

**Raymond Coalition For Youth ~ Meeting Minutes**  
**June 13, 2024 ~ 9:00 – 10:30 am**  
**In Person at Raymond Baptist Church Basement**



**Present: 20**

<b>School</b>	Kristen Doherty, RHS Sam Horrigan, RSD Alvin Caldwell, RHS Patrick Arsenault , LEAP Holly Londo, RHS Joanne McCann, RHS
<b>Health Care Town/ Government</b>	Carrie Chooljian , Lamprey Health Care Kristen Buckman, Dudley Tucker Library Mike Labell, Raymond Police Dept
<b>Youth Serving</b>	Pamela Turcotte - RCFY Finance Coordinator Celeste Clark - Exec Director, RCFY Pam Baker - RCFY Program Coord
<b>Substance Prevention Faith Organizations Youth Members Service Organizations</b>	Sam Arenson, Seacoast Public Health Network David Newton, Raymond Baptist Church Kaylee McGlynn, So NH University Kathy McCarthy, Raymond Area Rotary Pat Calley, Raymond Area Rotary MaryGrace Benjamin, NH Center For Justice & Equity Anthony Poore, NH Center for Justice & Equity

Welcomes, Introductions, Announcements were made.  
Celeste then introduced Anthony Poore from NH Center for Justice and Equality. Their mission is to elevate and empower people of color in NH by fostering connections, changing systems and meeting community needs to make a better Granite State where all belong.

- The 4 Pillars of the Program are:
1. Community Building and Organizing
  2. Public Policy
  3. Institutional Capacity Building
  4. Operating Supports & Intentional Investments

**Our List of Personal Racial Equity Action Plan Contributions Anyone Can Make**

**1. Continue to Educate Yourself:**

Continue on your diversity, equity, and inclusion journey by educating yourself about different cultures, identities, and contexts. Understanding the issues faced by marginalized communities is the first step towards creating change. Explore books, newspapers, and reputable online resources to expand your perspective. And, come back to our site to read, learn and share. [Sign up for our newsletter](#) to see our content and get informed about the events of our partners.

**2. Engage in Dialogue:**

Participate in open and respectful (but sometimes difficult) conversations. Engage with people from diverse backgrounds, listen to their stories, and learn from their experiences. Honest dialogue promotes understanding and empathy, fostering a more inclusive community. And, with the facts in hand, you can write a letter to the editor of your local paper -

### **3. Challenge Bias and Stereotypes:**

Be mindful of your own biases and challenge stereotypes when you encounter them -from vocabulary to titles to the legislative process. Actively share accurate, positive representations of our communities, who are from all across New Hampshire. By being aware of biases, you can contribute to a more inclusive environment for everyone.

### **4. Support Diverse Businesses:**

Promote economic equity by supporting businesses owned by marginalized communities and people of color. Go to restaurants, shops, and service providers from diverse backgrounds within your community. Your support can empower entrepreneurs and contribute to local economic growth.

### **5. Advocate for Policy Change:**

Get involved in advocating for policies that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in our state. Support organizations and initiatives working towards legislative changes that address systemic inequalities. Your voice and vote matter in shaping a more just society. [Here is a guide to outreach to elected officials in New Hampshire.](#)

### **6. Volunteer and Mentor:**

Volunteer your time and skills to organizations that support organizations and allies in outreach. Roll up your sleeves and lend a hand.

### **7. Promote Inclusive Practices:**

Whether at work, school, or community events, advocate for more inclusive practices. Encourage diverse representation in decision-making processes and ensure that everyone's voice is heard and respected.

**More Information can be found on the website <https://nhcje.org>**

Pam Baker then showed the Film Festival Videos that were shown at the Film Festival for both the Middle and High School YA Groups.

Celeste updated the group future Events:

1. Appreciation Event, Aug 22, 2024 at the Brook from 5 to 7 PM on the Deck
2. Annual Prevention Summit is October 25 at the Derryfield Country Club
3. Staff Wellness Fair Aug 22, 2024 , 10:30 to 1PM.at the Middle School

Thank you for the great turnout for the Raymond Clean Up and HS Wellness Fair.. Special thank you to the Raymond Police Department for their Fatal REality Demonstration.

Thank you to 7th grade staff at the Middle School for Project Safeguard.

**Thank you for joining us today, being an RCFY advocate, passing along the information learned today, and encouraging others to learn more and get involved.**

Next Meetings **NO July Meeting**, August 8

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Raymond Coalition For Youth empowers the community to promote positive youth development and reduce youth substance use and suicide risk.

***Promoting Positive Healthy Choices for our Youth!***