



September 15, 2022 5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Zoom: <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/92461748993>

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Language Justice Updates
- Cambridge Youth Council Mental Health Campaign
- Family Policy Council Overview
- Summer Interview Findings - Presentation and Discussion

Present:

Chair: Mayor Siddiqui

Members: Tina Alu, ~~Akriti Bhambi~~, ~~Christine Elow~~, Fred Fantini, ~~Wendy Georgan~~, Bob Gittens, ~~Michelle Godfrey~~, Kim Goldstein, ~~Victoria Greer~~, Liz Hill, Tabbie Howard, ~~Mike Johnston~~, David Kale, Elijah Lee-Robinson, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Maria McCauley, ~~Derrick Neal~~, ~~Geeta Pradhan~~, Bridget Rodriguez, Ellen Semonoff, Tagesech Wabeto, Elaine Wen

Executive Director: Nancy Tauber

Find It Manager: Andrew Liedtka

Guests: Nick DeSouza, Jose Wendel, Lyndsay Brown Pinkus

Notetaker - Elaine Wen

5:15 Meeting Starts

Welcome and Introductions

Family Policy Council Business

- Adoption of Minutes (May 5, 2022)
- Public Comment
- Announcements
 - New MBTA M7 passes available to all Cambridge 9-12th graders. CRLS did run out of passes on Wednesday, however, new ones should be coming in soon.
 - Danehy Park Family Day on September 17

Get-To-Know-You Activity

- Cultural Communication Styles Self Quiz
- Breakout Group Questions
 - Introduce yourself
 - Pick one of the statements from the Cultural Communications Styles Self Quiz and tell the group what you picked and why you picked it? Do you think it has something to do with your cultural background?

Presentation and Discussion [Presentation Slides](#)

Nancy Tauber and Jose Wendel

What is the Family Policy Council

- Members
- Recent Accomplishments
- Criteria for Choosing and Area of Focus

Cambridge Youth Council Mental Health Campaign

- Summer Working Group (Family Policy Council, CYC, Public Health Department, CPS, Cambridge Community Center, and Library) gathered content and prepared data to present to CYC to help them determine target audience and messaging for campaign
- CYC's orientation is Oct 1, and they will begin working on the campaign. CYC will identify a Target Audience and Messages. Here are some of the ideas:

Language Justice Updates

- Language Justice Division (Human Rights Commission) is now official
- Crystal Rosa was hired to be the Language Access Manager
- ARPA Funding for Translation and Interpretation
- Smartcat Pilot is happening and going well
- Plain Language Writing Training
 - Over 350 people have taken it
 - It is being offered through the City's personnel department every other month (next training is September 28th at 10)
- Crystal will periodically come to our meetings to give us updates.

Support Children/Teens Interview Findings

PURPOSE: To gather data to help the Family Policy Council develop recommendations to ensure all children/teens receive the support they need and figure out how we can be more coordinated in our efforts.

[Summary of Findings](#)

Breakout Questions

1. Introductions
2. What stood out for you?
3. What questions do you have?
4. Pick the top 3 points that you would like to share with the entire group

Family Policy Council Feedback 9-15-22

Questions

- What are the outcomes and outputs for the Family Policy Council?
- Can we focus on something that is doable and actionable?
- How can the FPC support more opportunities for connections, address overlapping resources/too many resources, and work towards being more efficient and effective?
- How can the FPC move partnership forward in an intentional manner?
- How can the FPC support school department district plan (objective 4, 10 - Improve families' access to resources within and beyond CPS and maybe others)
- How can we address the systemic barriers that prevent information sharing?

Information and Referral

- What is the role of FPC re: Information and Referrals?
 - Can we help streamline referrals?
 - Make recommendations for better practices across the city?
- There are two levels: how families find the service they need, and how the staff of city community and school programs know how to make the connection themselves or help others. FPC sphere of influence would be to focus on the city, community and school providers.
- Reimagine “Find It Here” Not just a central resource of information, but a “hub” where staff members may be employed whose entire job is to connect people, so that it may be completely integrated into the institutions.
- Build off of other successful models
 - Police Department Stakeholders Gatherings
 - CET NETworking Events
 - Agenda for Children OST, MSN/ESON, and RAY Meetings
- Parent Square
 - How can city and community partners help spread the word
 - Can Parent Square be a resource to connect providers in and out of school?
- Orientation for new staff (and existing who want it)
- Knowing someone & relationships make a difference

Participation Data

- Set up a system so that the adults who serve students know their activities and involvements.
 - Identify those who and who are not involved
 - Help connect students to enrichment
 - Use it as a way to better facilitate outreach
 - “Student Brag Sheet”

Staff (burnout/shortage)

- Staff don’t live in Cambridge anymore - connectedness is disappearing

Resources

- Is there a way to streamline services that different organizations offer to avoid duplication and sync the work?
- Database focused on Ideas
- Shadowing a child, a day in the life to see where pain points are, see where the gaps or barriers come up.
- FIND IT - Can there be a section that includes activities and resources that youth can access (and would want to access)

7:10: Adjourn