

04/09/2018

**Direct Impact (DI) Programs Committee: Nancy Weissler, Chair**

The DI Programs Committee continues to meet regularly to prepare for the launch of the Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) program and the Human Services Technology Solutions (HSTS) program and monitor Youth Impact Programs. The committee met once in February and March to discuss the progress of subcontracts, project timelines, staffing, event planning, research and evaluation, fiscal monitoring and implementation strategies. Its next meeting is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions:**

Program subcontracts have been reviewed by a Day Pitney attorney and have been delivered to our subcontracted parties for review. The ECAGS launch event is scheduled for May 15, at the Greenwich Library's Cole Auditorium from 8:45-10 am. All G UW Board and Advisory Council members are invited to attend; other invitees include donors, our partner organizations; Community Planning Council members; and other agency staff members active in this field. The keynote speaker is Dr. Janice Gruendel who is a Fellow at both Yale's Zigler Center and the Institute for Child Success. A donor to ECAGS is underwriting the cost of the launch event.

All positions have been posted and program staff is in the process of screening and interviewing candidates. Additionally, a Yale intern will be working closely with staff around program measurements, research and evaluation. Program staff is in the process of developing a measurement framework with the Harvard Business School Club of CT Community Partners. The Director of Community Impact convenes bi-weekly meetings with program partners to discuss implementation strategies, site-specific program data and share updates to ensure a successful launch.

Family Centers has submitted its plan to the Parents as Teachers national organization to become an affiliate to operate the PAT program we're funding. It has identified two bi-lingual parent educators, who are currently working in other capacities at Family Centers, and a part-time supervisor, also employed at Family Centers. It is anticipated that these staff members will attend the required PAT training in June.

Next month, the G UW has scheduled several additional meetings with Family Centers and the YMCA to refine plans for executing both the PAT and the pre-school instructional coaching components of the program.

**Human Services Technology Solutions:**

Human Services Technology Solutions is progressing at a steady rate. Meetings were held with VisionLink and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to build-out an implementation plan. A project timeline has been created to help plan, coordinate and track specific tasks. Program staff met with DHS commissioner, Dr. Alan Barry, to help plan critical next steps and incorporate feedback for the creation of the program manager

job description. Next month, program staff will meet with DHS program staff to assist with planning for the launch of VisionLink.

**Youth Impact Programs:**

Youth Impact Programs continued to hold weekly GJrUW meetings and regularly scheduled Reading Champions sessions in elementary schools and after school programs. GJrUW membership has grown and meetings occur at the YWCA. GJrUW members are focusing on creating an event in collaboration with Abilis and piloting Finance Champions. The Champions program is collecting data from all schools and planning year-end events for volunteers and students. Next month, program staff will continue to meet with liaisons to make program adjustments and plan for the next program year.