



Annual Report
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

Written and compiled by
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Clay County Collaborative Coordinator

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Introduction

Welcome to the second annual report of the Clay County Collaborative!

In this overview of our activities you will see a breadth of programming that might surprise you. Although a couple of Collaborative-supported programs have received some press this year, namely the FM Challenger baseball team and the Restorative Justice Program, we work, for the most part, out of the spotlight. Despite its relative anonymity, our organization has touched the lives of hundreds of children and their families in our area. As you turn to the work group and board reports, notice the names of the people who come to the table and the organizations they represent. Then imagine the power that we have in working together on behalf of children in our communities.

As you read, you may get a feel for the number of hours that are spent behind the scenes to make our activities happen. This work is accomplished by both paid program staff and numerous volunteers. Staff members are listed in each program report. Next time you meet one of them, please take a moment to thank him or her for the way he or she improves and enriches the lives of the children and families with whom he or she works every day.

I would also like to thank our many volunteers: first, our dedicated parent representatives who logged a minimum of 258 hours in 2006 to further the work of the Collaborative by advocating for the improvement of the lives of the families with whom we have the privilege of partnering, and second, the many staff members of partner organizations who carve time out of their work schedules to attend meetings of work groups, the Administrative Group, the Board of Directors, and the Governance Board. In 2006, staff and administrators contributed at least 1210 hours to the work of the Collaborative.

In the pages that follow, you will find summaries of the activities of each work group, committee, and board for this fiscal year. You will notice that the format of this year's report is different from last year's. In most work group reports, you will see the goals from their FY07 work plans with a brief narrative about how these goals have been addressed. This is a first step in realigning our reporting process to link goals and outcomes.

We begin with the report from our LCTS Coordinator, Jane Patrick.

LCTS Coordinator's report

A note about the Local Collaborative Time Study from Jane Patrick...

In the past, the Collaborative has been funded primarily by Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS) monies. However, in recent years, the need for grant and other funding has become increasingly urgent because of significant cuts to the dollars allocated through time study activities. You may recall that LCTS funds are federal monies received by the State and paid to collaboratives for prevention and early intervention services. With the exception of 10% of the funds that can be used for administration expenses of the Collaborative, the rest must be used for Collaborative-based programs.

In the past four quarters the Clay County Collaborative earned \$227,935.00 and all told, the Collaborative has received over \$7 million in LCTS funding. Currently these dollars are being used to support the Restorative Justice, Truancy Intervention, Reentry Services, and Family Support Model programs, as well as other important Collaborative work group activities. It is important that we continue to forge ahead with these activities and not prematurely interrupt services to children and their families. It is also a priority at this time to continuing looking for stable outside funding which will sustain these unique and valuable programs in the event that LCTS funding is further decreased or eliminated.

In the meantime, a sincere **Thank You** goes out to the 244 time study participants and recorders from our five school districts, Clay County Corrections and Clay County Public Health who have remained dedicated to responding to those "Random Moments" mingled in with their every day life. Keep up the great work and the great attitudes!!

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
	Clay County Family Court/MN Department of
	Corrections
Chris Ambuehl	
Miriam Dakutak	Clay County Public Health
Carol Beckstrom	Clay County Social Services
Norma Altmann-Bergseth	Lake Agassiz Special Education Cooperative
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
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 chair

Goals/Objectives for FY07

Systems Change

- Ease a family's way through the systems of care
 - Develop a grid or map of services available to families (at various ages)
 - Establish a gatekeeper team (or identify case manager who is in charge of all referrals) that could direct referrals and help families transition between agencies/services
- Collaborate with community agencies to provide opportunities for social interaction for children with ED/SED or at risk of ED/SED.

Results in FY07: *Work on the grid continues. Over 200 children participated in community activities through the flex program. See below.*

Children's Mental Health Services/Prevention & Early Intervention

- Increase access to opportunities for social interaction and normalization for children with ED/SED or at risk of ED/SED.
 - Establish a multi-agency Flex Funds Screening Team that will review, approve and monitor use of flex funds.
 - Establish guidelines that will focus on children ages 3 to 9.

Results in FY07: *The multi-agency flex team (representatives from Access, Lakeland and parents) approved requests that enabled 49 children under age 9 and 160 children ages 9 – 18 to*

participate in community activities. The most popular activities funded were summer camps and family pool passes, but several children also received funds to participate in activities during the school year. In addition, funds were provided to five groups of more than ten children each to participate in camps, a water park outing and other activities. In a survey on the effects of participation in the activities, parents reported that their children learned how to better get along with others and that families enjoyed fun activities together. Nearly \$19,500 was spent to fund participation in activities.

- Increase child safety, prevent long-term out-of-home placement and decrease acute hospitalization rate.
 - Provide planned and crisis respite for children aged 10 and under.
 - Assess the effectiveness of respite for families

Results in FY07: *A dozen families in the county received nearly \$17,000 worth of respite care for their children with special needs. Families have been asked to take the baseline stress survey developed by the Planning and Evaluation Committee to assess how effective respite is in lowering their overall family stress levels.*

- Provide mental health case management to at-risk children at Churches United for the Homeless, thereby decreasing the rate of family evictions due to children's behavior and increasing the level of support available to parents.

Results in FY07: *Since the inception of this program, no families have been evicted from the shelter because of a child's behavior. Changes in County Social Services posed some challenges in accessing services last fall. Family case manager Karla Flisk continues to assist families in meeting whatever needs they have when they come to the shelter.*

Training/education

- Provide ongoing training/education on children's mental health issues to parents and professionals

Results in FY07: *The Children's Mental Health work group hosted many training opportunities during the year, including:*

- *A brown bag speaker series held the first Tuesday in the month from 11:45 – 12:45 at the Family Service Center in Moorhead. Topics included: compassion fatigue, stress reduction during the holidays, and children of divorce. Following the Children's Mental Health Fair in February, the work group started a series in Wellness. Topics covered in spring 2007 were spirituality, nutrition and thriving with cancer (emotional wellness).*
- *Four times during the year, the work group hosted an ITV series on attachment sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Children's Mental Health at the University of Minnesota. Each installment of this series brought the expertise of nationally-known speakers on attachment in young children to a roomful of more than twenty parents and professionals from Clay and Norman Counties. During the group discussion which followed the ITV presentation, attendees networked with each other as they processed the information together.*
- *On February 8, Dr. BraVada Garrett-Akinsanya, our Children's Mental Health keynote speaker, inspired more than 40 professionals and 50 parents with her workshop on building healthy collaborations for healthy children and her presentation on wellness*

strategies for parents and children. An information fair was held in the lobby of the Family Service Center in Moorhead during the day.

Other

Due to cuts in County Social Services, the work group also funded case management for children with an SED diagnosis who did not qualify for Medical Assistance. During this funding period (October 2006 – June 2007), an average of 14 children per month received case management services.

The work group also contributed \$4000 to fund the Crisis De-escalation Hotline from January – June 2007 and \$250 to the Wilder Survey of homelessness in our region that was conducted on October 26, 2006.

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 Fee	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 Cooperative
Noelle Clouse	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Bryan Hanson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Lori Ward	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Jill Skarvold	Moorhead ISD #152
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative

Goals/objectives for FY07

Increase the number of families using IIIPs by providing training and training materials to parents and professionals.

Results in FY07: *This fiscal year the IIIP Work Group:*

- 1. Completed revision of the IIIP website, including training materials.*
- 2. Conducted beginning and advanced training in November.*
- 3. Discussed revisions to the training model we currently use.*
- 4. Continued to discuss barriers to wider use of IIIP (lack of awareness among parents and service providers, cumbersome system for accessing and modifying the plan, scheduling meetings in a timely enough manner, etc.)*

C. School-Age Disabilities Work Group

Work Group Members

Megan Vanyo	Access of the Red River Valley
Kathy Johnson	Clay County Public Health
Lindsay Morasch	Clay County Social Services
Heidi Sanger	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 Karch	Moorhead ISD #152
Jackie Migler	Moorhead ISD #152
Jane Rawlings	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative/The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Jennifer Moldenhauer	Parent representative
Jean Sando	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Karen Swanson	Parent representative

Goals/objectives for FY07

1. Provide support for parents/families of school-age children with disabilities by offering two two-night sessions through local Community Education programs per semester. (Parents' night out, stress reduction, etc.)

Results in FY07: *The group planned two Moorhead Community Education classes. The first, a series on stress relieving techniques for parents taught by a variety of community members, was cancelled due to lack of enrollment. The second, a series on organizing paperwork for parents of children with special needs taught by LaVerne Czichotzki, attracted a class of eight parents who made file boxes, binders and a filing system to organize their child's paperwork.*

2. Provide social skills opportunities for school-age children with disabilities and their siblings (Halloween, Winter Holiday, early summer, late summer)

Results in FY07: *The work group was a major sponsor of the FM Challengers baseball team during the summer. Work group member Karen Swanson and her friend Kendra Routh spearheaded the effort to start the team. Thirty-nine children participated on the team and 21 volunteers helped. The children came from the following communities:*

- Moorhead - 17
- Fargo - 15
- Barnesville - 1
- Halstad - 1
- Glyndon - 1
- Fergus Falls - 2
- West Fargo - 2

Children learned new baseball skills and made new friends during the 8-week session. An August 4, 2007 article in the Fargo Forum featured the team.

3. Provide training for parents and professionals about disabilities (Funding Maze, organizing paperwork, assistive technology)

Results in FY07: *See above on organizing paperwork. Carolyn Strnad chairs a planning committee that is organizing a parent forum to be held on Saturday, October 27. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jean Blaska, retired professor of Special Education at St. Cloud State University, who will speak on cyclical grieving. Breakout sessions on other topics of interest to families of children with special needs will be held in the morning and afternoon.*

4. Collaborate with local organizations to provide training to people who work with school-age children with disabilities and to provide greater opportunities for school-age children with disabilities to interact with each other and with others in the community. (“Yes, You Can” campaign: button/bookmark)

Results in FY07: *The work group developed a survey that was sent to over forty organizations that provide activities for school-age children. The survey was used to assess the level of knowledge and skills in community organizations about working with children with special needs. The work group will continue to work with survey results and survey respondents in the coming year in order to help organizations be more inclusive in their activities so that more children with special needs will participate.*

II. Collaborative Work Groups

A. Parent Involvement Committee

Work Group Members

Lanette Krinsky	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
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

Goals/objectives for FY07

- 1) Increase parent involvement in the Collaborative
 - ✦ Distribute recruitment brochure (special ed. teachers, principals, libraries)
 - ✦ Advertise in school publications (KidSource, Rebel News, Hawley, Barnesville, Ulen-Hitterdal)
 - ✦ Distribute information to principals or other school leaders for back to school nights in August
 - ✦ Word of mouth (parents who come to trainings, classes)
 - ✦ Quarterly meetings with parents who are interested in joining Collaborative work groups or boards to start building relationships with them

Results in FY07: *Carolyn Strand, Lanette Krinsky and Dawn Tommerdahl met with Head Start Policy Council in the fall to talk about the Collaborative. In the following months, Carolyn and Dawn met with childcare providers in Hawley and Barnesville. These visits were facilitated by Ruth Smith, Rural Enrichment & Counseling Headquarters. Carolyn and Dawn met with Moorhead PTAC presidents in January.*

- 2) Train parents and professionals to work more effectively together
 - ✦ Once in fall, once in late winter (January/February)
 - ✦ Possible presenters
 - Council for Civic Parent Leadership “Parents as Civic Leaders” (full-day training)
 - “Do You Hear What I Hear? Parents and Professionals Working Together for Children with Special Needs”
 - MPLN training

Results in FY07: *In lieu of bringing in a speaker to do training, the group sponsored a summer book club in June and July 2007. A group of nine parents and professionals read Janice Fialka and Karen Mikus’ book Do You Hear What I Hear? Parents and Professionals Working Together for Children with Special Needs and discussed it over lunch.*

B. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Work Group Members

Megan Vanyo	Access of the Red River Valley
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
Barry Nelson*	Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative
Lynne Kovash	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Mark Altenburg	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Alex Ishaug	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy Intervention Program

* denotes liaison to Administrative Group

Goals/objectives

1. Develop a plan to assess Collaborative programs
 - o Develop a format for writing work plans
Results in FY07: *The work group worked on a new format in July and August 2007*
 - o Develop a framework for assessing individual programs
Results in FY07: *In June the work group devised a grid showing existing needs and which Collaborative programs address those needs.*
2. Establish a strategy for assessing client outcomes
Results in FY07: *The work group spent most of the year working with Dr. Shawn Ginther (Minnesota State University Moorhead, Department of Sociology and Social Work) to develop an assessment tool to measure baseline stress in Clay County families. Work groups will decide in FY08 which parts of the survey they want to use for their programs and how to distribute the survey.*
3. Continue to evaluate the Collaborative as an organization
The work group asked the other work groups and the Administrative Group to provide feedback on the ways in which they collaborate formally and informally in their work with the Collaborative.

III. Project Work Groups

A. Family Support Model Work Group

Work Group Members

Jill Wenger	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Nicole Names	Clay County Social Services
Denette Narum	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Aimee Griffin	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
Ruth Smith	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Yolanda Redding	The Village Family Service Center

Family Support Model Staff: Aimee Griffin, program coordinator

Goals/objectives for FY07

1. Develop a framework for implementing family support strategies in Clay County
Results in FY07: Aimee has met with schools and numerous agencies to make people aware of the availability of Wraparound and Family Group Decision-Making facilitation.
2. Implement family support strategies in Clay County
 - a. Train facilitators in using family group decision-making and wraparound.
Results in FY07: Training is currently done on an individual basis.
 - b. Support family group and wraparound teams: is being done.
Results in FY07: Forty-four wraparound teams were in place at the end of the FY. Aimee is integrally involved in each of them.
 - c. Encourage collaboration among the various agencies providing family group decision-making and wraparound
Results in FY07: Many agencies have been referring families. Representatives from several agencies participate on each wraparound team.
 - d. Create a gatekeeper team that would screen referrals, review the plans to ensure that the family plans are using the process with the greatest effectiveness, and allocate flex funds appropriately. The work group will also develop a release that can be used by this team.
Results in FY07: Aimee has been screening referrals and reviewing plans. The gatekeeper team approves flex requests. In FY07, approximately seventy requests for funding to meet basic needs were approved. These requests totaled over \$19,000.

3. Develop an assessment plan for the program using data we will collect.
 - a. Family meeting their own measurable goals
Results in FY07: There is no formal way of doing this yet, but it is done informally at team meetings. Goals are identified in domain areas and evaluated at every meeting. Families feel more relaxed as more meetings are held and feel like a burden has been lifted.
 - b. Family does a brief self-evaluation
Results in FY07: This is done informally at meetings.
 - c. Goals that have been met may be removed from the plans
Results in FY07: When goals are met, they are replaced with new goals.
 - d. Reduce number of families using high-end services/out-of-home placement
Results in FY07: The work group has not been tracking this formally.

4. Secure more outside funding for FY08
Results in FY07: No additional outside funding was secured for FY08. The Family Group Decision-Making grant from the State will continue at least through December 2007.

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
Mike McMullen	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
Jeremy Pratschner	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Lee Palmer	Youth Educational Services/Lakes Country Service Coop
Stephanie Grandpre	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Deb Pender-Tilleraas	Moorhead ISD #152
Shaun Seibold	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Carolyn Sanftleben	Parent representative

* denotes chair

Reentry Services Project staff: Sally Dandurand & Mike McMullen

The four-year grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety that primarily funded the project since its inception ended on May 31, 2007. The following excerpts are taken from the executive summary from the final report of the program written by evaluator Kathleen Bergseth under the supervision of Dr. Thomas McDonald (North Dakota State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science). To read the entire summary or final report, see the Collaborative website:

<http://136.234.15.56/meetings/files/RSPFinalReport2007-ExecutiveSummary.pdf>
<http://www.claycountycollaborative.org/meetings/files/RSPFinalReport2007.pdf>

Youth Profile

This report includes information on 92 RSP youth whose files were closed as of April, 2007. The average (mean) age of youth served during this period was 16.3 years upon return to the community following their most recent out-of-home placement. Of the 92 youth, 72% were male. Half (50%) were White, 26% were Native American or Alaskan Native, 22% Hispanic, and 2% African American. RSP youth averaged 4.2 official contacts with juvenile justice authorities prior to program participation, 38% had a prior felony charge, and 54% had a prior person-related crime (i.e., violent offense charge). On average, RSP clients had been on probation for 18 months prior to returning to the community following their most recent placement. RSP clients experienced an average of 3.4 prior out-of-home placements and had spent 197 days in placement, including 173 days in restrictive placement.

Nearly all (98%) RSP youth were on indefinite probation, and most (60%) were on maximum or intensive probation supervision. Many RSP youth had extensive histories of problems, such as substance abuse (77%), histories of violence (65%), mental health issues (74%) and school problems (88%). More than three-quarters (76%) had experienced three or more of these problems, and more than half (54%) could be considered dual diagnosis (history of both substance abuse and mental health issues)....

Intermediate Outcomes

The RSP was successful in achieving case plan compliance goals, a reduction in YLS/CMI risk/needs scores, and a improvement in strengths scores. RSP youth completed 74% of the case plan tasks assigned by TCs and POs (virtual completion of the 75% goal). While the changes in risk/need (12% reduction) and strengths scores (17% increase) were slightly lower than program goals (20% reduction and 20% increase, respectively), they were substantial, and represent significant changes in known correlates of recidivism. In addition, more than half (60%) of RSP youth who received both assessments experienced a reduction in risk from return to the community to six months post-return, and the reduction met the goal set by program designers (20% or greater) for 43% of youth. Among youth with both assessments, 44% experienced an increase in strengths, and that increase met the goal set by program designers (20% or greater) for 41% of youth. In addition, youth followed through on the majority (60%) of community-based service referrals....

Cost- Benefit Analysis

A cost-benefit analysis was conducted by comparing program impact at four follow-up intervals (6 months post-release, and 1, 2, and 3 years post-release) to cost estimates related to juvenile justice processing in Clay County, MN. Program impacts were derived by comparing RSP and comparison group youth outcomes. Processing cost-estimates were obtained from Clay County Family Court Services personnel.

The analysis revealed that youth in the RSP experienced more technical violations, placements, and non-restrictive placement days than would be expected in the absence of the program (comparison group); however they experienced fewer minor and serious contacts, and fewer days in restrictive placement. As a result, reductions in processing costs attributed to the RSP (though fewer new official contacts and fewer days in restrictive placement) were partially offset by increased processing costs related to technical probation violations and non-restrictive placement costs.

RSP program costs (estimated at \$4,415 per youth) were partially recovered within the first year after release from placement, and were fully recovered within 2 years of release. Within 3 years of release from placement, the net benefit of the program was \$7,600 in reduced juvenile justice processing costs per youth. The primary factor driving reduced juvenile justice processing was the reduction in time in restrictive placement. Considering this “benefit” alone, the costs of the program (\$4,415 per youth) are offset if the program prevents an average of 24 days restrictive placement per youth. The data indicate that an average of 129 days of restrictive placement was avoided within the first 3 years after release. These data speak favorably about the savings which were realized. When considered along with previously discussed impressive results about behavioral changes, the data definitely suggest that the program achieved impressive cost savings....

Conclusion and Recommendations

Finally, it is vital that readers of this report keep in mind that the findings are influenced by the rigorous standards of statistical analysis. Many times the statistical formula yielded observations which were "statistically significant" and, therefore, indicated quite favorable conclusions about the achievement of program objectives. On other occasions, the statistical examinations generated results which satisfied the benchmark of "marginal significance." These latter results also indicated a favorable program impact, albeit at a somewhat muted level. The point being, both statistical parameters yield data which reveal a quality program; one which has achieved impressive results on several objectives. Combined with the cost savings this program has provided to the juvenile justice system of Clay County, MN; this particular Reentry Service Program warrants a very favorable cost-effective evaluation.

C. Restorative Justice Work Group

Work Group Members

Shelley Ford	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Jerome Thorsen	Clay County Sheriff's Department
Stephen Landsem	Clay County Sheriff's Department
Jill Wenger*	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Jeremy Stenerson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Aimee Griffin	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
* denotes chair	

Restorative Justice staff: Jill Wenger (program coordinator and lead facilitator), Brenda Koppy (part-time facilitator), Joel Friesz (part-time facilitator), Afton Mohr (part-time facilitator)

The following is Jill's report for the fiscal year. To read more about the Restorative Justice program, see a reprint of the article that appeared in the Fargo Forum on February 19, 2007: <http://www.claycountycollaborative.org/committees/RJNews%20Winter%2006-07.pdf> Kathleen Bergseth and Dr. Jeffrey Bouffard's article on the program has been published in the Journal of Criminal Justice: <http://www.co.clay.mn.us/Depts/Sheriff/PDFs/BerBou07.pdf>

Restorative Justice Program Report

Fiscal Year Report
(July 2006 – June 2007)

During this fiscal year the Restorative Justice Program served 144 juvenile cases. Currently, 23 cases are open and 121 are closed. Below you will find statistics on these cases.

REFERRAL STATISTICS

Gender of Offender	Frequency	Percent
Male	110	76.4
Female	34	23.6
Total	144	100.0

Race/Ethnicity of Offender	Frequency	Percent
White	115	82.7
Hispanic/Latino	14	10.1
African American	3	2.2
American Indian	1	.7
Other	6	4.3
Missing	5	n/a
Total	144	100.0

Age of Offender	Years
Minimum	6
Maximum	18
Mean	14.55

Type of Offense (Top 10)	Frequency	Percent
Disorderly Conduct	38	26.4
Theft	29	20.1
Damage to Property	17	11.8
Traffic Violations	12	8.3
Shoplifting	9	6.3
Assault	7	4.9
Harassment	7	4.9
Vehicle Tampering	3	2.1
Trespassing	2	1.4
Burglary	2	1.4
Other	18	12.4
Total	144	100.0

Level of Offense	Frequency	Percent
Petty Misdemeanor	1	.6
Misdemeanor	127	88.2
Gross Misdemeanor	8	5.6
Felony	8	5.6
Total	144	100.0

Type of Victim	Frequency	Percent
Individual	93	64.6
Self/Community	22	15.3
Business	18	12.5
School	7	4.9
City	3	2.1
Church	1	.6
Total	144	100.0

Location of Incident	Frequency	Percent
Moorhead	114	79.1
Dilworth	10	6.9
Glyndon	6	4.2
Ulen	6	4.2
Fargo	5	3.5
Hawley	3	2.1
Total	144	100.0

Source of Referral	Frequency	Percent
Law Enforcement	64	44.4
County Attorney	37	25.7
Corrections	26	18.1
School Resource Officer	14	9.7
School	3	2.1
Total	144	100.0

REFERRAL RESULTS

At the end of the fiscal year,

- 16 cases are currently pending services.
- 29 cases were sent back to the referring source:
 - 9 because the offender was not appropriate for the program (did not admit to the offense or was not willing to repair the harm cause to the victim and community);
 - 13 because the victim was not willing to participate; and
 - 7 because the offender made no attempt to contact the program.
- 99 cases resulted in a restorative group process in which the juvenile met face-to-face with the affected victims and/or community members and came to a formal agreement on how to repair the harm caused to the victim and community.
- 99% of cases resulted in a formal agreement during the restorative group process.
- 98% of agreements have been completed or are in the process of completion.
- 2% of agreements were only partially completed. All agreements were at least partially completed.

AGREEMENT CONDITIONS

Listed below are the restorative justice agreement conditions that were fulfilled this fiscal year:

- Verbal Apologies – 33
- Letters of Apology – 27
- Volunteer Service – 230 hours
- Financial Payments – \$3,508.99
- Essays / Reports – 7
 - Marijuana as a Gateway Drug
 - Impact of Incident on Self and Others
 - Impact of Traffic Violations on Insurance Rates
- Presentations – 5
 - Students Against Destructive Decision (SADD)
 - How Derogatory Actions Affect People
- Educational Opportunities
 - Cars and Kids Class
 - Defensive Driving Course
 - Operation Lifesaver Presentation (BNSF Railway)
 - View Several Episodes of TV Show “Intervention”
- Other Conditions:
 - Tour of Dispatch Center
 - Tour of Juvenile Detention Center
 - Driving Practice With Parents
 - Complete Landscape Project with Parent
 - Follow Recommendation for Counseling
 - Attend Key Club Meeting
 - List of 10 things to Prevent Fights

PARTICIPANT EVALUATIONS

Role of Participant	Frequency	Percent
Victim	31	10.1
Offender	88	28.6
Support to Victim	15	4.9
Support to Offender	86	27.9
Agency Representative	30	9.7
Community Volunteer	57	18.5
Other Support	1	.3
Missing	8	n/a
Total	316	100.0

Type of RJ Service	Frequency	Percent
Conference	178	59.0
Panel	138	41.0
Total	316	100.0

Listed below are the results of evaluations completed by participants in a restorative process (Valid Surveys – 252; Missing – 64):

- 99% were satisfied with the restorative justice process.
- 97% believed the agreement was fair and reasonable.
- 98% were satisfied with the facilitator.
- 95% would recommend the process to someone in a similar situation.

TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED

A total of 521 clients were served this Fiscal Year:

- 144 juveniles
- 377 other participants
 - Offender Support – 161
 - Victim – 86
 - Victim Support – 23
 - Community Volunteer – 54
 - Agency Representative – 49
 - Other Support – 4

HISTORY OF JUVENILE REFERRALS

FY 2004-2005: Average of 15.25 new referrals per quarter

FY 2005-2006: Average of 26.25 new referrals per quarter

FY 2006-2007: Average of 32.75 new referrals per quarter

VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRUBUTED

278 hrs this Fiscal Year

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
	Youth Educational Services/Lakes Country Service
Lee Palmer	Coop
Matt Naugle	Moorhead ISD #152
Deb Pender-Tilleraas	Moorhead ISD #152
Kent Hendrickson	Ulen Hitterdal ISD #914
Shelley Guida	The Village Family Service Center
Sandi Zaleski	The Village Family Service Center
	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy
Alex Ishaug	Intervention Program

Truancy Intervention Program staff: Alex Ishaug (coordinator and family advocate); Saddi Boushee Laura Carr, Jonathan Judd, Kim Nack, Stacy Nielsen, Dawn Peters, Jose Sanchez and Nicole Stubstad (family advocates)

The following is an edited version of Alex's third quarter report (March 1 – May 31, 2007). It has been edited to include only year-end statistics and information. To read the full report, see the Collaborative website: <http://136.234.15.56/meetings/files/3rdqtr0607.pdf>

PART I

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF CHILDREN SERVED

Numbers Year to Date by Gender

Male: 723
Female: 675
Total: 1398

Numbers Year to Date Grade Level

K-5: 616
6-8: 262
9-12: 520
Total: 1398

Numbers Year to Date by Race

Native American: 123
Asian: 16
Hispanic: 284
Black: 73
White: 902
Total: 1398

PART II OUTCOMES

The Truancy Intervention Program was designed to provide early intervention by identifying students who exhibit signs of truancy or attendance issues. The project will provide services,

which will enhance attendance monitoring and improve contact with parents/guardians. Meetings with the students and their families are conducted and an intervention plan is developed to address the identified issues and risk factors. Referrals may be made for additional services or educational adjustments. The goals of this early intervention include increasing student attendance, maintaining or decreasing the number of referrals to the juvenile justice system and increasing the number of students referred for mental and chemical health assessments or other types of intervention.

Two measurable objectives will be monitored to determine the effectiveness of this program during the school year. The first objective is to maintain the current rate of all absences (excused and unexcused) for all students in Clay County. In the past this program has monitored only unexcused absences. Average days missed in the Moorhead elementary schools per month were 2.37 for the quarter. This is a slight decrease from both second quarter this year and last year's third quarter. The average for the Greater County elementary schools was 1.57 days missed per month. The days missed is about the same as both last year and last quarter. The total number of elementary students has decreased by about 150 students from last year at this time.

The Greater County high schools averaged 18.77 periods on 3.80 days, which is an increase from last quarter and last year. Moorhead High students average 22.76 periods on 5.46 days missed. This is an increase in periods missed and a decrease in days missed. Horizon students missed 26.75 periods on 4.86 days per month this quarter, which is about the same as last year and last quarter. Red River Area Learning Center students showed a decrease from last year and last quarter with 25.63 periods on 6.37 days missed.

The second objective is to maintain the number of court referrals for truancy. An average of 34 truancy petitions have been filed over the past five years with TIP. For this reporting period there have been 34 court referrals made and 68 for the year. Last year during the third quarter 23 referrals were made. Within the TIP workgroup there has been discussion about what "numbers filed on" means. We are finding that more students have multiple issues going on and that they are choosing to not address them until court ordered by a CHIPs (which occurs when filed on). Therefore, filing does not always indicate failure. Through conversations with other counties, the same is true for them, so this problem is not unique to Clay County.

In tracking the students that have gone to court for truancy it was found that 70% have a decrease in the amount of unexcused absences in the first month after court. For those that can be tracked at three months after court all but one student continued to have a decrease in absences.

PART IV ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Minnesota State Statutes define two types of truants: continuing and habitual. Continuing truants are defined as students who miss three or more unexcused days for elementary-age and three or more unexcused periods on three or more different days for students 12 years of age and older. Of the elementary students within Clay County that were referred to the Truancy Intervention Program, 32% met the definition of a continuing truant. This is a 16% decrease from last year. For junior high and high school-age students 36% meet this definition, which is a 3 % decrease

from last year. Habitual truants are defined as missing seven or more unexcused days as elementary students or seven or more unexcused periods on seven different days in high school or junior high. 18% of elementary-age students and 62% of junior high and high school students worked with meet the Minnesota definition of a habitual truant this year. A student must meet the criteria of a habitual truant in order for a CHIPs to be filed with social services. The other requirement for a CHIPs is that any student who is 11 1/2 years of age or older and is in need of a CHIPs must have been invited to the County Attorney Mediation Program (CAMP) within Clay County. The meeting is held monthly by the Clay County Attorney's office. This year TIP staff invited 102 students to CAMP.

During the 2006-2007 school year the program began to use the YOQ (Youth Outcome Questionnaire) as a way of accessing the effect of our involvement on students. The YOQ is a self-report questionnaire that measures overall well being in adolescents. The questionnaire is given twice to students in the school year. The first time at the beginning of TIP involvement and then again at the end of the school year. The hope is that overall scores will decrease from the first report to the second. In the small sample of students that filled out both questionnaires this year the scores did decrease or stay the same in all but one student. During the 2007-2008 school year we hope to have a larger number of students that respond. A larger response will give more validity to the measurement.

Other Information of Note

- The staff in the truancy program made referrals to community service providers for over 160 students this year. Referrals were made to mental health and chemical health services, in-home therapy, public health, Clay County Social Services, and the homeless project, as well as school social workers and counselors.
- Of the 1398 students worked with this year 583 had three or fewer contacts. This means that one conversation with a student, family or the school, or one letter home regarding attendance was made and no further problems with attendance occurred in most of those 583 cases. A small percent of those 583 moved away or transferred schools.
- **Contact Information for the Year:**

	<u>GC</u>	<u>Asp</u>	<u>Hopk</u>	<u>SGR</u>	<u>MHS</u>	<u>HMS</u>	<u>RRALC</u>	<u>Total</u>
Written	195	146	142	45	282	162	79	1051
Phone	352	577	619	74	433	241	722	3018
Student	268	26	65	4	3775	533	869	5540
Family	75	106	125	27	188	143	130	794
School	1349	511	524	545	1154	547	1243	5873
Services	97	59	28	71	284	133	563	1235
Total	2335	1424	1503	766	6116	1759	3606	17,511

This chart shows the number of contacts for each school in each area. As indicated, the elementary level schools focus on more family and phone contacts while the upper grade levels focus on student contacts. The total number of contacts is down from last year, but the number of students worked with is down and we have one fewer staff working as well. (GC represents the Greater County Schools).

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
Jeremy Pratschner	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Shanna Grefsrud	Lakes and Prairies Community Action
Summer Rahlf	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Kim Bushaw	Moorhead ISD #152
Renelda Weippert	The Village

* denotes chair

LEAD (Learn, Earn, Attach, Develop) group facilitator: Rich Preussler

Goals/objectives for FY07

To break the intergenerational cycle of teen parenthood by preparing young parents to be better parents

- Work with case managers, probation officers, school social workers, and others to identify expectant fathers and/or new teen fathers who could participate in a pilot support group program that would start by January 2007.
 - Develop referral forms for schools
 - Invite a small group (around 10) of willing teens from the referrals to join the group
 - Implement a culturally-sensitive program built around co-parenting, life skills, role clarification, and social support
 - Identify needs that could be addressed by a future program
 - Identify community members who have been in a similar life situation and could serve as mentors
- Host a support group expectant mothers and/or new teen mothers that would meet at the same time as the fathers' group
 - Provide childcare for infants
 - Provide co-parenting education and social support for mothers
- Develop an interactive parent-child play group where teen parents could practice their co-parenting skills
- Make appropriate referrals to other agencies as necessary
- Develop a tool for program evaluation that would aid in revising the program at the midpoint and aid in developing the program further.

Ongoing areas of consideration for the Prevention and Early Intervention work group

1. Based on what we learn from teen parents, develop a prevention strategy that could be used with at-risk teens.

2. Based on what we learn from teen parents, identify other barriers or gaps in service that need addressing by our group.

Results in FY07: *The work group interviewed for the position of teen dad group facilitator in January and hired Rich Preussler, currently Living Well coordinator at MeritCare in Fargo. Churches United for the Homeless serves as his employer. After many months of recruiting, a group of dads and their young children finally assembled in August 2007. Jeremy Pratschner, Shanna Grefsrud and an ECFE teacher provided by Kim Bushaw assisted with the meal and childcare for the 16 dads and 29 children who attended.*

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
Rick Paczkowski	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
Troy Amundsen	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Thomas Gee	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Jane Bolin	Youth Educational Services/Lakes County Service Coop
* denotes chair	

Goals/objectives for FY07

- Provide education and training to parents and children in order to decrease substance abuse.
 - Results in FY07:**
 - *The work group purchased the “Class Action” curriculum for schools in the County. Work group members Jane Bolin and Mark Haugen attended training in using the curriculum in October. The curriculum was implemented at YES and in Moorhead schools (summer 2007).*
 - *School counselors met in May to discuss forming a county-wide planning group for students. Students will plan events and activities around underage drinking prevention in the coming year. The first meeting of students is scheduled for September 26.*
 - *Gina Nolte took the lead in planning the report to the community on underage drinking in April. This forum was a follow-up to the town hall forums that were held*

around the county in March 2006. Mark Haugen and two Hawley students were panelists.

- Continue to research recovery schools and juvenile drug courts in order to assess the feasibility of beginning one or the other in Clay County.

Results in FY07:

Recovery School:

- *Work group members developed a list of questions and emailed them to people who have been involved in the implementation of recovery schools around the country. They received replies from several people involved with schools in the Twin Cities.*
- *The work group purchased the book How to Start a Recovery School and made it available to work group members to read.*
- *In the spring, YES staff decided to go ahead with plans to develop a recovery school. The work group supports this development and will assist as they are asked to be a part of the process.*
- *The work group funded teams from Moorhead Area Public Schools and YES to attend the national meeting of the Association of Recovery Schools held at Augsburg College (Minneapolis) in July.*

Juvenile Drug Court:

- *The work group arranged for interested parties to attend two juvenile drug court sessions in Fargo in August.*
- *In the spring a letter of support for a juvenile drug court was sent to Judge Lisa Borgen.*
- *Work group member Tama Puhr attended drug court training as part of a county team. A pilot project of adult drug court will begin in fall 2007.*
- *The work group will continue to advocate for a juvenile drug court.*

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 Local Advisory Council
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
Kristi Ringuette	Permanent Family Resource center
Diana Ketterling	Prairie St. John's
Joyce Newton	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Allen Zenor	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914
Sandi Zaleski	The Village Family Services Center
Barry Steen	West Central Regional Juvenile Center

** denotes chair, **bold** denotes sector representative to the Board of Directors*

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 Board of Directors of the Governance Board.

The Administrative Group met eight times this fiscal year, hosted by five partner organizations (Clay County, Moorhead Public Schools, Lakeland Mental Health Center, Barnesville Public Schools, Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters). Among other business, the Administrative Group approved work plans and budgets submitted by work groups for next

fiscal year according to a new planning timeline that was adopted in October. At the end of the year the Administrative Group voted to reduce expenditures in FY09 by \$200,000 after considering various budget scenarios.

Governance Board

Members

LaVerne Czichotzki	Access of the Red River Valley
Rob Praska	Barnesville ISD # 146
Del Ellefson	City of Barnesville
Chad Olson	City of Dilworth
Julie Nash	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
Bill Tomhave	Moorhead ISD #152 (from January 2007)
Lisa Erickson	Moorhead ISD #152 (alternate from January 2007)
	Moorhead ISD #152 (alternate through December 2006)
Carol Ladwig	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Lynn Mahlum	The Village
Tony Ingle	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914
Andrea Koczur	

** denotes chair (vice-chair Ben Brunsvold became chair following the resignation of Rachel Stotts due to a job change), **bold** denotes sector representative to the Board of Directors*

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 Governance Board took the following actions at its October 4 meeting:

- ✦ approved the request from the Children's Mental Health work group to add case management for children with an SED diagnosis who do not qualify for Medical Assistance from October 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007 to this year's work plan
- ✦ adopted the revised financial & planning calendar as developed by the Administrative Group
- ✦ approved the final draft of the Governance Agreement and Bylaws

At its April 18 meeting, the Governance Board approved FY08 work plans and budgets and the FY09 planning timeline developed by the Board of Directors.

Board of Directors

Members (by sector)

Shelley Ford	City/County – Administrative Group
Ben Brunsvold	City/County – Governance Board
Phil Jensen	Education – Administrative Group
Andrea Koczur	Education – Governance Board
Donna Baker	Non-profit – Administrative Group
Lynn Mahlum	Non-profit – Governance Board
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative – Administrative Group
Rachel Stotts*	Parent representative – Governance Board

** denotes chair (vice-chair Ben Brunsvold became chair following the resignation of Rachel Stotts due to a job change)*

The Board of Directors, formerly known as the Executive Committee, meets as often as necessary to carry out the business of the Governance Board between its regularly scheduled meetings. The Board of Directors met three times this fiscal year, in September, February and March. They expressed the need for long-term strategic planning at their February meeting. They also confirmed that they will conduct Dawn’s performance review and charged Dawn with conducting Jane’s review.

FY07 Budget
adopted 6/14/06 last updated 9/13/07

Approximate Anticipated Fund Balance at beginning of FY	1,932,980.39		
ANTICIPATED INCOME - 7/1/06-6/30/07	FY07 Income Projection	Income received	Balance
LCTS earnings	120,000.00	227,935.00	(107,935.00)
Interest	25,000.00	76,748.52	(51,748.52)
Partnership Payments	2,000.00	1,950.00	50.00
Re-entry Services Grant	102,644.50	114,393.88	(11,749.38)
Restorative Services Grant	24,500.00	23,712.36	787.64
Match grants: for CUFH caseworker	27,550.00	27,550.00	-
Family group decision-making grant (until 12/31/06)	16,000.00	24,675.80	(8,675.80)
Child-Welfare Targeted Case Management Carryover from FY06	0.00	56,895.00	(56,895.00)
Miscellaneous Income (MCIT Refunds)	3,000.00	4,106.00	(1,106.00)
Miscellaneous Income (CMH Fair, returned checks from Y, Mhd. Parks)	0.00	974.00	(974.00)
Total Income	320,694.50	558,940.56	(238,246.06)
Beginning Fund Balance plus Anticipated Income	2,253,674.89		

Expenses	Proposed FY07 Budget	Expenses Paid	Balance
Contracted Services: Collaborative Coordination	61,285.00	61,284.00	1.00
Contracted Services: LCTS Coordination	5,250.00	5,250.00	-
Meeting Expenses	1,200.00	1,161.19	38.81
Audit*	0.00	-	-
MCIT	6,500.00	5,164.00	1,336.00
Fiscal Host Services	0.00	-	-
Parent Stipends	15,000.00	6,575.46	8,424.54
Family Support Model Program Work Group	116,000.00	120,817.23	(4,817.23)
Re-entry Services Program	138,859.50	152,768.89	(13,909.39)
Restorative Justice Program Work Group	66,000.00	57,537.02	8,462.98
Truancy Intervention Program Work Group	225,694.00	223,471.00	2,223.00
IIIP Service Coordination System Work Group	2,450.00	300.59	2,149.41
Children's Mental Health System Work Group	149,612.00	117,060.97	32,551.03
School-Age Disabilities System Work Group	3,250.00	3,272.74	(22.74)
Parent Involvement Committee	6,000.00	1,137.78	4,862.22
Planning and Evaluation Committee	6,375.00	1,002.10	5,372.90
Prevention and Early Intervention Problem-Solving Work Group	2,500.00	588.59	1,911.41
Substance Abuse Problem Solving Group	4,000.00	3,020.01	979.99
Legal consultation	500.00	360.00	140.00
Other	0	834.00	(834.00)
Total Expenses	810,475.50	761,605.57	48,869.93
Approximate Fund Balance as of 6/30/07	1,730,315.38		