



Annual Report
September 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

Written and compiled by
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Clay County Collaborative Coordinator

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Introduction

When the fiscal year began, the Clay County Collaborative was in transition. While the funded programs had already completed their transitions to partner organizations, the Collaborative itself was still in the midst of the process. On September 21, Dawn Tommerdahl was hired as Collaborative Coordinator. On November 30, the Joint Powers Collaborative Board met for the last time and approved a new governance agreement for the organization. With the first meeting of the Governance Board on February 27, 2006, followed by the first meeting of the Executive Committee on March 21, the transition was completed.

In October and November, Dawn met with CEOs of partner organizations and potential partner organizations to invite them to join the Collaborative as full partners. By the end of November, work groups were organized and began to meet, although some meetings were postponed due to the post-Thanksgiving blizzard. Many of the work groups were entirely new to the Collaborative while others were just the latest reconfiguration of former “focus groups.” The Administrative Group met for the first time on the shortest day of the year, December 21, and continued to meet monthly for the remainder of the fiscal year. A challenge faced by all of these groups was to integrate people who had worked together before, both in Collaborative groups and in their regular work, with people who were entirely new to the Collaborative and its work. Members developed trust with each other as they began to work on identifying immediate and long term needs and filling gaps in services. Over the course of the spring, the work groups, Administrative Group and Executive Committee tested the chain of decision-making that was part of the new structure and found that it worked as it was intended.

The Collaborative began the new fiscal year with a new set of strategic statements that had developed at a planning retreat held in June 2005. These include:

Vision: “Successful partnerships building successful families”

Mission: “Our mission is to work in partnership and collaboration to empower and provide opportunities for children and families.”

Core Values:

- ✦ We care about children and families
- ✦ We believe in collaboration and partnership
- ✦ We believe in early prevention, identification and intervention
- ✦ We believe in strength-based, family-centered services
- ✦ We believe in partnering with and supporting families
- ✦ We believe in accessible services
- ✦ We value education and training

In the pages that follow, you will find summaries of the activities of each work group, committee, and board for this fiscal year. We begin with the report from our LCTS Coordinator, Jane Patrick.

LCTS Coordinator's report

The Collaborative is funded in part by Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS) funds. These are federal funds received by the State to pay collaboratives for prevention and early intervention work done by Corrections, Public Health and education partners. With the exception of the ten percent available for overall administration costs of the Collaborative, the rest must be used for early intervention and prevention programming. From the beginning of the fiscal year, the activities of 245 time study participants earned the Collaborative \$181,852.34. Since the inception of the program in 1998, the Collaborative has received a total of \$6,836,143.74 in LCTS funding.

Much work was done this year to attempt to mitigate cuts to the LCTS program funding resulting from Federal rule changes and legislation. All LCTS time study participants received revised printed materials and face-to-face training in response to these changes. While we hope that this additional training will impact the reporting results by our participants, we still do not know exactly how much funding will be lost from LCTS during the upcoming months. We do know, however, that decreases will be significant regardless of the improved understanding and reporting by our time study participants.

Staffing

Jane Patrick came on board to serve as the LCTS Coordinator in April 2005. Since that time, Jane has reviewed enrollment and trained all eligible staff from the participating agencies to serve as time study participants. Jane will continue to provide LCTS coordination through June 2007, and will continue to advise and train participants and collaborative partners about the occurring changes.

In the fall of 2005, Carol Beckstrom from Clay County Social Services was named Title IV-E Specialist. This position was created in response to a mandate by the State in order to continue participating in the LCTS. Carol is responsible for reviewing referrals from Social Service staff and LCTS participants for children that meet the criteria for IV-E candidacy. Carol has been providing updated IV-E lists to the LCTS participants since the start of the first quarter on January 1, 2006.

LCTS Contacts and Recordors

Barnesville ISD #146 - Shelly Krueger, Cindy Ullrich and Paula Haugrud
Clay County Department of Corrections - Karen Jenkins and Shelley Ford
Clay County Public Health - Susie Sieling, Nancy Sternsgard and Kathy Anderson
Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164 - Chrissy Clapsaddle and Sandy Kitzman
Hawley ISD #150 – Carol Haugen, Mary Geeslin and Norma Dauner
Moorhead ISD #152 – Julie LeRoux, Sarah King and Jill Skarvold
Ulen-Hitterdahl ISD #914 – Michelle Jirik and Allen Zenor

Submitted by Jane Patrick, LCTS Coordinator

I. Systems Work Group Reports

A. Children's Mental Health Work Group

Work Group Members

Ron Odden	Access of the Red River Valley
Karla Flisk	Churches United for the Homeless
Chris Ambuehl	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Miriam Dakutak	Clay County Public Health
Carol Beckstrom	Clay County Social Services
Norma Altmann-Bergseth	Lake Agassiz Special Ed. Coop
Brian Martin	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Tara Senne-Nelson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Barb Schaub	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Lori Ward	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Cheryl Lucero	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Jessica Roshau	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Jill Skarvold	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad*	Parent representative
Brad Brown	Prairie St. John's
Salome Hoff	Prairie St. John's
Ruth Smith	REACH
Karissa Schmoll	The Village
John Farnberg	West Central Regional Juvenile Center

* *denotes interim chair*

The following recommendations from the June 2005 planning retreat guided the members of this work group as they began to plan for the future:

“Upon its creation, the Children’s Mental Health Work Group be assigned responsibility for including two issues identified in the Planning Retreat in its FY06 Work Plan:

- ✦ Identification of and a strategy to address risk behaviors and unmet children’s mental health needs, suicide attempts, and non-MA Rule 79 cases.
- ✦ Specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of mental health issues of youth in our community.”

As the group planned for how to carry out this mandate in the next fiscal year, they took on two short-term projects. The “Who Do I Call?” brochure was updated, reprinted and distributed. In the brochure, organizations and phone numbers are grouped by category, covering a wide variety of topics from advocacy to crisis intervention. Their second project was the Children’s Mental Health Fair, held at the Family Service Center in Moorhead on May 23. A steering committee with representatives from this group, the School-Age Disabilities work group, the Interagency Early Intervention Committee and the Local Advisory Council for Children’s Mental Health met regularly to plan the event with volunteers from many work groups and partner organizations providing staffing for information tables and children’s activities as well as speakers for the noon brown bag sessions and afternoon/evening seminars.

B. Individual Interagency Intervention Plan (IIIP) Work Group

Work Group Members

Tami Klefstad	Access of the Red River Valley
Kathy Anderson	Clay County Public Health
Rebecca Anderson	Clay County Social Services
Laurie Young	Clay County Social Services
Carol Beckstrom	Clay County Social Services
Sandy Kitzman	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Norma Altmann-Bergseth	Lake Agassiz Special Education Coop
Noelle Clouse	Lakeland Mental Health
Bryan Hanson	Lakeland Mental Health
Lori Ward	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Jill Skarvold	Moorhead ISD #152
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Karen Swanson	Parent representative

Among the projects completed by the IIIP Work Group this fiscal year were:

1. Moved IIIP information from the Clay County Public Health website to the Collaborative website. The group has worked together to revise the material.
2. Developed a brochure for IIIP to raise awareness of its availability and purpose
3. Developed a common meeting agenda
4. Provided training on the IIIP process in Moorhead and Hawley in November
5. Broadened representation among members on the IIIP Work Group

In addition, parent representative Carolyn Strnad gave a presentation about IIIP use in Clay County to MnSIC in January 2006.

C. School-Age Disabilities Work Group

Work Group Members

Megan Vanyo	Access of the Red River Valley
Candace Richards	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Kathy Johnson	Clay County Public Health
Rebecca Anderson	Clay County Social Services
Sandy Kitzman	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Norma Altmann-Bergseth	Lake Agassiz Special Education Coop
Blair Thornton	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Jackie Migler	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative/The Arc
Jean Sando	Parent representative
Rachel Stotts	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Karen Swanson	Parent representative

The School-Age Disabilities work group was new to the Collaborative this year. Created to fill a gap in services identified at the June 2005 planning retreat, it was charged to “coordinate the systems of care other than the children’s mental health and transition systems, for those with disabilities ages 7-21, and to assign a parent representative to the Collaborative.” An additional charge was to provide “specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of developmental or physical disability issues of youth in our community.” The work group first developed the Resources page on the Collaborative website, an easily accessible list of local, state and federal resources for parents and professionals. After identifying social activities for middle school students as a particular area of need, the group met with representatives from Moorhead Parks and Recreation and Moorhead Community Education to discuss working together to create more offerings for this age group. Finally, the group worked with other Collaborative work groups and interagency partners on the Children’s Mental Health Fair, providing the speakers for afternoon and evening seminars which focused on behavioral and funding issues.

II. Collaborative Work Groups

A. Parent Involvement Committee

Work Group Members

Lindsey Scholar (through April 2006)	Access of the Red River Valley
Candace Richards	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Lori Henrickson	Barnesville ISD #146
Shanna Grefsrud	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Connie Vukas	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Sarah King	Moorhead ISD #152
Carmen Bowden	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative

This group was given a twofold mandate at the June 2005 planning retreat: 1) “to develop a plan to recruit, support and orient parents to serve on the Collaborative groups,” and 2) “to provide training to service providers appointed to the Collaborative groups regarding how to effectively work with parents.” It was also suggested “that appointed members have experience in recruiting, supporting and maintaining volunteers.” In order to increase awareness about the Collaborative, the group first developed a brochure to be used as a recruiting tool. Group members then discussed how best to distribute the brochure. They felt that word of mouth would be the best way to recruit parents would be committed and stay committed to carrying out the Collaborative’s work. They also discussed training for parents and professionals they would like to offer in the next fiscal year.

B. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Work Group Members

Sharon Staton	Access of the Red River Valley
Todd Henrickson	Barnesville ISD #146
Brad Saville	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Jill Wenger	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice program
Carol Beckstrom	Clay County Social Services
Lynn Kotrba	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Sarah Stigen	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Barry Nelson*	Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative
Lynne Kovash	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Rachel Stotts	Parent representative
Mark Altenburg	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Alex Ishaug	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy Intervention Program

* *denotes liaison to Administrative Group*

The Planning and Evaluation Committee began the year by examining Clay County's out-of-home placements and associated costs. Because preventing out-of-home placements by helping families is a key purpose of the Collaborative's work, the Collaborative has the potential to save money that Clay County spends on these services. They then moved on to a discussion of outcomes assessment in an effort to create a template for evaluation which could be adapted by any work group for any of its projects. They invited Dr. Jeff Bouffard (Criminal Justice, NDSU) and Dr. Shawn Ginther (Social Work, MSUM) to give an overview of the approaches to evaluation they use in their research. The work group has invited all partner organizations to send representatives to attend a two-part outcomes assessment workshop with Dr. Ginther in June 2006.

III. Project Work Groups

A. Family Support Model Work Group

Work Group Members

Kathy Potter	Access of the Red River Valley
Jill Wenger	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Nicole Names	Clay County Social Services
Denette Narum	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Jody Bittrich	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Rainbow Bridge
Lorrie Meier*	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Patty Kline	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Melanie Fierstine	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Joyce Newton	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Yolanda Redding	The Village Family Service Center

* denotes chair

Family Support Model Staff: Lorrie Meier (April 1 – June 30, 2006)

This project work group was allocated funds in the fiscal year budget, but did not decide how to best use those funds until nearly the end of the year. The group initially identified the strengths of wraparound and Family Group Decision Making, and concluded that both are needed in Clay County to effectively serve our target population. Having made that decision, they moved on to designing a project which would meet the needs for wraparound and Family Group Decision Making. The work group contracted with Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota to work with Lorrie Meier, and assisted Lorrie in developing the following: the budget for next fiscal year, a job description for the family support model coordinator, flex funds criteria, a program brochure, a questionnaire, and training (to be held June 19 and 20). The strengths of this group are members' consistent attendance, their active participation in shaping the project and their unity around areas of concern and ideas for addressing those concerns.

B. Reentry Services Project Work Group

Work Group Members

Shelley Ford*	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Sally Dandurand	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections/Transitional Coordinator
Darin Viken	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections Transitional Coordinator
Jill Wenger	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Kristen DePree	Clay County Social Services
Dale Rollie	Lakes and Prairies Community Action
Stephanie Grandpre	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Deb Pender	Moorhead ISD #152
Shaun Seibold	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Carolyn Sanftleben	Parent representative
Cheri Rasmussen	Youthworks

** denotes chair*

Reentry Services Project staff: Sally Dandurand & Darin Viken

Transition

This program's transition to Clay County Family Court/Minnesota Department of Corrections was a natural due to Shelley Ford's long-term involvement in and commitment to the project.

Services

The goal of the Reentry Services Project is to prepare juvenile offenders for successful reentry to the Clay County community after returning from various out-of-home placements. The program's transitional coordinators assist young offenders in becoming productive, responsible, and law abiding citizens by working with them to develop strategic and comprehensive reentry plans.

Statistics

The April 1, 2006 Reentry Services Project report cited that the Project had "63 closed and coded case files. There were an additional 30 cases currently active or recently closed but not yet coded (for evaluation), including 11 reopened cases." According to social norms data collected by the transitional coordinators since 2004, 54 percent of clients who did not have their GED attended school regularly. Ten percent of clients took their GED tests while participating in the program. Transitional coordinators felt that employment was appropriate for 52 of these 63 clients (83%); of those clients, 86 percent searched for a job, 65 percent were employed at some time during program participation, and 38 percent were employed upon program completion. In all, 51 percent of all clients were "clean" upon program completion. Among clients with a history of substance abuse, 43 percent regularly attended treatment, 49 percent regularly participated in AA/NA, and 43 percent were "clean" upon program completion.

Outcomes

The 2003-2005 program evaluation report showed that intermediate goals set by program designers had been achieved, "including a 75 percent compliance rate with case plan tasks, a 24 percent improvement in risk/needs, and a more than 50 percent improvement in strengths scores." Furthermore, compared to a control group in Becker County, the Reentry Services Program "resulted in better long-term outcomes than comparison clients on at least one measure of recidivism...RSP participation significantly reduced the number of later charges...."

C. Restorative Justice Work Group

Work Group Members

Jeff Tharaldson	Barnesville ISD #146
Shelley Ford	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Jerome Thorsen	Clay County Sheriff's Department
Jill Wenger*	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Jeremy Stenerson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Lorrie Meier	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Matt Naugle	Moorhead ISD #152
<i>* denotes chair</i>	

Restorative Justice staff: Jill Wenger

Transition

Before the start of this fiscal year, the Restorative Justice Program transferred from the Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative to the Sheriff's Department. This has proven to be a very good move for the program. The Coordinator has been well received by Department staff and individuals within the Department are committed to keeping this service available in Clay County.

Program goals

The goal of the Restorative Justice Program, a service of the Clay County Sheriff's Department, is to reduce the number of youth entering or re-entering the criminal justice system by offering opportunities for offenders to be involved in restorative justice processes. The Program's primary purpose is to provide the process of Restorative Group Conferencing for incidents of harm involving juvenile offenders. A description of this service can be found in the Restorative Justice Program brochure.

Statistics

Over the last year the Restorative Justice Program served 103 juvenile offenders and 249 other key participants (131 offender supporters; 51 victims and victim supporters; 46 agency representatives; and 21 community volunteers). Currently the program is averaging 29 new referrals per quarter. This presents a referral increase of approximately 120% from last year.

Outcomes

Evaluators Kathleen Bergseth and Dr. Jeff Bouffard of North Dakota State University completed a study on the long-term impact of referral to restorative justice processing versus court referral for juvenile offenders. Their analysis indicates that, "Youth referred to restorative justice processing experience significantly better outcomes than youth referred to traditional court processing up to three years post referral. Specifically, youth referred to restorative justice processing are less likely than those processed in traditional juvenile court to reoffend up to three years after being referred to the Restorative Justice program. These juveniles also experience fewer new offenses and exhibit less serious later offending behavior, controlling for demographics and offense history factors."

Submitted by Jill Wenger, Restorative Justice Program Coordinator

D. Truancy Intervention Program Work Group

Work Group Members

Shawna Croaker	Access of the Red River Valley
Todd Henrickson	Barnesville ISD #146
Shelley Ford	Corrections
Tracy Sunde	Clay County Social Services
Tom Gravel	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Mike Martin	Hawley ISD #150
Dee Fealey	Lakes and Prairies Community Action
Sarah Kjos	Lakes and Prairies Community Actio
Nicole Justesen	Lakes Country Services Coop
Gene Boyle	Moorhead ISD #152
Matt Naugle	Moorhead ISD #152
Deb Pender	Moorhead ISD #152
Kent Hendrickson	Ulen Hitterdal ISD #914
Shelley Guida	The Village Family Service Center
	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy
Alex Ishaug	Intervention Program

Truancy Intervention Program staff: Alex Ishaug (coordinator); Laura Carr, Shonda Chwialkowski, Aimee Griffin, Heather Johnson, Jonathan Judd, Jose Sanchez and Jenna Senger (family advocates)

Transition

The transition of this program to the Village Family Services went smoothly. The Village has welcomed the Truancy Program into their organization and provided training for the advocates. Shelley Guida worked closely with family advocates, advising them on referrals. She has attended staff meetings to offer suggestions and insight to working with students and families. She has also provided the coordinator of the program with support and supervision.

Services

Family advocates work with students in kindergarten through twelfth grade and their families. Building on family strengths, the family advocates help families and children create and follow a plan that addresses barriers to school attendance. By serving as liaisons between the family and school, one of their goals is to foster communication and thereby improve relationships between the family and school.

Statistics

This fiscal year family advocates worked with a total of 1627 students, about 48% elementary aged and about 52% middle and high school aged. Family contacts increased by one third compared with the previous year. One of the family advocates has met with some Head Start families who have been identified as having the potential to benefit from working with the program staff to prevent attendance problems. The number of cases of truancy filed is up slightly over last year while the number of cases of education neglect (children under age 12) is slightly lower.

IV. Problem-Solving Work Groups

A. Prevention & Early Intervention Work Group

Work Group Members

Jody Claus*	Access of the Red River Valley
Jennifer Martin	Churches United for the Homeless
Gyda Anderson	Clay County Public Health
Cindy Arends	Clay County Social Services
Erica Anderson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Julie Larson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Jeremy Pratschner	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Sue Uhlir	Lakes and Prairies Community Action
Summer Rahlf	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Kim Bushaw	Moorhead ISD #152
Renelda Weippert	The Village

* *denotes chair*

This group also was formed upon the recommendation of the June 2005 planning retreat. Its broad mandate is “to address the issues related to prevention, identification, screening and early intervention.” It took this group who work with a broad spectrum of clients awhile to come up with a definition of “early intervention” that would guide their work. After getting to know each other and hearing about how early intervention was defined in the various fields represented, group members settled on the following definition: “Early intervention is a continuum; it depends on the individual and his/her circumstance.” From there they moved on to brainstorming a list of gaps in services and eventually united around their project for next fiscal year, an educational support group for teen fathers.

B. Substance Abuse Work Group

Work Group Members

Chris Arens	Access of the Red River Valley
Kyle Gylland	Barnesville ISD #146
Brad Saville	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Tama Puhr	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Gina Nolte*	Clay County Public Health
Heather Penfield	Clay County Social Services
Kathy Martin	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Mark Haugen	Hawley ISD #150
Scott Matheson	Moorhead ISD #152
Brad Brown	Prairie St.John's
Julie Sagen	Prairie St.John's
Troy Amundsen	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Thomas Gee	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Nicole Justesen	Youth Educational Services

* *denotes chair*

New to the Collaborative this year, the Substance Abuse work group's mandate from the June 2005 planning retreat was to identify a strategy to address youth substance abuse – including the use of meth.” Early on, they identified parent education about symptoms of substance abuse as an important component in addressing youth substance abuse. Representatives from Fargo's AMP organization visited the group to share their strategies for addressing underage drinking. Work group members played key roles in organizing the Underage Drinking Town Hall meetings that took place around the county on March 28. Ron Schneider, Fargo, told the group about North Dakota juvenile drug courts, their history and how they function. Work group members visited the Recovery School in Detroit Lakes to find out more how it supports youth returning from chemical dependency treatment in their recovery.

Administrative Group

Administrative Group Members

Sharon Staton	Access of the Red River Valley
Candace Richards	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Steve Jordahl	Barnesville ISD #146
Lanette Krinsky	Children's Mental Health LAC
Gary Groberg	Churches United for the Homeless
Jeri Davis	City of Barnesville
Stan Thurlow	City of Dilworth
Michael Redlinger	City of Moorhead
Shelley Ford	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Kathy McKay	Clay County Public Health
Bill Bergquist	Clay County Sheriff's Department
Rhonda Porter	Clay County Social Services
Bernie Lipp	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Phil Jensen	Hawley ISD #150
Carolyn Strnad*	IIIP Systems Work Group
Donna Baker	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Joe Pederson	Lakes and Prairies Community Action
Pam Ness	Lakes Country Service Coop
Patty Kline	Lutheran Social Services
Barry Nelson	Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative
Dr. Larry P. Nybladh	Moorhead ISD #152
Vanessa Handte	Prairie St. John's
Joyce Newton	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Al Zenor	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914
Sandi Zaleski	The Village Family Services Center
Barry Steen	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Cheri Rasmussen	Youthworks

** denotes chair*

The governing board of each partner organization assigns its highest ranking Clay County-based staff person to serve on the Administrative Group. It serves as the “executive director” of the Collaborative. Members caucus once a year to select a representative and alternate from each of the four sectors (city/county, education, non-profit, parent) comprising the collaborative. These four represent the Administrative Group in meetings of the Executive Committee of the Governance Board. The names of sector representatives appear in boldface above.

The Administrative Group met six times this fiscal year. Among other business, the Administrative Group approved work plans and budgets submitted by work groups for next fiscal year, recommended that the Executive Committee contract with Jane Patrick and Dawn Tommerdahl for continued coordination. The Administrative Group preliminarily approved

matching funds for a FY07 Children’s Mental Health work group project, the family caseworker at Churches United for the Homeless, so that members of the work group could seek outside funding.



Governance Board

Governance Board Members

LaVerne Czichotzki	Access of the Red River Valley
Rob Praska	Barnesville ISD # 146
Del Ellefson	City of Barnesville
Julie Nash	City of Dilworth
Barry Steen	City of Dilworth (alternate)
Lauri Winterfeldt-Shanks	City of Moorhead
Diane Wray Williams	City of Moorhead (alternate)
Ben Brunsvold	Clay County
Jerry Waller	Clay County
Lori Keblar	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Marcia Stout	Hawley ISD #150
Rachel Stotts*	IEIC
Shawn Stuhaug	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Barry Bergem	Lakes Country Service Coop
Sonia Hohnadel	Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative
Lisa Erickson	Moorhead ISD #152
Carol Ladwig	Moorhead ISD #152 (alternate)
Lynn Mahlum	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Tony Ingle	The Village
Andrea Koczur	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914

** denotes chair*

Members of the Governance Board are appointed by the governing board of each partner organization. The Governance Board meets at least once per year to establish the work plan and budget for the next fiscal year and to approve changes in the Collaborative’s governance, policies and structure. Once a year the members caucus by sector to select a member and alternate to represent the Governance Board on the Executive Committee. The names of sector representatives appear in boldface above. As of this writing, the Governance Board has met only once, for its organizational meeting in February 2006.

Executive Committee

Executive Committee Members (by sector)

Shelley Ford	City/County – Administrative Group
Ben Brunsvold	City/County – Governance Board
Larry Nybladh	Education – Administrative Group
Andrea Koczur	Education – Governance Board
Joe Pederson	Non-profit – Administrative Group
Lynn Mahlum	Non-profit – Governance Board
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative – Administrative Group
Rachel Stotts*	Parent representative – Governance Board

** denotes chair*

The Executive Committee meets as often as necessary to carry out the business of the Governance Board between regularly scheduled meetings of the Governance Board. This spring the Executive Committee met in March, April and May to approve requests for funding for this fiscal year from work groups which had not been allocated funds in the approved FY06 budget. They also voted to recommend that the Governance Board adopt the work plans and budgets submitted by work groups and approve the contracts for continued coordination from Jane Patrick and Dawn Tommerdahl.