

Association for Youth Leadership Forums

Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2018



On The Call:

Carrie Greenwood (KS), Whitney Harris (FL), Elijah Fagan (NY), Jami Davis (ID), Julia Hartman (SC), Cameron Thaller (SC), Chloe Smith (MT), Jen Randle (OK), Daniel Gounder (CA), Anthony La Cava (FL)

- **Opening Round:** – Question from Connecticut. For YLF's who get state funding, what requirements must you meet to get funding and what are the reporting requirements to the State?
 - Carrie- Majority of funding comes from VR, most of the requirements are meeting outcomes (such as getting youth into jobs)
 - Elijah- Youth Power is a nonprofit that receives funding from different sources. NY is different since they do multiple "YLF" type events across the state. They track how many people, what services they are receiving, what they are involved in.
 - Cameron- They do mainly satisfaction and outcome surveys.
 - Chloe- They do one big event, and four mini two day "YLF" events. They collect data for the state and for the feds.
 - Jen- OK is funded through their Developmental Disabilities Council, though they do try to find some outside funding.
 - Whitney- Florida has changed ownership of their YLF, but they are seeking funding from Voc Rehab.
 - Daniel- State funders and private sector, majority from Voc Rehab.

- **Minutes to Approve**
 - November 2017 and January 2018 minutes were sent to the group. Carrie created the motion to approve and Jen seconded. The minutes have been approved.
 - **Treasurer Report**
 - Jen announced that they bank balance was \$4,319.77. There have been no new deposits or withdrawals.

- **DISCUSSION TOPIC: What platforms of social media does your YLF use? What types of content do you put on your social media? Who runs and updates your social media sites? Does your alumni utilize these sites often? What are your tips for how to engage youth using social media?**
 - Elijah, New York: They have a Social Media and Marketing Coordinator. Their job is to create market materials and use Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest to engage participants. Their DD Council uses a Google Group to engage their network. His tips would be to stay on top of the social media that youth are using.
 - Cameron, South Carolina: They use Facebook and host a private alumni page. They have alumni who run the page, and post recent news or questions to the group. They are

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considering adding information to the application asking for their Facebook info, so they can add delegates to the alumni page (to make sure they have the right people).

- Anthony, Florida: Facebook is what they use to keep everyone connected.
- Jen, Oklahoma: They are working on engaging alumni to start taking over the social media. They use Facebook, Instagram, Clove?, and Twitter. They created a Snapchat but aren't quite sure how to take advantage of it. Facebook is what works the best. They get better responses using FB messenger to communicate with participants than email.
- Chloe, Montana: Part of her job is to do the Social Media, which they have a Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. They have a lot of success with using their website to get their application information out. Facebook is their most successful tools for communicating with alumni. They have Instagram, but are not quite sure how to use it effectively.
- Carrie, Kansas: They use Facebook, but also have a private group for alumni. They have a small staff, so they don't do as much as they would like. Their Executive Director shares a lot of posts and Carrie updates the page with their newsletter and posts. They also use Facebook as a way to connect participants.

● Guest Speakers- Cameron Thaller (SC) and Justin Hartford (Mobility International)

- Justin- Mobility International does international exchange to offer youth with disabilities the opportunities to go to school, work or volunteer overseas. They can also connect youth with other youth who have done it. South Carolina did a presentation for Mobility International to offer youth a way to learn about opportunities for international exchange. This could be adapted to other YLFs.
- Cameron- A lot of the youth in their YLF had dreams of international travel. SC tried to work in topics that were more holistic and gave alternatives ways to travel. They were referred to AWAY Magazine (A World Awaits You). They were able to get someone that was currently traveling abroad to skype in and speak to delegates during the forum.
- Carrie- Suggested the Justin put together his information and have Cameron send it out to the group.

● Closing

- The next call will be Thursday, March 23, 2018 at 2:00pm Eastern. The topic will be Keynote speakers and coordinating self-care.

Meeting time: 2:04-3:01 p.m. EST

Minutes recorded by Whitney Harris, AYLF Secretary

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