



**Date: December 13, 2018**

**Time: 4:00p.m. - 6:30p.m.**

**Location:  
Center for Science and Industry (COSI)  
333 West Broad Street  
Central High Meeting Room**

**Commission on Black Girls**

Meeting Purpose	A convening of key stakeholders to collectively study factors that impact the quality of life (QOL) for Black girls in Columbus, Ohio
Columbus City Council Visionary	Council Member Priscilla Tyson
Co-Chairs	Fran Frazier, Rise Sister Rise Dr. Frederic Bertley Ph.D., Center of Science and Industry (COSI)
Project Manager	Patricia Lyons Ph.D., LISW-S

**Attendees: Key: P=Present, PT= Present Tele, A=Absent, C= Conflict**

<b>Rev. Timothy Ahrens</b> (M.Div. Tracy Ross) First Congregational Church		<b>Mary Cusick</b>		<b>DeShauna Lee JD</b> Nationwide Children's Hospital	
<b>Sgt. Lindsey Alli</b> (Officer Wil James) Columbus Division of Police		<b>Dr. Kevin Dixon</b> (Nettie Ferguson) Franklin Co. ADAMH Board		<b>Dr. Mysheika Roberts</b> (Makeda Porter) City of Columbus	
<b>Linda Brown</b> The Links Inc. Columbus Chapter		<b>Hon. Elizabeth Gill</b> Juvenile and Domestic Relations Division, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas		<b>Toshia Safford</b> (Samantha Heedy) Center for Healthy Families	
<b>Crystal Causey</b> (Iris Cooper) Coalition of 100 Black Women		<b>Alesia Gillison</b> (Dr. Keisha J. Hunley-Jenkins, Esq.) Columbus City Schools		<b>Dr. Wendy Smooth</b> (Dr. Camille Quinn) The Ohio State University	
<b>Clytemnestra L. Clarke</b> First Church of God		<b>Tom Grote</b> (Karen Hewitt) Grote & Turner		<b>Chip Spinning</b> (Deborra Armstrong) Franklin County Children's Services	
<b>LaShanda Coleman</b> National Pan-Hellenic Council of Col.		<b>Mia Hairston</b> (Rhonda Burns) Nationwide		<b>Ben Tyson</b> Easton Town Center	
<b>Michael Corey</b> Human Services Chamber of Franklin County		<b>Kim Hooper</b> (Shatora Thomas) Walmart		<b>Paiden Williams</b> Rise Sister Rise Black Girls Think Tank	
<b>Dr. Lisa Courtice</b> United Way of Central Ohio		<b>LC Johnson</b> YWCA			

Agenda	Details
Welcome (5)	CM Priscilla Tyson
Discussion on the representation of Black girls on Social Media (10)	Yaves Ellis, Sling Shot Media, Radio One presented on how to utilize social media as an effective tool to understand some measures that impact the QOL for Black girls; reported that Black girls spend an average of 9 hours on their cell phones and will share various messages, including those with violent content with no idea why they are being shared. Mr. Ellis asked how can we understand what is happening with this violence? <i>Feel like there are no outlets for Black girls</i> ; Black girls want to a chance to speak out positively, in a way to build up other Black girls; offered a new way of engaging Black girls by asking Commission members...what if we can give young Black girls positive messages to push out and release a series of communication strategies that can be open to them, to use community centers and develop pod cast with young Black girls...how we can do this?
Q & A (5)	How to create the missing piece that connect young girls with the elders, address social isolation and the identity piece Black girls find in social media; help Black girls understand it is ok to be your self, and the trickle down affect; ...is there a difference in the young girls that are engaged in faith based activities, then girls who are not? Openly address the risk of violence and predatory behaviors due to the lack of understanding the of social media and the ramifications of wanting to impact of the numbers they are gaining from their social media; address the need to "do it, for the great of it"
Presentation on Implicit Bias and the relationship to QOL outcomes for Black girls (25)	Karen Clark, City of Columbus presented on implicit biases and the impact of bias in relation to what happens with Black girls residing in the city of Columbus. Understanding that we all have bias; discussion of what is the call to action in addressing biases. Ms. Clark informed on the concept of Girl-hood interrupted, how biases can serve as the eraser of Black girls childhood when there is a focus on the adultification of Black girls and its application to Black girls as young as 5 years of age...results in no focus on support for Black girls even in relation to treatment services. Commission can ensure there is education and work with social services in developing supports that can be delivered for Black girls; teach girls what implicit bias is and how to make sure that everyone is getting the information
Q & A (10)	Questions raised about attitudes and beliefs that girls don't <i>need</i> verses they don't <i>want</i> a connection; how to get to root cause and address vulnerability; training is done in juvenile courts and other organizations...is the training involving in the schools and with teachers who can use the trainings; questions about the engagement...it is an interactive on-line course created by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity <a href="http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/researchandstrategicinitiatives/implicit-bias-review/">http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/researchandstrategicinitiatives/implicit-bias-review/</a>

Presentation on Juvenile Justice involvement with Black girls (20)	Judge Elizabeth Gill, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile and Domestic Relations presented on work of juvenile system and implications for Black girls; need for mental health treatment of all levels; highest percentage of girls in the system are experiencing mental health challenges and exposure to trauma which impacts their ability to deal with other issues and undermine their success in probation programs. Informed 90% of youth age out of their delinquent behaviors; youth who spend one night in juvenile are less likely to graduate high school. The courts are engaged in implicit bias trainings on all levels and reviewing risk assessments to ensure competency and exploring truancy and the court system with the realization that kids are in need of services before they reach the juvenile system.
Q & A (10)	What are available services, and how we can partner with the community, police, mentoring FCCS, public defenders and partnerships with schools, how does juvenile records impact adulthood...how does this impact non-minority youth who are not detained and therefore they are not threatened with the choice of graduation; how could legislation work in addressing issues of truancy; is there a place where we can get involved before kids are entering the system; where are points to leverage the system
Presentation on Black girls and Leadership Opportunities (20)	Dr. Wendy Smooth, The Ohio State University, Department of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies provided an overview of her current work relevant to the work of the Commission. Dr. Smooth framed her presentation on asking if the coming of age would make you think about leadership and how Black girls are coming of age with a Black President; 3 queer Black women who are leading the global movement in the Black Lives Matter; Hilary Clinton's run for Presidency and the Michelle (Obama) effect. More young Black girls were taking on social movements, understanding political efficacy... <i>you cant be what you cant see</i> ; intersectional identity...
Q & A (10)	how people view the world and how you take up the complexity. There is the need to talk with Black girls about elected officials; the contradictions of self-representation. There is work to be done on self imagery, if you are a leader, you have to engage and be part of the improvement for the Black community; Black girls see leaders are fixers; results oriented; extracting that from the strength and have a boss but we...the contradict of building up the girls and Girls interrupted and bias in boys and how the Obamas provided safety in the role of what was happening in the packaging of girls; the girls were attracted to Michelle Obama and they were running toward the celebrity and what does that mean; translate community care into work; nurture the sassiness of girls and reform into their lives and censor unapologetically
Overview of Survey Demographics (5)	Becky Zwickl, Thoughtwell provided update on 422 completed surveys with the age breakdown: 66% 11-14; 273 surveys were ages 14-18; 87 were 16 years old; 83 were between 18-22; 25% identified as multiracial; 40% reported living with just a mother (that is relevant to the community); 10% reported living only with father and/or some other living arrangements. Continued work includes compilation of data from Listening Sessions, literature reviews and incorporating secondary data from the Commission meetings.
Closing Discussion (10)	Co-Chairs Frederic Bertley and Fran Frazier
Adjournment (5)	CM Priscilla Tyson.

**Follow Up Items for Next Meeting:**

Owner	Issue/Description
<b>PUBLIC TESTIMONY:</b>	Anyone who is interested in offering public testimony is invited to do so. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If you wish to speak, a speaker slip must be completed. We will accept slips between 8:00 a.m. until the meeting begins.

The Commission meeting for January 17, 2019 will be held in the Central High Meeting Room at COSI, 333 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. The Commission will meet from **4:00-6:30p.m.** An agenda for the January meeting will be available soon.

August 7, 2018	Listening Session Protocol submitted to Commission
August 15, 2018	Listening Session Protocol feedback returned to Thoughtwell
<b>August 16, 2018</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) presentation on Physical Health and Spirituality</b>
August 22, 2018	Survey Protocol submitted to Commission
August 29, 2018	Survey Protocol feedback returned to Thoughtwell
September 5, 2018	Focus Group Protocol submitted to Commission
September 12, 2018	Focus Group Protocol feedback returned to Thoughtwell
September 18, 2018	Listening Session for Providers: Columbus Public Health, 240 Parsons Ave. 10:00a.m. -12:00p.m. Conducted by Thoughtwell
September 18, 2018	Listening Session for Parents and Caregivers: Columbus Public Health, 240 Parsons Ave. 6:00-8:00p.m. Conducted by Thoughtwell
<b>September 20, 2018</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) presentation on Behavioral Health</b>
September 27, 2018	Listening Session for Girls: Columbus Public Health, 240 Parsons Ave. 6:00p.m. -8:00p.m. Conducted by Thoughtwell
October 23, 2018	Focus Group conducted for girls ages 19-22 at 6:00p.m. Columbus Public Library, Linden Branch, 2223 Cleveland Avenue
<b>October 25, 2018</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) presentation on Education</b>
October 25, 2018	Survey link launches following meeting
November 3, 2018	Focus Groups conducted for girls ages 11-14 at 10:00a.m. Central Community House, 1105 East Main Street
November 3, 2018	Focus Groups conducted for girls ages 15-18 at 12:30p.m. Central Community House, 1105 East Main Street
<b>November 15, 2018</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) presentation on Child Welfare and Homelessness</b>
<b>December 13, 2018</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) to present on Juvenile and Social Justice</b>
January 9, 2019	Draft report submitted to Commission
<b>January 17, 2019</b>	<b>Subject Matter Expert(s) to be determined</b>
January 21, 2019	Feedback on Draft report submitted to Thoughtwell
January 30, 2019	*Final Draft Report submitted to Commission*
<i>February 4, 2019</i>	<i>Final Draft Report submitted to Commission</i>
<i>*Rain check date*</i>	

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Lyons Ph.D., LISW-S  
Project Manager  
[Patricia.lyons@gmail.com](mailto:Patricia.lyons@gmail.com)  
(614)546-7815