**Serving on Groups**

**April 7, 2017**

***Participants***: Diana Autin, Nicole Pratt (SPAN), Don Trite (New Directions for Maine Families), Phyllis Shingle (Family Faculty @ NM LEND), Janice Shutz (FFCMH, WA); Diane O’Connor (P2P of NYS); Ayo Bajomo (SPAN)

***Purpose of these monthly calls***: To be a time when Serving on Groups participants will be able to touch base with the Training and TA team as well as others doing the SoG trainings. After this month, the calls will be held on the second Friday of each month from 1-2 pm ET. These calls are not required!

***Current Status of Trainings:***

*Janice Shutz, FFCMH Chapter in Washington*: “On 2/12 we held a board retreat for our board and some committee members. I led the introduction and Unit 3 to help some folks understand decision making better. Everyone loved the training and wanted to do more of it. On 3/11 we held a training for one of our member family organizations that is having to restructure their board. We invited community members as well. I didn't have enough structure in that training! I ended up running through the whole presentation in one long day, but folks did not want to miss out on anything. Most of the attendees really loved the training. I would not recommend going through it all in one day, but it was a great learning experience for me and I feel much more confident for the next training.”

*Parent to Parent of NYS*: Will do the training series partly in person and partly web-based. They will be doing some rearranging of the order of the presentation because there are certain sections that are more appropriately facilitated in person and others that can be done effectively in a web-based format. They have already spoken with the external evaluator to discuss having the evaluation question sections reordered so that they match their reordered presentation. They will pilot the training for a smaller group of parent leaders, make any needed revisions, and then do a training series for a larger group of parent leaders in the fall.

*Vermont Family Network*: Already does a parent leadership training, and will be integrating components of Serving on Groups into that Leadership Series. Have not completed this yet.

*Massachusetts Family Ties/FCSN*: Already does a parent leadership training, and will be integrating it into that training; still in the process of doing it.

*Statewide Parent Advocacy Network*: We are setting up a meeting with the four state agency representatives who attended the Vermont Leading by Convening and Serving on Groups training along with Mercedes Rosa, SPAN’s Family to Family Health Information Center Director, to discuss (a) co-facilitating a Leading by Convening training for more state agency “conveners,” and (b) identifying parent leaders who serve on their advisory groups to participate in a Serving on Groups training. We are also talking with the network of county Family Support Organizations (serving families of children with mental health/behavioral challenges) and their membership organization, the NJ Alliance of Family Support Organizations, about doing a SoG series for their family leaders. We will be doing several of the SoG modules at our upcoming biannual Statewide Parent Leadership and Advocacy Conference coming up on May 6. Last year we trained about 700 parents of young children and other members of our 21 County Councils on Young Children along with the CCYC facilitator agencies using Serving on Groups.

*Indiana FV*: Attended the NM training because they were approached by their state to do some training for parents involved in a SAMHSA-funded LAUNCH (early childhood) grant. The state had been monitored by the federal grantor agency and found lacking in parent involvement. They submitted an application to that state agency to do training focused both on Serving on Groups and Leading by Convening; as of mid-March they had not yet heard back about the funding but are optimistic that they may get some funding from another early childhood project even if this one doesn’t pan out.

*Phyllis*: We have talked about with our F2F, which is NM PRO, is doing a co-training with Families as Faculty to provide more training for them, about 25 families that do the family matches. Phyllis coordinates this program. Families want to become more involved and this would be an opportunity. What would they look like if we did some collaborative training? PRO is having a family leadership training which is a component of their family conference. Also have our EPICS program which is around Native American families, doing some upcoming leadership training. Could use some of these materials to support those families and help them be able to have a greater understanding of what they might need to know to go to the next level. Every family I do a day-long event for the families. Have taken some of the activities from SoG and LbC. We have a Partners for Employment program; this group came together over the last year, have done many things together, wanted to look back on what they have accomplished, what relationships have we built, wanting to acknowledge the relationships that are part of it, will use the LbC tool.

*New Directions for Maine Families:* Would like to participate in a web-based training or see the NYS P2P recording after the fact to see how it goes. Would like the link to the Wisconsin training; it’s [www.servingongroups.org](http://www.servingongroups.org). Ayo will resend the link to the trainers’ section as well as to the Dropbox of resources. Have you reached out to the Maine Parent Federation about doing a joint training? Yes, and Don will be bringing the group back together including Heather and the MPF person who attended the train the trainer. One of the places we might go is the Native American community up north.

***Facebook groups***: Have created Facebook groups for the Serving on Groups participants and the Leading by Convening participants; will be inviting everyone to them within a week! Will be a closed group where we can communicate with each other as we move forward with using the SoG and LbC tools.

***Other***: Notes from the Drop-In calls will be placed in a Drop In Call folder in the Serving on Groups dropbox of resources. Next Drop-In call will be Friday, May 12, 1-2 pm ET. Call in number: 712-775-7031; participant code: 608-897-211.