MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE FOSTER
YOUTH OMBUDSPERSON

# OOFY Advisory Board September Meeting

9/1/26

## 1. Circle (Charie and Vivian; 3-3:30)

## 2. Meeting Begins (Charie and Vivian; 3:30)

- Accept July's Minutes: PASSED.

## 3. Board Business (Co-chairs and staff; 3:30-4:10):

- November meeting changed from the 3rd to the 10th due to Election Day.
- November meeting will be in person, location TBD (Twin Cities).

**Impact and Movement Committee (Charie)**: Shares that some time sensitive board work items have been dropped, proposes switching the regular meeting to every other month. Misty's performance review, onboarding the new members. Could leverage people's skills and interests.

- Vivian: we'd need to make sure information would be shared appropriately.
- Elena: action committee could be a great addition, would the impact and movement meet every month? Every other opposite month. Asks if there is a way to vote virtually on off months. Misty says open meeting law applies but we could call a special voting meeting.
- Nia asks about expectation of committee, what is the expectation of attending those meetings. Charie says no clear answer, the board can decide. Deadline on when to accept the meeting invite? Misty suggests co-chairs attend and some kind of system to know who will show up to committee meeting. Elena asks who would be leading: co-chairs. And having topic/agenda at the board meeting prior and asking for general guidance interest/commitment based on that would be helpful.
- Misty explains the benefits of doing the committee in October. Vivian and Charie want to do committee in October. Charie proposes the change for October. Everyone indicates they accept in the chat or vocally.
- Robin will send the invite.

**Updated board charter (Misty):** Misty gives overview of changes, see shared documents for more specifics.

**Board Chair Elections (Charie and Vivian):**

- Clarify the co-chair role
- Length of co-chair term (currently one year, elections in Nov)
- Rotating vs. permanent co-chairs
    - Vivian appreciates the rotating co chairs. She would like to continue.
    - Jasmine suggests rotating chair can be good. It is good to have one permanent at least.

    - Elena: Agree with Jasmine—defaulting to two permanent chairs if there's capacity. Allows for more rotation in to other places—if someone needs to step back, or for more shadowing, or for the working group/committee meetings!
    - Jakayla wants to learn, can she shadow a chair?
    - Renee: offers that it's hard to not have a consistent leader. The board would work more effectively with permanent.

- Elections will be held on 11/10
- Candidates should be nominated (by themselves or others) by 10/14.
- What to do if there are no candidates?

**Recruitment for open Adult w/ Lived Experience seat (Robin)**

- Who is interested in reviewing applications in November?
- Interest in reviewing job applications and board applications: Sasha, Renee, Elena.
- Nia asks clarifying question about ages of youth versus adult: Adult applications should be 26+ and should have been in foster care at some point in their childhood.

## 4. Presentation by DCYF Legislative Priorities team (4:10-4:55)

- DCYF makes legislative proposals based on the governor's interests or needs of the agency. They put forward legislative proposals. They provide technical assistance. Goal is to make things implementable for the agency. Budget forecast "not looking great."
- Charie asks about how the public can provide input on legislative priorities. Ami says through presentations etc. During session they lead legislative updates with staff. Charie asks if there's an e-serve to join? Ami says she can coordinate regular legislative updates to the board.
- Sasha asks about STAY funds being cut in half. Ami doesn't know specifics but they're looking for increased funding specifically for STAY.
- Misty asks about YLCs as they're run by DCYF. Lacey says youth come up with priorities themselves. The Chaffee funds are what funds the YLC, that funding is at the end of its course and wasn't put into the budget the following year.
- Jakayla says it would be detrimental to their community because youth are going to be citizens, teaching life skills. It saddens her to hear the funding will be lost.

## 5. Public Comment (4:55-5)

None

## 6. Meeting Ends (5:02)