

Focus Group Name: Reducing Violence & Providing Second Chances **Goal #3**

Scribe Name: Paul Janampa

Date of Next Meeting (before end of January 2019): January 31st 8:30-10am

Location of Next Meeting: United Way of Greater Nashua

Names of Focus Group Members: Joe Boston, Allie Joseph (My Turn), Bobbie Bagley (Nashua Public Health and Community Services, Alyssa Vasquez will be attending the meetings going forward), Irvin Scales (Southern NH Outreach for Black Unity), Shaun Nelson (Nashua PAL), Mike Apfelberg (United Way of Greater Nashua), Mike Carignan (Nashua Police Department), Carol Baldwin (Adult Learning Center), Paul Janampa (NH Catholic Charities), Amanda Martinez (MBK)

Names of Potential Partners: Janet Valuk (Nashua Prevention Coalition), Donna Arias (The Youth Council)

Notes:

- Group members agreed that we first need to decide on our year over year goals to ensure we are impacting the Reduction of Violence and Providing Second Chances and that we are not starting over from scratch every time we have implemented a new initiative.
- What other things can the partners do besides holding events at the ASCC? Events from partners were done at the ASCC at first for the center to gain visibility. Events should still be done at the ASCC because not all community members may be able to get to the MBK partners' facilities. Each focus group will meet to help build initiatives.
- It was brought up how to engage youth that was not involved in any of the partner's programs.
- The subcommittee discussed inviting Janet Valuk from Nashua Prevention Coalition and Donna Arias from Youth Council to join this subcommittee.
- A guide from the MBK alliance other MBK chapters initiatives, and past meeting minutes from this focus group can be reviewed and used to come up with new initiatives
- What needs to happen between now and the next meeting:
 - Look at 2-3 (or more) goals under this focus group that we want to accomplish that go along with a 2-3 year plan, that way we do not lose momentum when we finish a goal and lack another goal to work on. Collaboration between partners. In order to add more partners that we may be missing, make a list of people who work with youth in the court system or in risk of ending in the court system and invite them. Identify risk factors that youth are facing.
- Discussed two projects that the previous subcommittee had worked on: the Mirror project and the mentorship program. The Mirror project should be continued. The mentorship program did not really pick up. An idea was brought to focus on a particular population based on a statistics from partners. There is a need for mentors for teens. Bringing mentorship programs together from different partners and look to obtain funding. A problem encountered in the past with the mentorship program was choosing what partner the mentors were connected with. There was also a problem on the platform that was used to enter the mentor's information,
 - Mike A. stated that before solving the problems that mentees are facing, we need to define what we are measuring. What are the key metrics to be used to define the problem? Mentoring can fall out if we are not sure what the specific problems are.