



State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

Office for Aging

Jason T. Garnar, County Executive · Mary E. Turbush, Director



AmeriCorps
Seniors

Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Council Meeting Minutes May 15, 2023 Broome County Library

Present: Foster Grandparents: Donna Saker, Joan Krissel, Victoria Rucker and Nancy Elwood.
Community Member: Youjung Lee

OFA Staff: Francie Keefe, Program Coordinator

Welcome and Introductions

- Francie welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

Program Manager's Report

- **Current Foster Grandparent Status.** Francie reported current Foster Grandparent Status. The program is currently at 32 active grandparents with 2 on a Leave of Absence.
- **Outreach Efforts.** Francie discussed the latest outreach efforts made by the Foster Grandparent staff. Field Supervisor Robin has been to several tabling events and has made numerous connections with potential foster grandparents. Nancy E. assisted at a UE school tabling event to help promote the program. There are several events coming up and Robin will reach out to members to assist at those events. Joan and Donna agreed to assist at Northern Broome Senior Center tabling event on Grandparents Day in August.
- **New Volunteer Site.** FGP is now at an after-school program at the Westside Community Gym. Victoria is volunteering there 3 days a week and spoke about her experience at the center.
- **Orientation-**Francie stated that there will be an orientation in late July early August. There could potentially be 6 attendees depending on availability of volunteers.
- **Summer Recognition Dinner-** Will be held on June 21st, which is now recognized as Broome County Foster Grandparent Day. FGP has reached out to local businesses to ask for a small donation or gift card for door prizes for luncheon. Francie will address concerns from last year and solidify the menu with vendor. Continued discussion of bonus gifts, invitee list and door prizes.
- **AmeriCorps National Convening-** Francie will attend the AmeriCorps National Convening on 5/24-5/26. Francie plans to attend various classes and will report back to council with new information.
- **In-services** – The presenters in May were very informative and everyone really enjoyed the topics. They would like to have Hailey from CVAC return in the fall to talk further and more in depth about childhood trauma and how that may present in children in

various ages. Dr Lee would like to speak to the group in the fall to discuss the findings of her study. FGP would like to recognize Juneteenth at the June in-service. Victoria agrees to conduct a presentation for the group, as Francie and Robin were unable to find a local presenter available. Francie plans to partner with Melinda Sanderson of the NYS Mentor Program, Melinda would like to speak to the group about mentoring. Will set up for future in-service.

Next Meeting: -Francie will contact Council Members to discuss the time of the next meeting.

We will plan for the meeting to be held in-person at the Broome County Library in the Ahearn Room.