



**Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2022
10:00 AM**

A general meeting of the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention convened on January 19, 2022. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Parents Commission.

Members Present (6)	Members Absent (2)
Denise Beagley (Chair)	Kristine FireThunder (Co-Chair)
Lori Robinson	Raynee Schneider
Michael Klinkner	
Chief Robert Martin	
Marina Lantsman-Waugh	
Nicholas Stavros (Proxy: Tina Braham)	
Staff and Guests Present (5)	
Tonya Hamilton	Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Nicole Valenzuela	Glen Lineberry
Kim Brooks	

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Beagley called the Parents Commission meeting to order at **10:01 a.m.** with 6 members present and 2 members absent.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Beagley welcomed members and guests. **Chairperson Beagley** took attendance via roll call at 10:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Beagley requested a review of the **November 17, 2021** meeting minutes. **Commissioner Robinson** motioned to accept the minutes. **Commissioner Martin** seconded the motion at 10:05 a.m. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

PARENTS COMMISSION MEETING PRESENTATIONS

ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Director

Chairperson Beagley welcomed and introduced **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Director**. **Dr.**

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present. **Dr.**

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz shared the results from the 2021 Youth Experiences Survey:

Exploring the Human Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults in Arizona, Year 8.

- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated research questions were related to the life experiences of homeless young adults, sex trafficked homeless young adults, and labor exploited homeless young adults. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that there are currently 115 shelter beds available for youth experiencing homelessness and over 2,000 youth qualified for needing shelter. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared she is working on a project with Arizona Department of Housing and Arizona Department of Economic Security to address the lack of beds and resources for the youth experiencing homelessness.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that the participants responded to the survey through housing programs, street outreach, and at drop-in centers. The average age of the participants was 21.2 years old; however many had first experienced homelessness beginning at 17 years old. The majority of the participants were Hispanic and 49.4% identified as LGBTQIA+. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that it is important to understand the experiences of the youth that identify as LGBTQIA+ are experiencing that is contributing to homelessness. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared the 71.9% of participants reported they were “kicked-out” of the home.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that more than 50% of the participants reported that they had dropped out of high school. There is an increased risk for youth in special education services to be sex trafficked. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that many participants had relocated to Arizona from a variety of states across the United States and Mexico.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that 59.6% of participants reported substance use and the average age of first use was 15.4 years old. Sixty-three percent of participants experienced addiction to alcohol and 46.2% experienced addiction to substances after becoming homeless. Participants reported that 48.3% engaged in some form of self-harm. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** recommended that screening tools be developed to further identify and respond to self-harm behaviors.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** reported that 1 in 3 of the participants reported attempting suicide. Sixty-one percent of participants report current mental health diagnosis and 52.8% reported having more than one diagnosis with only 44.9% reported receiving treatment. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that the number of participants experiencing suicidality amplifies the need to assess youth experiencing homelessness for suicidality and lethality. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that 51.7% of participants reported physical health challenges and only 18% reported receiving treatment. Thirty percent of participants reported having children, a few children remained in the care of the participants and others reported the child being placed with family, Department of Child Safety, or other out-of-home placement.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that 40.4% of participants had experienced at least one form of sex trafficking and 31.8% reported first being sex trafficked at under the age of 18 years old. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that the study reported that 66.7% of those sex trafficked were female and/or identified as LGBTQIA+. The participants reported being forced to be sex trafficked for a place to stay, money, drugs, food, protection, or clothing.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that the average number of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) for participants was a four. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** reported that a score of four or more ACEs is an indicator for the potential for lifelong physical and mental health challenges. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that the participants also reported either witnessing or experiencing domestic violence in childhood and adulthood and significant

life challenges. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that the participants did report positive life experiences, which can serve as protective factors against homelessness or long-term negative effects of trauma.

The complete presentation can be reviewed at <https://govff.az.gov/councils-commissions/arizona-parents-commission-drug-education-prevention>

Chairperson Beagley thanked **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** for her presentation and asked the commission if they had any questions.

- **Ms. Tina Braham (Proxy for Commission Stavros)** asked if participants experienced both sex and labor trafficking. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that there was approximately 12% of participants that had experienced at least one form of both sex and labor trafficking.
- **Commissioner Robinson** asked if the participants reported a specific age they had been removed from school. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that the study included yes/no questions for the participants to report if they had been suspended or expelled from school, but not the specific age that occurred. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that 51.7% of participants reporting dropping out of school.
- **Commissioner Lantzman-Waugh** thanked **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** for the informative and visually stunning presentation.
- **Chairperson Beagley** asked **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** for recommendations for interventions and support once an individual has been identified to have been sex trafficked or is at-risk for it. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** shared that it is important to screen for and teach individuals about what ACEs are and what it means to them in their own language and their own way. **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that providing information to the individuals on how to mitigate the potential physical and mental health challenges in their own life.
- **Chairperson Beagley** thanked **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** for her presentation.

Parents Commission Grantee: Miami Junior-Senior High School

Mr. Glen Lineberry, Principal

Chairperson Beagley welcomed and introduced **Mr. Glen Lineberry, Principal**. **Mr. Lineberry** thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present.

- **Mr. Lineberry** shared that the city of Miami was located in the Copper Corridor region of Arizona near Globe, AZ. **Mr. Lineberry** shared that the city used to produce more than half of the world's copper, but the mine closed in the 1980's and only opened briefly in the 1990's with a limited workforce. **Mr. Lineberry** shared that up to 30% of the population relocated due to no real economic development over several years.
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared that the following are impacting the community:
 - Limited employment opportunities
 - Rampant drug use and attendant crime
 - Only 25% of students live in a two-parent household
 - Community activities such as sports leagues, community service groups, faith-based organizations, summer programs, summer job programs, or community recreation activities have disappeared diminishing a sense of community cohesion.
 - Families are impacted by divorce, drugs, incarceration, or shift work which undermines family cohesion.

- **Mr. Lineberry** shared that the Miami Junior-Senior High School currently has 500 students in grades 6-12. They have implemented the I've Got Something Better To Do program with the Parents Commission Grant funding.
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared their self-directed improvement project includes hiring highly qualified teachers; offering and requiring completion of Career & Technical Programs for graduation; dual enrollment college credits offered; and implemented parent communication and collaboration efforts. **Mr. Lineberry** shared that there has been an 80% reduction in disciplinary referrals and sharply reduced self-reported student use of drugs and alcohol; however, they are having challenges with students vaping.
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared that the community faced significant environmental challenges which included an infestation of frogs and migratory grasshoppers. The community was significantly impacted by the Telegraph Fire as well.
- **Mr. Lineberry** stated that the pandemic has contributed to significant instructional and learning loss; students' overall sense of loss and fears of the future; and 26 parents, guardians, and grandparents passed away from COVID.
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared the challenges to Miami and rural communities include:
 - lack of economic development
 - teacher and counselor shortage
 - access to educational resources
 - equitable internet access
 - loss of community
 - student opportunities in and out of school
 - building educational and career choices into students' futures
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared that their change of attitude and plan of action include:
 - Explicitly teach change and flexibility
 - Continue important programming on drugs, alcohol, relationships, safety, and personal development. They have brought in "Everybody Matters" to provide counseling and behavioral health services. The staff engage with the students with a Kids at Hope philosophy that there is a significant impact on a child that can establish a positive, loving relationship with a positive adult in their life.
 - To move forward engaging with "I've Got Something Better To Do" and "Miami Orchard and Farm". The students will have a stake in planting, harvesting, and raising animals. The students will learn practical applications to curriculum that they are taught in class in the orchard and in the development of the products produced on the farm.
 - Implement the expansion of "I've Got Someone Better to Be" to empower students to explore, visualize, and find their personal interests, education, and career opportunities through engagement in the program
- **Mr. Lineberry** shared the they are implementing ways to "break the chain of infection" composed of the challenges that the rural communities are facing by becoming agents of change, providing consistent and repetitive services and programs, providing reservoirs of opportunities, empowering students to share the information and opportunities with their families, and increase family and community engagement.
- The complete presentation can be reviewed at <https://govff.az.gov/councils-commissions/arizona-parents-commission-drug-education-prevention>

Chairperson Beagley thanked **Mr. Lineberry** for his presentation. **Chairperson Beagley** asked the commissioners if they had questions for **Mr. Lineberry**.

- **Chairperson Beagley** shared that it is important that students are provided an opportunity to learn about non-traditional pathways such as learning a trade for their futures, which can increase engagement and provide opportunities to have a mentor and positive adults in their lives. **Chairperson Beagley** asked **Mr. Lineberry** if she could visit the high school. **Mr. Lineberry** welcomed **Chairperson Beagley** to visit and would be excited to give her a tour of the campus and orchard.
- **Commissioner Robinson** thanked **Mr. Lineberry** for the work he is doing for his community. **Commissioner Robinson** stated that research on gardening with students instills a sense of “being good at something” contributing to a sense of being inherently “good.” **Mr. Lineberry** thanked **Commissioner Robinson** and shared that when the students feel they are good at something they have the ability to do other things as well.
- **Chairperson Beagley** thanked **Mr. Lineberry** for his presentation.

PARENTS COMMISSION GRANTEE UPDATES

Ms. Nicole Valenzuela

Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Chairperson Beagley invited **Ms. Nicole Valenzuela**, Program Administrator, Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family, to share grantee updates with the commission. **Ms. Valenzuela** shared that the Parents Commission Grant Request for Application has been reviewed to ensure that it aligns with Arizona State Statute and that the grant had been forwarded to the legal team for review. **Ms. Valenzuela** shared that grant reviewers will be selected for teams to review submitted applications. **Ms. Valenzuela** invited the commission members to become a grant reviewer as long as there are no conflicts of interest with submitted applicants.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Beagley asked if any commissioners had any announcements they would like to share.

- **Deputy Director Tonya Hamilton** shared that the 4th Annual Human Trafficking Symposium was being hosted virtually on January 20, 2022 in partnership with the Arizona Human Trafficking Council and the McCain Institute. **Deputy Director Hamilton** shared that the registration was free.
- **Chairperson Beagley** shared two events the ASU School of Social Work will host.
 - ASU Winter Institute will be held on 2/23-2/24/2022 at Skysong: The ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center. The conference is focused on first responder and behavioral health cross training. **Chairperson Beagley** stated that there were scholarships available at socialwork.asu.edu.
 - ASU School of Social Work will facilitate Suicide Prevention and Intervention Training on 1/31/2022 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA/MEETING SCHEDULE

Chairperson Beagley stated the next scheduled meeting is set for March 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Executive Tower. **Chairperson Beagley** announced that the meeting would be hybrid (in-person & virtual) for those unable to attend in-person.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Beagley thanked everyone for being part of the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner Robinson** moved to adjourn. **Commissioner**

Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

20th Day of January, 2022
Parents Commission
Respectfully Submitted By:
Nicole Valenzuela
Program Administrator, GOYFF

DRAFT