

Advocacy Interest Group Call
March 7, 2019

Participants: Amira Abdel-Aziz, Nicole Brown, Carol Cohen, Rebecca Davis, Jenny Kaberi, Dina Kastner, Mary Munyao, Judit Nemeth-Almansi, Sarah Neville, Alexandra Tucci,

1) Introductions

Call participants began by introducing themselves to the group. Several new folks joined since the prior planning call.

2) Summary of prior call

Nicole gave a summary of the prior planning call held in January, where those on the call suggested ideas and needs on the topic of advocacy that the interest group may wish to consider in developing a workplan. As a first activity it was determined to gather existing resources, tool and digital materials to then review, assess and share widely.

3) Collection of Resources

Sarah shared the Google Drive link to the resources that have been submitted - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YTJIQt0k1fJKoV7QxDJ9w1N-fxktawY6>

In discussing the submissions, the group determined that greater clarity on the types of materials, intent of material collection and definition on purpose of the advocacy group was needed to give greater guidance to the interest group members. The co-chairs agreed to develop a short summary that members could also circulate to their network to help in gathering additional resources, to then be submitted to Sarah.

The group provided input into what is meant by “advocacy” to share within this summary document.

4) Next steps

There was discussion on how to proceed with review of materials, and it was suggested that although not many resources have yet been received that a framework for reviewing the resources and applying that to what has been received would provide more guidance on the types of materials members should consider submitting. Not all tools need to be on how to do advocacy, but also be blogs, profiles, videos that highlight the benefits of services provided by the social service workforce, clarify the role and importance of this workforce, or offer a better understanding of how these workers collaborate with other sectors to improve well-being. The co-chairs volunteered to lead this initial review, and several members expressed interest in involvement of the full review expected in April after receipt of more materials.

These notes as well as a description and link to sign up to join the group can be found on the Alliance’s website at <http://socialserviceworkforce.org/get-involved/working-group/advocacy-and-outreach-interest-group>