

# Family and Youth Subcommittee

REPORT TO THE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR SCHOOL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



May 18, 2020



# Participation at Subcommittee Meetings

- **Monthly meetings every 3rd Friday (now via Zoom)**
- **Frequent Participation from:**
  - Family Leaders
  - Family Facing Orgs
  - Gov't Advocacy Agencies:
    - DBH Ombudsman
    - DBH Consumer and Family Affairs Administration
    - Education Ombudsman
    - Office of the Student Advocate
    - Office of Disability Rights



# IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

## PAVE PARENTS LISTENING SESSION



Parent Concern 1: Some CBOs were thought to not be aware of the expansion yet it was discovered that Community Connections was invited in cohort one but self-elected to not participate further and dropped out. Frontline staff are not aware of the expansion and it is unclear why the organization opted out.

Parent Concern 2: Frustrated at not knowing what is happening and what the process is to receive help; Also, schools seem consumed with compliance with deadlines versus quality of service delivery. An ask for key decision makers on a city-wide basis to make time to come into the schools.

Parent Concern 3: There were several discussions co-occurring about the role of ChAMPs. One parent was concerned about access and wanted to see a ChAMPs-like service in every school; other parents were concerned of the misuse of ChAMPs to remove children from school without de-escalation being the first line of defense (one parent used her experience with her 7 year old so as an example)



# MEETINGS WITH FAMILY FACING ORGANIZATIONS



STRENGTH: (1) Family to family connection to community systems and navigation; (2) Advocacy efforts knowledgeable about the lived experiences of DC families; and (3) Can offer access to samples of family and youth leaders to help with feedback about the school behavioral health expansion.

WEAKNESS: (1) Limited capacity to offer families in need of systems navigation and advocacy through the school behavioral health system; and (2) Lack of access to the key agency actors to help with training and other support to help these agencies improve services so families feel more safe when interaction.

OPPORTUNITY: (1) Look at systems failures and not shortcomings of individual families; (2) Processes that create better oversight for how implementation happens on the ground.

THREAT: (1) Lack of commitment to fiscally invest in this angle of the work; and (2) Not having targeted engagement with family facing organizations that's measured and monitored.