

FCSN Board Outreach Committee



Meeting Details

- Date and Time: 3/25/2022
- Location: Zoom

Attendees

- Present: Pam, Renee, Jaya Pandey, Susan, Melanie Jarboe,

Discussion

What is the role of the Outreach Committee? How should we be thinking about this from a strategic level and how can we support the Outreach Team?

- The goal is to ensure that the Federation is doing our best to reach multicultural and multilingual families. Three things to consider:
 - How are we best meeting the needs of multicultural communities?
 - We are providing monthly Connecting Families events interpreted into six languages, but we cannot know how many people are taking advantage of the interpretation. With finite resources, we need to make sure we are providing support that is helpful and needed.
 - We do not truly have a defined cultural broker model that is applicable across communities.
 - We need to identify what is going well, what are the challenges/opportunities, and how the board can provide support.
- **Susan's Outreach Team Update:**
 - We currently have Outreach Specialist supporting five different communities:
 - Susan Ou, Outreach Manager, Chinese Specialist (40 hrs.)
 - Ruth Esther, Spanish Outreach Specialist (32 hrs.)
 - Shey Jaboin, Haitian Creole Outreach Specialist (16 hrs.)
 - Aceriane Leal, Portuguese Outreach Specialist (40 hrs.)
 - Heidi Harris, Black Outreach Specialist (20 hrs.)
 - Outreach and information extend to the Vietnamese and Somali communities with support from Oanh Bui and Asha Abdullahi.
 - The Cultural Broker model provides a bridge between families and professionals. Three different levels of support are provided.
 - General supports: trainings in native language and dissemination of resources.
 - Targeted supports: 1:1 Technical Assistance and partnering with other organizations to push workshops.
 - Intensive supports: Jessie fund, IEP Clinics, attending IEP meeting with families.
 - Communities have different preferences for communicating. The Haitian outreach is primarily via radio. The communication with Spanish speaking families is primarily through Facebook and a bi-weekly radio show. The Portuguese community uses Facebook and What's App. The Chinese community social media platform is

WeChat. Outreach to the Black community is not about language but more about connections with community agencies.

- Challenges: There is a large Latino community, and Ruth Esther needs help. How can we extend staff outreach and impact? Cape Verdean communities do not all speak Portuguese.
- **Feedback/Questions**
 - Are there ways for the Federation to see how other communities are gathering electronically?
 - Collaborating with existing support groups will streamline the process and help tailor the materials to specific community needs.
 - The first thing people need to know is where they can go for help.
 - When people call, we need a list of resources we can provide. Family TIES directory and information should be provided.
 - We should maximize our time by building cultural brokers and developing community leaders recognizing that not all communities are the same or have the same social status.
 - People need more than just an overwhelming number of resources.
 - [First Teacher](#) is a parent education organization in Boston that can be a resource.

Next Meeting

- Date and Time: Friday, May 20, 2022, at 2:00pm
- Location: [Zoom](#)