

## **Parent Education Program Committee Meeting**

Thursday, October 3, 2019 – Court Support Services Division

Attendance – Judge Albis, Jill Davis, Joseph DiTunno, Doug Edwards, Mimi Donagan, Kari Adamsons. A member of the public observed the meeting.

Staffed by Danielle Sanquedolce

The agenda is distributed.

- PEP Advisory Committee membership two year commitment has begun in September of 2019. The committee welcomed new members, Dr. Kari Adamsons from the University of Connecticut and Deputy Director, Joseph DiTunno, who is the designee for Deborah Fuller. Danielle Sanquedolce joined the meeting as a staff member.
- The McCall Foundation indicated that as of June 30, 2019 the agency will no longer provide the Parent Education Program in Torrington. It is anticipated that surrounding agencies can take the additional clients so the court will not be impacted. It was discussed that Roeder Family and Child Associates have inquired as to ending their participation as a provider.
- The PEP Brochure is currently being updated and it is anticipated that it will be finalized this month. There will be a request for the updated brochure to be made available in Spanish. The committee discussed the request by some providers to provide their website and conduct online registration. The committee will consider adding language in the next RFP to address adding websites in the brochure but not to be utilized for participants to register on.
- PEP Yearly Training will be held for providers on October 22, 2019 on the topic of DV and Technology. Adam Dodge, Esq. will be providing the training that was offered and well received this past June to Family Service staff. The Advisory Council will be included on the scheduling emails with the providers so they have all of the details for the training. The committee revisited the topic of Opiates for a future training for providers.
- A Parent Education Program update was provided by Joseph DiTunno. The program continues to run well with no anticipated issues of coverage at this time. CCFSA has a new Program Manager overseeing the program and has been working closely with Family Services on any needs or issues.
- Family Services Early Intervention Program has rolled out statewide. There have been 129 referrals in the past five months. EIP offers the parties sixty days to resolve their parenting issues and attend the PEP. It is unknown how the EIP will impact the number of participants that attend PEP at this time. Family Services is hosting Informational Sessions statewide in each JD twice per month. Attendance varies from each JD location. Family Services is exploring ideas on marketing the Informational Sessions and offer it in different languages.

- The three year term for PEP contracts ends June 30, 2020. There is an option to extend contracts for a period of one year and two extensions are allowed. At the next meeting, the committee will explore which option is most beneficial and any potential changes necessary to the RFP or contracts.
- The next Parent Education Program Committee meeting will be scheduled on a Thursday in February of 2020.