

Timothy Montoya Task Force

Interim Committee Update - July 2023

BACKGROUND

Named after a 12-year-old who was hit and killed by a car shortly after running away from his out-of-home placement in June 2020, the General Assembly formed this task force to study youth who run from child welfare placements and develop a consistent, prompt and effective response by analyzing:

HB 22-1375
Child Residential Treatment & Runaway Youth

- Sufficiency of statewide data
- Root causes of why youth run away
- Behaviors that constitute running away
- Runaway vs. age-appropriate behaviors
- Youth risk of becoming a victim of crime
- When to report a missing youth from placement
- Effectiveness of state regulations & facility protocols
- Best practices for prevention & deterrence
- Coordinated response between entities
- Resources necessary to improve coordinated efforts

MEETINGS

SEP 28 2022	NOV 02 2022	JAN 04 2023
MAR 01 2023	APR 12 2023	MAY 03 2023
JUN 14 2023	JUL 12 2023	AUG 09 2023
SEP 06 2023	OCT 11 2023	NOV 01 2023
DEC 13 2023	JAN 03 2024	MAR 06 2024
MAY 01 2024	JUL 03 2024	SEP 04 2024

All meetings are publicly streamed
*Additional meetings may be scheduled

PRESENTERS & PANELISTS

Elizabeth Montoya
Mother of Timothy Montoya

Morgan Richards
Foster Parent w/ Lived Exp.

Samantha Buck
Brad's House

Nathaniel Hailpern
Lived Experience as Youth

Tamisha Macklin
Lived Experience as Youth

Dominique Mallard
Lived Experience as Youth

Laurie Burney
CDHS

Erin Henderson
Social Worker

Lynette Overmeyer
Mesa County DHS

Dr. Tara Richards
Univ. of Nebraska Omaha

Caralin Branscum
Univ. of Nebraska Omaha

Dr. Renée Marquardt
CDHS

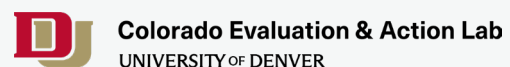
Kristin Klopfenstein
DU Action Lab

Kristin Myers
DU Action Lab



Brandon Miller
Southern Peaks Regional Treatment Center

Dennis Desparrois
Colorado Division of Child Welfare



REPORTS

The Task Force will submit two reports to the General Assembly, Governor's Office and CDHS.
First-Year Status Report: October 1, 2023
Final Report: October 1, 2024

TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

The Timothy Montoya Task Force is made up of 22 members representing government agencies, non-profit organizations, professional associations and people with lived experience in the child protection system.

Kelly Abbott Colorado Department of Public Safety	Norma Aguilar-Dave Savio House	Michelle Bradley Douglas County Department of Human Services	Ashley Chase Colorado Office of the Child's Representative
Anna Cole Colorado Human Services Directors Association	Jenna Coleman Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth	Brian Cotter Denver Police Department	Dennis Desparrois Colorado Division of Child Welfare
Jenelle Goodrich Kinship Provider	Dave Hayes Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police	Chelsea Hill Foster Parent with Lived Experience	Kevin Lash Parent with Lived Experience
David E. Lee Colorado Division of Youth Services	Chase Leonard Cañon City Police Department	Dr. Renée Marquardt Colorado Department of Human Services	Beth McNalley Denver Department of Public Safety
Brandon Miller Souther Peaks Regional Treatment Center	Becky Miller Updike Colorado Association of Family & Children's Agencies	Elizabeth Montoya Parent with Lived Experience	Lynette Overmeyer Mesa County Department of Human Services
Stephanie Villafuerte Office of the Colorado Child Protection Ombudsman	Jana Zinser Foster Parent with Lived Experience	Meetings are independently facilitated by:  KEYSTONE POLICY CENTER	

TOPICS DISCUSSED

- Lived experiences of youth and professionals
- System response operations and processes
- National research on predictors of running away
- Current statutory reporting requirements
- Impact of labeling youth as a "runaway"
- Sufficiency of current statewide, quantitative data
- County agency and residential facility protocols
- Colorado youth and provider focus groups
- Criteria used by other states for response
- Development of a statewide response guide

DU ACTION LAB STUDY

The Task Force commissioned focus groups with Colorado providers and youth currently in treatment facilities who have run away.



Key findings revealed by the study include:

- Impact of a youth's flight survival response
- Factors leading youth to run from placement
- Experiences of youth when they return
- Provider response protocols
- Opportunities and barriers for prevention

See complete report in Interim Committee Update

**STAY
UP-TO-DATE**

Email CPO Director of Public Affairs & Legislative Liaison
Michael W. Teague at mteague@coloradocpo.org.

**VISIT THE
TASK FORCE
WEBSITE:**



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FOR CHILDREN
& FAMILIES