NYAPRS Cultural Competence Committee Minutes
July 9, 2015

Present: Casey Ciceron, Theresa Hall, Luis Lopez, Evita Ashby, John Cowans, Briana Gilmore, Natia Green, Lenora Reid-Rose, Colleen Sheehan, Carol Siegel, Deborah Wilcox

1. **Policy Update:** Briana informed the Committee of a proposal by Governor Cuomo that will raise the age of criminal responsibility from age 16 to 18 (48 other states have this law in effect). The proposal is widely supported by the NYS Assembly, but cannot get enacted until large infrastructure is in place to help facilitate the transition. Briana would like the Committee to make recommendations on what advocacy efforts are needed to help get this law passed (i.e. having a 16 year old who was convicted as an adult testify about their experiences under the current system). **Action:** Briana will send an email with questions that will help guide the Committee on making their recommendations.

2. **NYU Peer Specialist Conference:** Theresa and Luis gave an overview on what the Committee will be doing at this year’s Conference, which includes sharing a table with Community Access and asked for people to volunteer at the table. Theresa wanted to know if anyone had materials they could distribute at the table; Carole offered to send materials she has on Cap Instruments. **Action:** Carol will send Theresa the materials via USPS to use at the table.

3. **Annual Conference:** The conference is set to be phenomenal with great presenters and workshops planned. The Committee is responsible for making the Cultural Exhibition a success. Theresa asked the Committee members to help in making it a success by helping with room set up, contributing personal belongings to the exhibition and/or seeking out donations for it. The Committee was also asked to encourage the community to participate in the fashion show, whether it’s walking in the show or providing cultural garments for it.

4. **CCC Webinar Series:** Luis announced that the webinar series is set to begin on the second Thursday of every month in the fall with a break in December. The scheduled dates are as followed: October 8, 2015, November 12, 2015, January 14, 2016 and February 11, 2016. Luis would like Harvey and Briana to open up the October webinar with a ‘State of State’ a status update on NYAPRS and the areas that providers, families, consumers and the Committee should focus their attention on. The November webinar will feature Dr. Wilcox and will highlight the Peer movement in Ohio. January will feature a presentation regarding PI and the CFI, and the February webinar will be in collaboration with Nathan Klein.

**Discussion Topics:**

1. None

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Casey Ciceron*