

Maryland Youth Advisory Council Meeting Recap – 3/15/2014



Maryland Youth Advisory Council
c/o Governor's Office for Children
301 West Preston St., Suite 1502,
Baltimore, MD 21201

Senator Roger Manno, *Co-Chair*
Delegate John A. Olszewski, Jr., *Co-Chair*
Christina Drushel Williams, *Co-Chair*

Diane D'Costa, *Co-Chair*
Breana Echols, *Vice-Chair*
Likhitha Butchireddygari, *Secretary*

General Meeting
March 15, 2014
Baltimore County Loch Raven Library
1046 Taylor Avenue Towson, Maryland

In Attendance

Council Members:

Devan Ogburn
Thaara Shankar
Michael Moore
Stephanie Chill
Genie Hughes
Dhruv Patel
Christy Tse
Karla Talley

Noah Miller
Likhitha Butchireddygari
Kennedy Taylor
Raisa Rauf
Eva Dickerson
Sam Choi
Medha Reddy
Chris Eyo
Rachel Carroll

Camille Kirsch

Co-Chairs:

Diane D'Costa
Christina Drushel Williams
Michael Hawkins

Guests:

Christine Evans Johnson

Christine Evans Johnson – Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – State Adolescent Health Council

- Purpose: to show the state health plan for youth, answer questions, and get feedback.
- Maternal Child Health Bureau
 - Block Grant: adolescent health program. Federally Funded Teen Pregnancy and Prevention Programs
 - Personal Responsibility Education Program Grant: afterschool programs
 - Abstinence Education Grant (schools pick curriculum)
- Federal Title V Grant
 - Enacted in 1935 as part of the Social Security Act
 - Assured access to care especially for low income persons
 - Access to caring adults
 - Reduced teen births and STIs
 - Injury, violence, and suicide prevention
 - Drug and alcohol prevention
 - Obesity prevention
 - Access to healthcare for adolescents
- Federal Title X Grant

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- Enacted in 1970 as the Public Health Service Act
- Only federal grant program dedicated solely to family planning and related preventive health services.
- Maryland's Teen Birth Rate by Percent over the Past Decade: Decreased within all ethnicities.
- Maryland's Adolescent Sexual Health Programs and Goals
 - Encouraging delay of early sexual activity using Abstinence Education Program grant.
 - Providing comprehensive sex education through PREP grant.
 - Assuring access to contraception for sexually active teens through Title S family planning clinics.
- Abstinence Education
 - Funds must be used by states to fund abstinence education programs which provide mentoring counseling and/ or adult supervision as a means of promoting abstinence from sexual activity.
 - All programs must ensure that abstinence is achieved.
 - Target population in adolescent ages 10-19.
 - Programs must be medically accurate.
 - Cannot contradict A-H provisions (any religious conflicts).
- Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)
 - PREP programs replicate evidence based effective program models which have been proven to change behavior (i.e. delay sexual activity, increase condom or contraceptive use for sexually active youth, or reduce teen pregnancy).
 - Targets foster care and high risk youth at 10-19.
 - Grants are given to several local health departments across the state.
- Family Planning Service for Teens and Young Adults
 - Family planning is an effective strategy for reducing unintended teen pregnancies by increasing personal responsibility.
- Questions?
 - How is this manifested through afterschool programs? Ex. Girls, Inc. in Washington County: girls' afterschool club in middle school.

Legislative Updates:

- SB 194 – ACCEBOE SMOB Voting Rights: Unfavorable Report (Failed).
- HB 853/ SB 626 – Pay It Forward Study Bill: Unfavorable report. USM provided testimony saying it does not want to study Pay It Forward and feels that the study would not answer the necessary questions.
- HB 885/SB 632 – Income Tax Credit – Student Loan Payments: Hearings held in both the House and Senate; have not been voted on.
- HB 18/SB74 – Institutions of Higher Education – Student Notification: The bills passed with amendments in both the House and the Senate.

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MYAC Presentations Update

- Christina Williams did presentations about MYAC and the 2014-15 application process for three groups:
 - Local Management Board Directors Meeting
 - MHEC Student Advisory Council Meeting
 - University System of MD Student Council
- The groups were interested in learning more about the Council and providing the application to youth in the community and involved in the organizations.
- Please let Ms. Christina know if you have suggestions for organizations who may be interested in a MYAC presentation.

Application Review

- New: Expandable text boxes and modified questions.
- Feedback:
 - Question 1: Really solidifies candidate's intentions.
 - Question 4: There should be more specified situation, instead of just leadership, and a question that deals with how a candidate works in a team environment.
 - Question 5: Should be clarified (explanation: how a candidate interprets this question says something about him/ her).
 - Question 6: There should be an addition or modification to attends to how the candidate manages his extracurricular.
 - Question 7: Shouldn't be suggestions (explanation: the appointing committees would like more information about with whom the candidate is associated).
- Questions/Suggestions from members:
 - Where are the disparities? Eastern Shore, Western Maryland, and smaller counties.
 - How to decide between candidates: alumni can interview candidates.
 - The application will be available April 1st.
 - How to re-apply? As long as the current member is in good standing and meets the 50% attendance requirement, he/she just has to declare to the chairs the want to be on the council for a second year.

Public Forum Planning

- Schedule:
 - Diane and Introductions (15 minutes).
 - Panel (30 minutes)
 - Workshop 1 (40 minutes)
 - Break (10 minutes)
 - Workshop 2 (40 minutes)
 - Debrief/ Feedback (15 minutes)
- Workshop Topics:

- | |
|---------------------|
| ○ Adolescent Health |
| ○ Civic Engagement |

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ College Survival○ Financial Literacy○ Home Economics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ College Readiness○ Career Readiness

- Boxed topics are the grouping recommendations of the Legislative Committee.
- Hopefully, the forum will be at the end of April/beginning of May.

Committee Break Outs

- **Legislative Committee:**
 - By March 23, the survey will be completely edited and ready for dispersal.
 - By April 20, the committee will stop collecting surveys.
 - By the Forum, a statistical analysis with a graphics presentation and one page handout will be completed.
 - Next Steps: Share and publicize survey and think about to whom the results should be presented.
- **Public Awareness Committee:**
 - Edited flyers to advertise MYAC.
 - Discussed where to advertise and to which groups.
 - Next Steps: Advertise date forms come out. Share with schools, libraries, and other community outlets. Make invitations for the forum.

Next Steps

- Work on tasks within individual committees.
- Look out for times and ideas for the Public Forum.

Next Meeting

- TBD