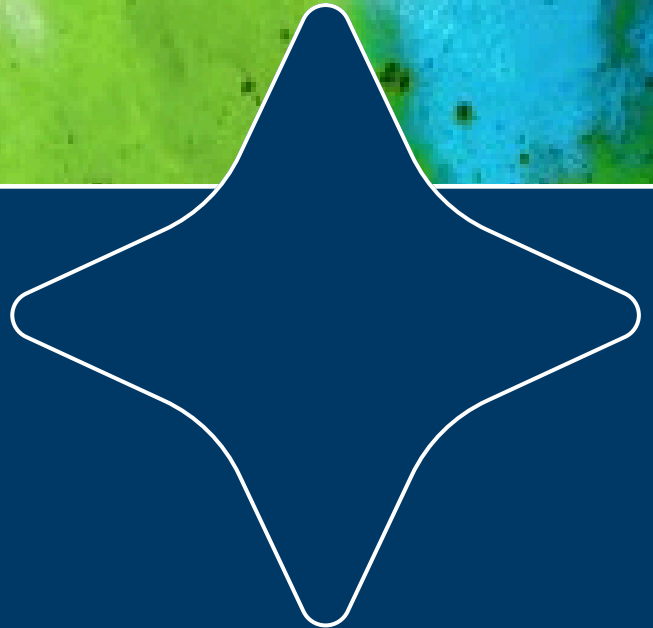
7. Meeting End (10:55-11)

Attendance: Sage, Vivian, Nia, Charie, Lacey, MJ, Kristy.

Minutes prepared by Robin Purman.



mn MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE FOSTER
YOUTH OMBUDSPERSON



Advisory Board Meeting Ombuds Report

June 2, 2026





- Overview of Year 3 Priorities
- 2026 Legislative Session brief
review

Draft of OOFY Agency/Staff Year 3 Priorities



- High level overview for OOFY's 3rd full year
- In addition to day-to-day intake, investigations, operations
- Priority areas - foundational projects, foster youth rights materials, agency evaluation, agency reporting, legislative priorities
- Seeking Advisory Board input - what's missing?
Input on focus of systemic report



Year 3 Priorities - Foundational Projects

Overall objective: Ensure and improve basic agency organization and structure

- Fill and onboard open position for Foster Youth Outreach and Engagement Specialist
- Continue exploration of YakChat to increase accessibility
- Website updating
- Finalize and update agency policies
- Explore options for office space
- Case management system updates
- Continue efforts to increase data access



Year 3 Priorities - Foster Youth Rights Materials

Overall objective: Ensure high quality materials are available to help foster youth understand their current rights

- Handbook
- Pocket Guide
- Flyer/Poster
- Info on OOFY website



Year 3 Priorities - Agency Evaluation

Overall objective: Determine a plan for evaluating OOFY's effectiveness as an agency



- What to evaluate?
- Point-in-time vs. ongoing
- What do we have capacity to do on our own vs need help

Year 3 Priorities - Agency Reporting

Overall objective: Complete required and additional reports within agency's capacity



- Annual report
- Mid-year data report
- Investigative/Systemic Report



After the Children & Families hearing for FYBOR!

Legislative Session Brief Review

- Re-cap of OOFY led bills
 - Foster Youth Bill of Rights
 - OOFY's statute & data access



FYBOR - SF 3154/HF 3024

- Status: Did Not Pass
- Wins
 - Bi-partisan support and awareness for the bill
 - Broad support from Fosters, community and state agencies
 - Better awareness
- Challenges:
 - Lack of movement in the Senate
 - Concerns about specific language re: protections and supports for LGBTQIA2S+ youth

OOFY Statutory Refinement SF 3881/HF 3901

- Status: Did not pass
- Wins:
 - Increased awareness of impact of records access
 - Bill was heard in 2 committees
- Challenges
 - Concerns about data access overshadowed other aspects of the bill

