

2023 NCFR Family Communication Focus Group Virtual Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 10 @ 6:45 pm to 7:30 pm EST

Chair: Tara McManus

- I. Introductions (3 attendees)
- II. 2023's accomplishments/completed tasks
 - A. [Family Communication Resources](#) Google Doc was created and remains available in our Focus Group's NCFR Discussion Group resources. This can be updated as members have additional resources to share with others
 - B. Monthly virtual writing group was hosted on 3 Fridays in January, February, & March. Attendance was low, so it was discontinued.
 - C. Survey of group members completed to learn how to best support each other
- III. Discussion
 - A. [Survey participants and results](#) were reviewed and discussed.
 1. The most helpful ideas (with 75% or more of the 12 participants supporting) according to participants included hosting *virtual*:
 - a) Research blast panels,
 - b) Community engagement panels
 - c) Happy hours to facilitated networking
 - d) Moderated conversations/debates between established scholars
 - e) Networking opportunities for scholars and practitioners
 2. Open-ended responses also indicated an interest in networking and connection opportunities
 3. The breadth of family communication interests were raised – extending beyond interpersonal communication to also considering and exploring mediated communication, inter-system experiences, etc.
 4. The Chair(s) will follow up Kyle Armon to obtain the group's official membership demographics.
 5. The Chair(s) will begin organizing a mix of the 5 different supported options.

- B. The idea of an interest group award also arose during the meeting.
 - 1. Possible opportunities and difficulties of an award were discussed
 - 2. A subcommittee was established to continue developing an award proposal to recommend to group members.
 - C. Support for a co-chair for the group was voiced but no attendees were interested in filling the role. Tara McManus will reach out to the group to see if anyone is interested as assistance will be needed in order to create and host regular virtual events for the group.
- IV. Announcements from the membership
- A. N/A