



Annual Report
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Written and compiled by
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Clay County Collaborative Coordinator

Contents of the Annual Report

Introduction	3
LCTS Coordinator's report	4
I. Systems Work Group Reports	
A. Children's Mental Health Work Group	5
B. Individual Interagency Intervention Work Group	7
C. School-Age Disabilities Work Group	8
II. Collaborative Work Groups	
A. Parent Involvement Committee	10
B. Planning and Evaluation Committee	11
III. Project Work Groups	
A. Family Support Model Work Group	12
B. Reentry Services Project Work Group	15
C. Restorative Justice Work Group	19
D. Truancy Intervention Program Work Group	23
IV. Problem-Solving Work Groups	
A. Prevention and Early Intervention Work Group	26
B. Substance Abuse Work Group	27
Administrative Group	29
Governance Board	31
Board of Directors	32
Final FY08 Budget	33

Introduction

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

You may be surprised again this year by the breadth of programming supported by the Collaborative. Since most of the work goes on with children and families who are relatively invisible in our society you may only catch a glimpse of something now and then. As you read the summaries of work group activities, you will notice that the number of workshops has increased over last year. The “results in FY08” in this year’s annual report are a summary of the “outputs” and “outcomes” section of the work group’s annual report. This year the work group annual report form included a logic model that linked the work group’s goals to outcomes for families. As we are better able to document how the programs we support change lives in our community, we position ourselves to seek outside funding in the coming years. If you are interested in reading the logic models, the full reports for each work group are available on the work group’s webpage on the Collaborative’s website. Click on “Committees” on the homepage to find the full listing of work groups. I hope you will take a few minutes to scan some of the reports. Look for the many instances of collaboration with community organizations you will find in them as well as the extent to which we have been able to document outcomes for the families we partnered with in our activities this year. I hope you will be pleasantly surprised!

As you read this report, you will 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 200 hours in 2007 to further the work of the Collaborative, and second, the many staff members of partner organizations who carve time out of their busy work schedules to attend meetings of work groups, the Administrative Group, the Board of Directors, and the Governance Board. In 2007, staff and administrators contributed at least 930 hours to the work of the Collaborative. All of these hours are for meeting time only and do not include travel time or time spent at meetings of sub-committees or other groups who work together to host events or to discuss future programming, such as school-based mental health.

In the pages that follow, you will find summaries of the activities of each work group, committee, and board for this fiscal year. As you turn to these 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, youth and families in our communities.

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

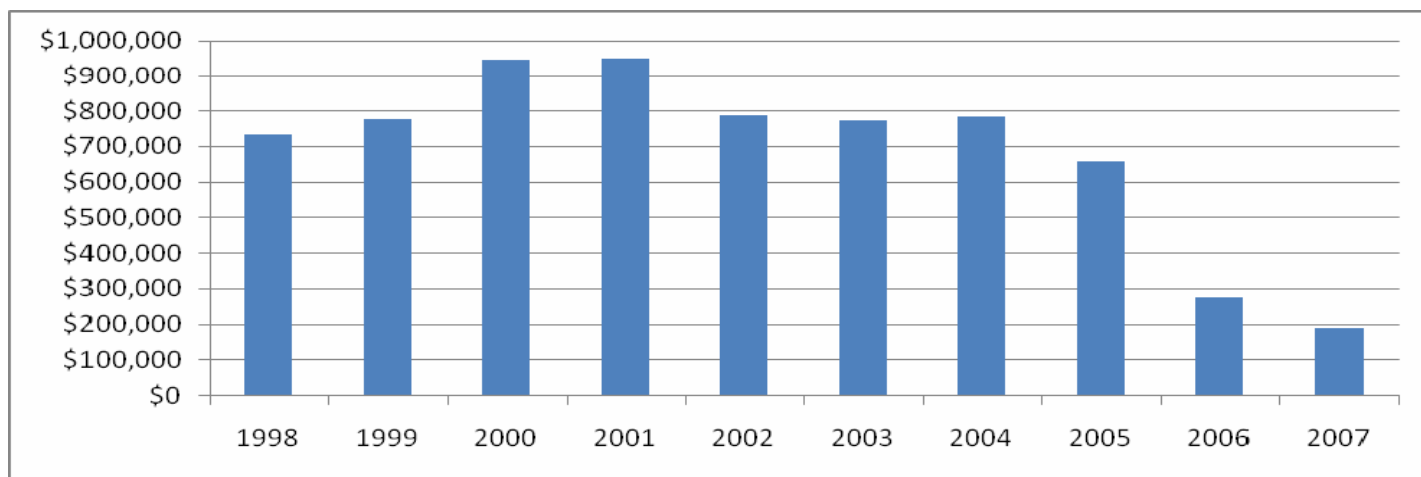
It has indeed been another exciting year with regard to our Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS). In 2007, the work of our 229 time study participants from five school districts, Clay County Corrections and Public Health earned the Clay County Collaborative \$190,658! Despite the fact that participants don't always understand their value in participating, this amount averages approximately \$833 for every person that participates. For this, we must remember to give credit where credit is due and be sure to give a pat on the back and a big THANK YOU to each and every one of the front line staff making this possible. Great job and way to go to all of our time study participants!!!

At last year's Annual Meeting, we reported anticipating another serious blow to state-wide LCTS income through cuts to Medicaid funding – a funding portion which currently makes up about 50% of our LCTS revenue. However, on the verge of this anticipated cut, we received good news in form of a moratorium which was passed in late May and postponed the cut in MA revenue for an additional nine months. Since we projected this cut to go into effect as of July 1, 2008, and it will not be realized until April 1, 2009, it is estimated that we will receive an additional \$75 – 100,000 in LCTS revenue in FY09.

Even though we will eventually continue to see declines in our LCTS revenue, something quite interesting and remarkable is also happening. As the old saying goes, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going!” And that is exactly what is happening with most collaboratives around the state, including our very own Clay County Collaborative. Now more than ever we are seeing the benefits of what happens when agencies pull together – what we all knew was happening all along - and that is increased commitment from our partners with regard to finding outside funding and resources to sustain our valuable programs!

The results of the 2004 LCTS audit by the Federal Government has also been now finally been decided. The Clay County Collaborative was assessed a total payback amount of \$176,462. This means the Collaborative is liable for a payback amount of \$58,821 for each of the next three years. Clay County Social Services, our fiscal host partner, is working out the details with the State for this payback. Thank you to Rhonda Porter and Social Services for managing this issue on behalf of our Collaborative!

Finally, below is a summary of the overall revenue our Collaborative has benefitted from over the past ten years. Remarkably, all in all we have totaled \$6,983,855 in LCTS revenue!!!



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	Access/Churches United for the Homeless, family case manager
Miriam Dakutak	Clay County Public Health
Carol Beckstrom	Clay County Social Services
Norma Altmann-Bergseth	Lake Agassiz Special Education Cooperative
Tara Senne-Nelson	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Barb Schaub	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Shannon Graves	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Kristin Phillips	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Jill Skarvold	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Gerald Gomez	Prairie St. John's
Ruth Smith	Rural Enrichment And Counseling Headquarters, family support case worker
Robin Berg	The Village Family Service Center
Karissa Schmoll	The Village Family Service Center
John Farnberg	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Shawna Croaker	Dakota Medical Foundation/Children's Mental Health Initiative Coordinator for Cass & Clay
Deb Jendro	North Dakota Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

* denotes chair

Goals/Objectives for FY08

I. Systems Change

- Evaluate the system of care to identify areas of service that can be streamlined with the ultimate goal of better serving families.

Results in FY08: Consultant Bruce Miles conducted a strategic planning session with over thirty stakeholders on December 12. A long-term vision (five years) was developed. Three areas were targeted as first steps toward that vision in year one:

- Increase mental health services in the school
- Develop a mobile crisis intervention response team
- Enroll every child (ages birth to five) into Minnesota tracking (Follow Along Program)

- Ease a family's way through the systems of care
 - Develop a grid or map of services available to families (at various ages)

Results in FY08: Work on the grid was completed.

- Collaborate with community agencies to provide opportunities for social interaction for children with ED/SED or at risk of ED/SED.

Results in FY08: Over 340 children participated in community activities through the flex program. See below.

II. 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.

Results in FY08: The multi-agency flex team (two parents plus one representative each from Access and Lakeland) approved requests that enabled 340 children to participate in community activities. Of 400 activities, 85 were for camps, 100 were for sports, 171 were for other physical activities, 10 were for fine arts, and 34 were for miscellaneous activities and items. In a survey on the effects of participation in the activities, parents reported that their children learned teamwork and had increased self-esteem and self-confidence. Families reported spending more time together. \$30,050 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 FY08: Twenty-eight children in the county received nearly \$9300 worth of respite care. No outcomes were tracked this year.

- Increase the use of crisis plans and thereby access to the crisis de-escalation hotline for children/youth with ED/SED or at risk of ED/SED via Rule 79 or CTSS services.

Results in FY08: Families of 117 children used the hotline. Through November 2007, 20 of the 103 clients served in 2007 were put in detention, 2 were placed in other facilities. Police were called in 9 cases.

- 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 FY08: One hundred fourteen children and 55 families were served. Referrals were made as necessary upon the family's arrival at the shelter. Follow up was provided as needed. Since the inception of this program, no families have been evicted from the shelter because of a child's maladaptive behavior.

- Increase access to mental health services for children in rural Clay County.

Results in FY08: Thirty-five children received counseling (242 sessions) and 168 families received supportive services with the result that families functioned better, children were more successful in school, homelessness and malnutrition were prevented, and family stress decreased.

III. Training/education

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

Results in FY08: *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: Reintegration for National Guard soldiers, Vocational Wellness, Identification of Child Abuse, Financial Wellness, Native American Spirituality, and Spoken Word Poetry.*
- *Three times during the year, the work group hosted the “Lessons from the Field” series via ITV, 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 the effects of child trauma on attachment to a roomful of approximately twenty parents and professionals from Clay and Cass Counties.*
- *On February 7, Julia K. Dinsmore, our Children’s Mental Health keynote speaker, called more than 40 professionals and more than 40 parents to action with her workshops on building community collaborations and ally relationships to support children and families.*

Case study from Karla Flisk, family case worker at Churches United for the Homeless

The success of the Children and Family Case worker program has been outstanding and can be appreciated through the story of one family who was helped by this program.

A single mother, aged 24, checked into the shelter with her four children, ages 1 through 4. The mother was in need of immediate mental health services, parenting skills training and mentoring, and two of her children had significant behavior issues which put the family at risk of eviction from the homeless shelter. The family stayed in the shelter for 3 months. During that time, the mother was provided with mental health services and the children met with a behavioral specialist and counselors. The family began to blossom at the shelter, significant progress was made through the continuity of care and services provided. However due to the mother’s background and lack of income, finding permanent housing was difficult and resulted in numerous stays in shelters. Through the efforts of the Children and Family Case worker, the family was able to rent an apartment, the mother found permanent employment and daycare was secured for her children. On moving day, the children could hardly contain their excitement at having their own room, their own bed and a place to call home.

B. Individual Interagency Intervention Plan (IIIP) Work Group

Work Group Members

Chris Arens	Access of the Red River Valley
Kathy Anderson	Clay County Public Health
Rebecca Fee	Clay County Social Services
Laurie Young	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
Jill Skarvold	Moorhead ISD #152
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative

Lanette Krinsky
Marilyn McMurray

Parent representative
Creative Care Reaching Independence (CCRI)

Goals/objectives for FY08

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

***Results in FY08:** No training was conducted this year because the IIIP work group agreed to be a host site for an evaluation project sponsored by MnSIC (Minnesota System of Interagency Coordination) and funded by the Minnesota Department of Education. Six projects from five counties are part of the evaluation project (Beltrami/Bemidji, Clay, Dakota, Hennepin/Minneapolis and Hopkins/St. Louis Park/Minnetonka, and Ramsey). The purpose of the evaluation project was to document how interagency work was functioning around the state so that a list of best practices could be compiled and shared in areas where there was little formal interagency work. Carolyn Strnad and Dawn Tommerdahl served as project leaders.*

The purpose of the Clay County evaluation project was to document the perceived effectiveness of the IIIP process and document. A survey was developed and sent by mail to parents whose children have a IIIP and electronically to school personnel and other community service providers who work with children who have IIIPs and are therefore part of IIIP teams. Findings from the survey will be used to modify training in the future. See the full work group report for themes and recommendations.

C. School-Age Disabilities Work Group

Work Group Members

Megan (Vanyo) Gibson	Access of the Red River Valley
Donna & Terry Atherton	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Kathy Johnson	Clay County Public Health
Lindsay (Morasch) Kirk	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
Jane Rawlings	Moorhead ISD #152
Sheila Stadstad	Moorhead ISD #152
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative
Karen Swanson	Parent representative

Goals/objectives for FY08

1. Provide support for rural parents/families of school-age children with disabilities through local Community Education programs.

Results in FY08: *Two activities were supported: a stress reduction class (U-H) attended by 3 youth and 13 adults and an intergenerational community garden (Hawley) with 58 children, 10 staff, 12 volunteers involved. Outcomes from these activities were that children were integrated into the community, families benefited from doing activities together, parents would feel supported by other parents/families or community agencies, and stressors decreased.*

2. Provide opportunities for school-age children with disabilities and their siblings to practice and build their social skills.

Results in FY08: *The following activities were held this year:*

- *Halloween party, held in conjunction with Arc at Heartland Industries.*
- *Bowling party, thirty people attended despite the blizzard.*
- *Sports bubble, six people attended (more had signed up).*
- *Challenger baseball, 8 weeks in the summer; sixty children and 26 volunteers*

As a result of participating in these activities, children's social skills, self-esteem, and self-confidence improved. Their stressors decreased. They also learned new physical skills.

3. 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 FY08: *"Get to Know Me" form was sent to 60 agencies and more than 200 families (with Children's Mental Health flex forms). It is hoped that using the form will lead to greater awareness of helpful tools to work with school-age children with disabilities. If organizations can better meet their need, perhaps children with special needs can participate more fully, thereby gaining in social skills, self-esteem, and self-confidence.*

4. Provide training for parents and professionals about disabilities

Results in FY08: *Dr. Joan Blaska gave the keynote address on "Cyclical Grieving" at an all-day workshop on October 27. In addition to the keynote, there was a panel discussion during lunch and five breakout sessions (three in the morning and two in the afternoon). Forty-two people attended (including presenters). In their post-workshop evaluations, attendees wrote that they learned to better work with their child's school or therapy staff and there was better communication. Many also commented that being able to name the cyclical grieving that they were experiencing would help them be able to talk about it with others. They expressed comfort in knowing that they weren't alone in the cyclical grieving process and that knowing it was a process would better help them handle the low times.*

II. Collaborative Work Groups

A. Parent Involvement Committee

Work Group Members

Donna Atherton	The Arc of West Central Minnesota
Shanna Grefsrud	Lakes and Prairies Community Action/Head Start
Connie Vukas	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative

Goals/objectives for FY08

1. Devise strategies for increasing parent involvement in the Collaborative in a variety of ways.

Results in FY08: *Carolyn Strand and Dawn Tommerdahl met with Clay-Wilkin Head Start Policy Council on April 1. Carolyn mentioned parent involvement opportunities at the March meeting of Moorhead's Special Education Parent Advisory Council meeting.*

2. Provide opportunities for parents and professionals to learn to work more effectively together.

Results in FY08: *The work group helped co-sponsor the workshop with Dr. Joan Blaska (see the School-Age Disability work group report above). They offered two one-hour discussion sessions on the book Do You Hear What I Hear? which was attended by 9/8 parents and professionals. They also sponsored a one-hour book discussion on In Their Own Words which was attended by 9 parents and professionals. In a survey taken after the Do You Hear What I Hear? discussion, attendees reported making small changes in how they spoke with parents or staff members. Many felt that being reminded of the parent's perspective was helpful – especially that “parents can't choose (in most cases) the abilities and disabilities of their children.”*

3. Empower parent leadership and increased involvement in the dialog between parents and professionals by supporting attendance at trainings and conferences.

Results in FY08: *Workshop attendance was free for parents of children with disabilities. Books were provided to participants in book reads as well as to Head Start parents.*

B. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Work Group Members

Megan (Vanyo) Gibson	Access of the Red River Valley
Brad Saville	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Barry Nelson*	Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative
Lanette Krinsky	Parent representative
Mark Altenburg	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Alex Ishaug	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy Intervention Program (through December 2007)

* denotes liaison to Administrative Group

Goals/objectives for FY08

1. Develop a plan to assess Collaborative programs
 - Develop a format for writing work plans
 - Develop a framework for assessing individual programs

Results in FY08: *The work group created a work plan template which all work groups completed. They also created report form template which all work groups completed. (Restorative Justice and Reentry Services submit their reports in the form they use for their outside grants; demographic information was submitted on the Collaborative's form)*

2. Establish a strategy for assessing client outcomes: implement stress measurement tool

Results in FY08: *The work groups goals at beginning of the year were that 25% of programs would use the tool and 50% of clients would return of surveys. But the stress survey was not widely administered. Respite families and Flex families were asked to take it. It was edited and given to attendees at the Dr. Blaska workshop (School-Age Disability work groups).*

3. Continue to evaluate the Collaborative as an organization: The work group sponsored a Grant-writing roundtable series in the spring to build capacity in partner and community organizations.

Results in FY08: *Three 1 ½ hour sessions were held:*

- February 20, "Show Me the Money" with four presenters and forty attendees
- March 19, "Tips for Successful Grant Writing" with two presenters and thirty-one attendees
- April 16, "Grant-writing from the Evaluator's Perspective" with two presenters and seventeen attendees.

In their post-session evaluations, attendees reported that they found the information on where to go for grants was useful as was hearing about the expectations of various funders. Attendees at the second session found the tips (including biggest mistakes) helpful as was the SOPPADA approach to grant writing. Many attendees liked the emphasis that was put on collaborating with organizations they might not usually think about including in a project.

III. Project Work Groups

A. Family Support Model Work Group

Work Group Members

Nicole Names	Clay County Social Services
Denette Narum	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Aimee Griffin	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Jessica Hoepfer	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Patty Kline	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Summer Rahlf	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

Program Staff: Aimee Griffin, Program coordinator
Jessica Hoepfer, Wraparound facilitator
Summer Rahlf, Family Group Decision Making facilitator

Goals/objectives for FY08

1. Implement family support strategies in Clay County

- a. Train facilitators in using family group decision-making (FGDM) and wraparound.

Results in FY08: *Summer Rahlf (LSS) was trained in FGDM in 2005 and Aimee Griffin was trained in 2006. Jessica Hoepfer will be trained in FGDM in the upcoming year through DHS. Two part-time wraparound facilitators have been trained and have left the program. One part-time facilitator has stayed (Jessica Hoepfer). As a result of having these trained facilitators, 12 FGDM families were served with a total of 23 meetings (or family group conferences) and 48 wraparound families were served in the last fiscal year. As a result of these FGDM conferences and wraparound teams, families have experienced the following outcomes (see the full report for a complete list):*

- *2 mothers received in-patient treatment to better care for themselves and their families.*
- *5 families found stable housing.*
- *1 family is pursuing their dream of moving to a place where the daughter can go to a special needs school to work with horses.*
- *1 mother paid off her debt and got off probation.*
- *1 mother has been able to increase her visits with her children to try and reunify with them.*
- *1 family has service providers phasing out.*
- *1 family is successfully taking over facilitation of their own wraparound team.*
- *2 children are successfully employed.*
- *1 child re-enrolled in Head Start after dropping out.*
- *6 parents are now gainfully employed.*

b. Support family group and wraparound teams

Results in FY08: Service providers wanted more access to a wraparound facilitator so we hired additional staff. Thirty-four families received \$7,814.04 in flexible funding to meet emergency needs. Program staff were looking for new office space that would be more family-friendly at the end of the fiscal year. Five work group members began meeting to work on Minnesota Common Grant form to secure future funding for the program.

c. Encourage collaboration among the various agencies providing family group decision-making and wraparound

Results in FY08: Twenty-five service providers attended a breakfast meeting about wraparound with the result that 23 new referrals in FY08 came from at least 10 different referral sources.

d. Hold informative trainings and educate service providers and community members

Results in FY08: Aimee has attended staffings at the following agencies: Clay County Social Services, Rule 79 case managers, Lutheran Social Service, Head Start, Early Intervention Services, Moorhead Schools, and Access.

2. Develop an assessment plan for the program using data we will collect.

a. Family meeting their own measurable goals

Results in FY08: Evidence shows that high fidelity wraparound helps families meet their goals. The Fidelity Index, a nationally-recognized assessment tool, was purchased and training in how to administer it began on July 10. Interviews with up to 4 team members per team will begin in the fall (FY09).

b. Plans are individualized to meet family's needs

Results in FY08: The survey that is currently used doesn't ask specifically about whether needs are met, but the following comments from families who took the survey indicate that positive changes have been made:

- Thank you for all of your help – concerns – interest in helping our family 😊
- Thanks for working with our family
- A great help to our family
- Thank you for all your help

c. Reduce number of families using high-end services/out-of-home placement

Results in FY08: Evidence shows that high fidelity wraparound reduces the number of families using high-end services/out-of-home placement. Of the 52 families that have been involved in wraparound since July 1, 2006, 34 teams have children at home, 14 families are using out-of-home placement for children, and we don't know about seven of the teams. Of the 14 families with children in out-of-home placement, 13 are working toward reunification. Eight families involved in FGDM were using out-of-home placements and 5 had their children at home and were working on family preservation

3. Host a national Wraparound speaker and invite surrounding counties to participate in conference.

Results in FY08: No conference was held. Program staff attended two conferences instead: a one-day training with John VanDenBerg and the week-long California Wraparound Initiative

conference. As a result of attending these workshops, the following program changes were made:

- *Wraparound Guidebook written and distributed*
- *Facilitator Training Guide written and used.*
- *Set a mission/goal for every family/team – process is family driven according to what they want to see for their future*
- *Be goal-oriented vs. service-oriented*
- *Have criteria for Wraparound teams*
- *Utilize a Wraparound plan/review/summary – Holds team members accountable and makes the plan an active plan*
- *Conduct strengths inventory and strengths interview with each family – makes the plan meaningful to the child/family*
- *Be solution-focused – when there are ideas generated during meetings and the family knows they have choices, much better outcomes are reached*

Case Study

The “Jones” family was referred by their Children’s Rule 79 (i.e. mental health) case manager in March 2007. The family was referred in order to keep good communication open with among the many service providers working with them as well as to bring everyone together to help work on the family’s strengths. The team also wanted to find activities that the family could do together to bolster the self-esteem and social skills of each individual.

When the facilitator did a strengths assessment with the family, it became apparent that the family had many strengths to build on. The family also expressed many needs at the time; mental health needs and basic needs (housing and transportation) were at the top of the list. The first meeting was well-attended by service providers and both parents. The parents talked about having informal supports but said it was difficult for them to attend the meetings. At subsequent meetings, the team discussed ways in which the family’s needs for housing, basic care, employment and mental health could be addressed and supported.

At times it appeared as if some newer team members weren’t fully aware of the wraparound process and tried to take “voice and choice” away from the parents versus helping them find ways of working through dilemmas. This was quickly resolved through the process and the facilitator reviewed the principles of Wraparound with team members to ensure that the family was respected and that the plan and meetings were family-driven, based on their individual strengths, needs and culture.

Meetings held after this review were more productive and the family felt more empowered. They were able to come to the Wraparound meetings and express their opinions, needs and concerns. The team talked about the many strengths that the children, the family, and the team as a whole brought to the table. Once the team started to build on family strengths and began empowering the family in a positive way, things started to change for the family. Their difficulties remained; however, they could rely on their team for support and encouragement, ideas and resources.

The team helped the family brainstorm new avenues for employment opportunities, transportation and housing. The team also worked out ways in which they and others could assist the family and helped them find informal supports within their own family and within the community. Through the wraparound process, the team was able to help the children get more involved in the community and help the parents do activities with the kids.

The family now has appropriate housing, the children's mental health is stable, and the parents agree that they are doing much better at parenting.

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
Sharon Walker	Youth Educational Services/Lakes Country Service Coop
Stephanie Froslic	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Deb Pender-Tilleraas	Moorhead ISD #152
Corey Walters	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
* denotes chair	

Reentry Services Project staff: Sally Dandurand & Mike McMullen

Excerpts below are taken from the annual report of the program prepared 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 annual report, see the Collaborative website:

<http://www.claycountycollaborative.org/meetings/files/RSPAnnualReport-2007-2008.pdf>

Client Profile

During the fifth year of the program (June 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008), the Reentry Services Project served a total of 47 clients. Eight of those clients had been served by the RSP program in the past and are not included in this report. Twenty-two client files have since been closed and the files have been coded by the evaluators. An additional 17 files remain open as the clients have yet to complete the program. This report focuses on the 22 clients who were served during this period whose case files are closed and coded.

Demographics

The average age of clients served during this period was 16.5 years upon return to the community following their most recent out-of-home placement. Sixty-four percent of the clients were male. Sixty-eight percent of the clients were White, 23 percent Hispanic, and 9 percent Native American.

Prior Offenses and Out-of-Home Placement History

These 22 clients experienced an average of 3.9 prior official contacts, including 4.4 charges prior to their most recent out-of-home placement. Eighteen percent had a prior felony charge and 41 percent had a prior ‘persons-crime’ (i.e., violent offense) charge. On average these clients had 1.4 status level charges, 2.6 misdemeanor charges, and 0.4 felony charges (average 0.6 “persons” charges per client) upon entry into the Reentry Services Project.

The average number of out-of-home placements these clients experienced prior to service in the program was 3.0. These clients spent an average of 183 days in out-of-home placement, including 126 days in restrictive out-of-home placement.

Typically, the clients averaged 12.9 months on probation prior to return to the community. Ninety-five percent of the clients were on indefinite probation. Forty-one percent were on maximum or intensive supervision upon return to the community and the remainder (59%) were on medium supervision.

Most Recent Offense and Out-of-Home Placement

Eighteen percent of these clients’ most recent charge was for a felony offense, 68 percent were charged with a misdemeanor, and 14 percent were charged with a status level offense. Twenty-three percent of the clients’ most recent charge was for a ‘persons-related’ offense (e.g. assault), 32 percent were charged with a property offense, 32 percent were charged with a public order offense (e.g. disorderly conduct), and 13 percent were charged with alcohol or tobacco related offenses (e.g. minor consuming).

The clients’ most recent placement averaged 88 days (including 75 days restrictive out-of-home placement). Common placements included detention (64%), residential treatment (32%) and foster care (4%).

Additional Background Information

Fifty-five percent of these clients had a history of violence (e.g., violent charge, threats, fighting), 73 percent had a history of substance abuse, 77 percent had a history of mental health problems, and all of them (100%) had a history of school problems (e.g., truancy, poor academic progress, behavior issues). Ninety-one percent of the clients had experienced two or more of these problems, and 27 percent experienced all four of these behavioral problems. Thirteen youth (59%) had a history of both substance abuse and mental health challenges.

Process and Outcomes

Program Activities

These 22 clients spent an average of 11.4 months in the Reentry Services Project, and an average of 65 total hours with Transitional Coordinators. During this time they were assigned an average of 64.7 tasks as part of their transitional case plans, and were referred to an average of 7 services provided by agencies in the community (69% of which were complete or ongoing upon exiting the Reentry Services Project). During the period of program participation, Transitional Coordinators averaged 56 total contacts with clients, 27 contacts with parents, and 22 contacts with agency partners. Probation Officers averaged 14 client, 9 parent, and 23 agency partner contacts while clients were participating in the Reentry Services Project.

Intermediate Outcome Measures

Identified intermediate outcome measures for the Reentry Services Project include:

- a) a 75 percent compliance rate with transitional case plan tasks;
- b) a 20 percent reduction in Youth Level of Service /Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk/needs scores;
- c) and a 20 percent increase in YLS/CMI strengths scores.

These 22 clients completed an average of 66 percent of their case plan tasks (43 of 65 tasks). Average YLS/CMI risk/needs scores declined for these clients from 21.55 at program intake to 17.95 at program completion (a decrease of 16.7%). Average YLS/CMI strengths scores increased 111 percent during this same period (from 2.37 at program intake to 5.00 at program completion).

In-Program Recidivism

Thirty-six percent of these clients experienced no technical violations while participating in the RSP. The total number of technical violations among the 14 youth with one or more violations was 22.

Forty-six percent (10) of the clients had no new official contacts (contact with police/probation resulting in new charges) while participating in the Reentry Services Project. For the remaining 54 percent (12) of clients who did experience new official contacts, the total number of new in-program charges was 19. However, only four youth experienced more than one new official contact while participating in the program. Of those with new in-program contacts (12 of 22), the highest level of the charges was a misdemeanor for the majority of clients (67%); 33 percent experienced a new status level charge while participating in the program. None of these clients experienced a new felony level charge or person-related charge while participating in the program.

While participating in the Reentry Services Project, 36 percent of these clients (8) experienced no new out-of-home placements. A total of 31 in-program out-of-home placements

were experienced by the remaining 14 clients (64%). Nine clients (41%) experienced at least one new short-term out-of-home placement (less than 30 days) while participating in the program; the average time spent in short-term placement was 19 days (nearly all restrictive). Ten clients (45%) experienced at least one new long-term out-of-home placement while participating in the program; the average time spent in long-term placement was 130 days (88 days restrictive). Sixty-eight percent of new in-program out-of-home placements were the result of technical violations, 16 percent were for unknown reasons, 13 percent were the result of new charges, and 3 percent were for protection of the client.

Summary

During the 2007-2008 funding cycle the RSP served a total of 47 clients. Analyses of the subset of those cases where files have been closed and coded reveal that:

- The program continues to serve its target population (i.e., youths returning from 3 or more weeks of out-of-home placement);
- Youth served by the program spend approximately 5.7 hours per month in direct contact with their TC. The addition of TCs increases the overall contact rate with youth by 4.9 contacts per month with program youth beyond regular probation officer contact; TCs increase contact with parents by 2.4 contacts per month, and they increase contact with agency partners by 1.9 contacts per month. In addition, program youth are assigned a variety of case plan tasks, and are referred to a variety of community-based services by program staff;
- The program is “on track” with respect to transitional case plan task compliance, YLS/CMI risk/need changes, and YLS/CMI strengths score changes;
- In-program recidivism rates remain at around 50 percent. However, none of the clients examined in the 2007-2008 cycle experienced a new felony level or person-related charge, which speaks favorably regarding program impact. Misbehavior leading to technical violations and out-of-home placement remains a common challenge;
- Clients evidenced positive changes in a number of social and behavioral factors related to recidivism, including housing and family status, education, employment, and prosocial support/activities. These changes mirror those observed in earlier comprehensive reports, suggesting that other benefits observed in earlier reporting periods (i.e., reduced recidivism and related costs relative to the comparison group) will likely be sustained.

C. Restorative Justice Work Group

Work Group Members

Shelley Ford	Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections
Stephen Landsem	Clay County Sheriff's Department
Jill Wenger*	Clay County Sheriff's Dept./Restorative Justice Program
Aimee Griffin	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

* denotes chair

Restorative Justice staff: Jill Wenger (program coordinator and lead facilitator), Brenda Kopyy (part-time facilitator), Joel Friesz (part-time facilitator), Charlie Kaspari (summer/fall 2008 intern)

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> or Kathleen Bergseth and Dr. Jeffrey Bouffard's article on the program appeared in the Journal of Criminal Justice: <http://www.co.clay.mn.us/Depts/Sheriff/PDFs/BerBou07.pdf>

Restorative Justice Program Report

Fiscal Year 2008 (July 2007–June 2008)

During Fiscal Year 2008 the Restorative Justice Program served **132 Juvenile Cases**. Currently, 38 cases are open and 94 are closed. A total of **526 Clients** were served including offenders (132), offender supporters (161), victims (92), victim supporters (20), community volunteers (82), agency representatives (32), and others (7).

The majority of juvenile clients were **Male (78%)** and **White (70%)**. Clients of Hispanic/Latino (12%), African American (1.5%), Asian American (1.5%), American Indian (1%), and Other (8%) ethnicities were also served. Six percent of client ethnicities are not known. The average age of juvenile clients was **14.57 Years**.

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Figure 1

Referred offenses were primarily **Misdemeanors (91%)** and **Property Crimes (55%)**. Public Misconduct (17%), Traffic Violations (14%), Person Crimes (9%), Alcohol/Drug (2%), Status Offenses (2%), and

Weapons Charges (1%) were also served. All referred offenses can be found in Figure 1.

The majority of incidents occurred in **Moorhead (75.5%)**. Referred offenses also occurred in Dilworth (13.5%), Glyndon (3%), Barnesville (3%), Fargo (3%), Hawley (1%), or Other (1%).

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Figure 2

The majority of referred victims were **Individual (54.5%)**, **Business (17%)**, or **Self/Community (16%)**. Other victims included

School (7%), Church (1.5%), City (2%), or Other (2%).

[Error! Not a valid link.](#)**Figure 3**

Referrals to the program were primarily **Diversion (84%)**. All referral sources can be found in Figure 2. A majority of referrals resulted in a **Restorative Process (62%)** 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 by the incident. **Cases Returned (24%)** were sent

back to the referring source because the offender was not appropriate for the program, made no attempt to contact the program, or the victim was not willing to participate. A small number of participants created an **Agreement Only (3%)** in which they did not meet face-to-face but created an agreement to repair the harm.

Error! Not a valid link.**Figure 5**

Figure 5

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A total of **240 Participants** were involved in a restorative process this quarter. Figure 4 outlines the breakdown of process participants.

Figure 5 describes the type of restorative services provided. A majority of cases were

processed using a **Restorative Group Conference (74%)**, a process where juveniles and their supporters meet directly with affected victims and their

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Figure 6

supporters to decide the resolution of a criminal or harmful incident. **Community Restorative Justice Councils (26%)**, were used with juvenile offenders brought together with a panel of community volunteers to hold them accountable for harms caused to the community and to decide ways to repair this harm.

Feedback from process participants was very positive. Figure 6 shows the results of these surveys.

This quarter agreements have been completed or are in the process of completion at a **99% Completion Rate**. Listed below are some of the agreement conditions that were fulfilled this Fiscal Year:

- Verbal Apologies – 23
- Letters of Apology – 22
- Service – 203 hours
- Financial – \$1,549.34
- Essay/Report – 14
 - School violence
 - Blood borne pathogens
 - Bus safety rules
 - Shoplifting
 - Employee Theft
 - Impact of alcohol
 - Peer pressure
 - How to walk away
 - Effect of incident
- Presentation – 5
 - Safe driving practices
 - Good decision-making
- Other
- School bus ride-along
- Family fire escape plan
- Alcohol assessment

Error! Not a valid link.Figure 7

Figure 7 represents the average number of referrals per quarter that the Restorative Justice Program received over the last four fiscal years.

D. Truancy Intervention Program Work Group

Work Group Members

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
Nicole Olson	Youth Educational Services/Lakes Country Service Coop
Matt Naugle	Moorhead ISD #152
Deb Pender-Tilleraas	Moorhead ISD #152
Kent Henrickson	Ulen Hitterdal ISD #914
Sandi Zaleski	The Village Family Service Center
Alex Ishaug	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy Intervention Program
Jose Sanchez	The Village Family Service Center/Truancy Intervention Program

Truancy Intervention Program staff: Alex Ishaug (coordinator and family advocate); Jose Sanchez (coordinator and family advocate); Laura Carr, Kyle Geaumont, Michael Ochoa, Stacy Nielsen, and Dawn Peters (family advocates), Billy Quiggle (intern)

The following is an edited version of Jose's second quarter report (ending February 29, 2008). It has been edited to include only year-to-date statistics. To read the full report, see the Collaborative website:

PART I: Demographic Information of Children Served

Numbers Year to Date by Gender

Male: 1,362 Female: 1,159
Total: 2,521

Numbers Year to Date by Race

Native American: 242 Asian: 24
Hispanic: 537 Black: 127
White: 1,496 **Total: 2,426**

Number Year to Date Grade Level

K-5: 331 6-8: 375 9-12: 876 **Total: 1,582**

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 provides services, which 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 absences for all students in Clay County. In the past this program has monitored only unexcused absences, thus we will have no comparable information and this will be our baseline year. Attendance information gathered this year will be higher than in past years due to this change. Average days missed in the Moorhead elementary schools per month was 279.50 per student. Horizon Middle School students missed 1800.40 periods on 339.20 days for the last six months. Moorhead High students missed 2,190.83 periods on 744.16 days and Red River Area Learning Center students missed 1,190.66 periods on 265.83 days. The Greater County schools missed an average of 155.55 periods on 84.15 days at the high school level and 9.72 days at the elementary level. These numbers are greatly higher than in past years at the secondary level, but only slightly higher at the elementary level. (These numbers are for the past 6 months - school year 2007-2008).

The second objective is to maintain the number of court referrals for truancy. An average of 31 petitions have been filed over the past four years with the TIP. So far this year the program has filed 20 referrals with the court for truancy. Filing with the court is not always a negative and should not be viewed as failure. In some cases it takes the court's intervention for students and families to take school attendance seriously and to follow through with getting the help they need. We also have about 30 students on Clay County Probation.

Other objectives will be monitored this year, but will not be available until the school year is completed. We will be looking at the number of students that progress to the next grade level that we have worked with. Additionally we are trying to find out the number of students we have worked with in the past that have graduated compared to the number that have not.

PART III: Other

Briefly describe any difficulties or problems you have had in implementing the project.

Losing three staff during this quarter has had an impact on implementing the program. It has been difficult to keep up with the contacts with in the Moorhead Schools and Outer County Schools. Now that a position has been filled we should be able to work with those families and students on a daily schedule and the number of students we work with should increase with in the Moorhead and Outer County Schools.

Explain how the service/program has been collaborating with community partners.

The Truancy Program collaborates with school personnel and administration on a daily basis due to being located in the schools and sharing information about students and families. We also work with social services, probation, law enforcement and mental health agencies within the county. By knowing students and families we can work together to address attendance concerns or other concerns that are affecting attendance.

Staff this quarter and place of work

Kyle Geaumont- Outer County/ Moorhead High School

Laura Carr- All the Moorhead Elementary Schools

Michael Ochoa- Horizon Middle School

Jose Sanchez- Moorhead High School/Coordinator

Stacy Nielsen- Red River Area Learning Center (RRALC)

PART IV: Additional Comments

This year the Truancy Program has made slight alterations in its approach due to feedback received from collaborative partners. In the past we have invited families to CAMP (County Attorney Mediation Program) only if it looks as if the student may be referred to court. This year we are inviting them earlier in hopes that it will deter further absences as well as get families, especially those that we have not successfully been able to contact, involved. Hearing the possible consequences of truancy from the County Attorney sometimes gets the attention of students and families more than hearing it from the family advocates in the program.

IV. Problem-Solving Work Groups

A. Prevention & Early Intervention Work Group

Work Group Members

Monica Engelstad	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
Kim Bushaw*	Moorhead ISD #152
Shawna Croaker	Dakota Medical Foundation/Children's Mental Health Initiative Coordinator for Cass & Clay

* denotes chair

LEAD (Learn, Earn, Attach, Develop) group facilitators: Rich Preussler, Ty Hegland

Goals/objectives for FY08

Provide education and activities for groups of underserved dads

- 1) Plan an event for dads of young children.
- 2) Start a teen dad pilot group
- 3) Start a group for fathers at Churches United for the Homeless.
- 4) Cooperate with FM Fatherhood project

Results in FY08: *Because we had failed to identify a core group of teen dads, the work group changed tactics and planned an event for Head Start and ECFE dads and their young children in August 2007. Head Start and ECFE staff were instrumental in making this event happen. Thanks to Shanna and Kim – and to Jeremy who assisted Rich in facilitating the event! One session was held, attended by 16 dads and 29 children. On a post-event survey, dads were interested in attending events with their children and in occasional educational programs. Shortly after the event, our facilitator, Rich Preussler, resigned due to family and work obligations. A handful of teen dads were identified in the fall 2007. After work group member Jeremy Pratschner made contact with them to gauge their interest, Ty Hegland (Rainbow Bridge) was asked to facilitate the group. Ty met with the work group, looked over the curriculum and developed materials for the first meeting of the group, but due to family, graduate school and work obligations, he didn't have time to actually meet with the group of teen dads.*

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.

Results in FY08: *No action was taken in this area in FY08.*

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

Results in FY08: *Discussion of fathers at Churches United led to the discovery of another gap – transition age youth, especially those who lose services in the transition from the children’s to the adult mental health system.*

3. Strengthen existing teen parenting programs by fostering intentional outreach to teen fathers.

Results in FY08: *This work group will support expansion of the Follow-Along Program to include children ages four and five in FY09.*

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
Jan Jones	Clay County Social Services
Kathy Martin	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164
Mark Haugen	Hawley ISD #150
Scott Matheson	Moorhead ISD #152
Gerald Gomez	Prairie St.John's
Kelly Anderson	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914
Therese Vogel	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914
Troy Amundsen	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Thomas Gee	West Central Regional Juvenile Center
Jane Bolin	Youth Educational Services/Lakes County Service Coop
Amanda Malaski	Student, Minnesota State University Moorhead

* denotes chair

Goals/objectives for FY08

1. Provide education (including prevention programs) and training to parents, children, and professionals in order to decrease substance abuse.

Results in FY08: *The work group provided the following opportunities:*

- *2/8: Discussion on treatment programs for adolescents*
- *3/19: Panel discussion on diversion programs*
- *The Clay County Student Prevention Coalition met five times during the school year and did a presentation on underage drinking in our county to the County Board on March 4*

In addition, the work group has begun to create a chemical health web page on the Collaborative’s “Resources” page.

2. Continue to research recovery schools in order to assess the feasibility of beginning one in Clay County.

Results in FY08: *The work group sponsored five staff members from YES (FY07) and five from Moorhead Area Public Schools (FY08) to attend the National Recovery School conference that was held in the Twin Cities last summer. By the end of the school year, 4 students were enrolled in the Clay County Recovery School at YES and several were involved in the Crossroads Recovery Track in the Moorhead Area Public Schools. Some work group members serve on the advisory group to these ventures and the work group regularly receives updates on the progress of both the recovery school and recovery track from Jane Bolin and Scott Matheson.*

3. Support the development of a juvenile drug court in Clay County.

Results in FY08: *No formal action was taken on this goal this fiscal year. Work group members Tama Puhr and Jan Jones work with the adult drug court and regularly update the work group on its progress.*

Administrative Group

Members

Ron Odden	Access of the Red River Valley
Terry Atherton	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
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 Cooperative
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
Mark Altenburg	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 seven times this fiscal year, hosted by five partner organizations (Barnesville Public Schools, Moorhead Area Public Schools, Lakeland Mental Health Center, Churches United for the Homeless, and the West Central Regional Juvenile Center). Among other business, the Administrative Group approved work plans and budgets submitted by work groups for next fiscal year. They also recommended a plan for distributing the remaining funds in the Collaborative’s integrated fund among the existing work groups through June 30, 2010,

namely that *each work group without staff* be allocated \$2000 for each FY09 and FY10 with any leftover funds allowed to be carried over from FY08 until the end of FY10. Funds allocated for FY10 could be used for FY09 if the work group would choose to do so. *Work groups with staff* (Project work groups plus CMH) will be guaranteed a certain level of funding (a 33% cut from FY08) for two years – they can decide how to spend it over the two years. Funds remaining in FY08 budgets would be allowed to be carried over until the end of FY10. Funds allocated for FY10 could be used for FY09 if the work group would choose to do so.

Other noteworthy items of discussion at their meetings included:

- A recap of the visit to the area by the Legislative Commission to End Poverty by 2020 (November 2007);
- Discussion of Search Institute's survey of youth in the metro area conducted in the spring (February 2007);
- A presentation on children's issues by Jim Koppel and Norma Bourland from Children's Defense Fund Minnesota. (February 2007) This visit resulted in a Bridge to Benefits training for local organizations in Moorhead on May 21;
- A presentation of the cost of living in Clay County (March 2007);

Governance Board

Members

LaVerne Czichotzki	Access of the Red River Valley
Rob Praska	Barnesville ISD # 146 (through December 2007)
Karla Volrath	Barnesville ISD # 146 (from January 2008)
Chad Olson	City of Dilworth
Julie Nash	City of Dilworth (alternate)
Lauri Winterfeldt	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 (through December 2007)
Sandy Hawks	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164 (from January 2008)
Marcia Stout	Hawley ISD #150
Shawn Stuhaug	Lakeland Mental Health Center
Barry Bergem	Lakes Country Service Coop
Bill Tomhave	Moorhead ISD #152
Lisa Erickson	Moorhead ISD #152 (alternate)
Lynn Mahlum	Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters
Lyman Edds	The Village Family Service Center
Andrea Koczur	Ulen-Hitterdal ISD #914

** denotes chair, 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 met twice in FY08. Their first meeting was the annual meeting with a format much like this year's, a celebration of the accomplishments of FY07. In the only item of business, they voted to approve the minutes from their April 2007 meeting.

At their April meeting, the Governance Board approved FY09 work plans, program and work group budgets for FY09 and FY10, and the budget for administration in FY09.

Board of Directors

Members (by sector)

Rhonda Porter	City/County – Administrative Group
Ben Brunsvold*	City/County – Governance Board
Steve Jordahl	Education – Administrative Group
Andrea Koczur	Education – Governance Board
Mark Altenburg	Non-profit – Administrative Group
Lynn Mahlum	Non-profit – Governance Board
Carolyn Strnad	Parent representative – Administrative Group

* *denotes chair*

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 four times this fiscal year, in March, April, May and June. They recommended that the Governance Board adopt the FY09 work plans and FY09/FY10 program funding plan forwarded by the Administrative Group.

They conducted Dawn's performance review and reviewed Dawn's performance review of Jane and recommended that the Governance Board not make any administrative cuts in FY09.

They made decisions regarding payback of the Local Collaborative Time Study funds owed by Clay County: first, that the Collaborative pay the money back in three equal installments over the next three years, and second, that the superintendents and school board chairs be contacted about the levy option given to school districts by the State Legislature. At their final meeting of the year they discussed how to carry out strategic planning about the future of the Collaborative with stakeholders at all levels.

FY08 Budget

adopted 4/18/07 last updated 8/25/08

1,711,628.16

Approximate Anticipated Fund Balance at beginning of FY

ANTICIPATED INCOME - 7/1/07-6/30/08	FY08 Income Projection	Income received	Balance
LCTS earnings	200,000.00	192,876.00	7,124.00
Interest	25,000.00	71,197.30	(46,197.30)
Partnership Payments	1,600.00	2,150.00	(550.00)
Match grants: for CUFH caseworker	0.00	-	-
Family group decision-making grant (until 12/31/07)	16,000.00	13,884.67	2,115.33
Miscellaneous Income (MCIT Refunds)	3,000.00	4,260.00	(1,260.00)
Miscellaneous Income (refund Mhd. Park&Rec, Dr. Blaska fees)	0.00	24,296.97	(24,296.97)
Total Income	245,600.00	308,664.94	(63,064.94)

Beginning Fund Balance plus Anticipated Income

1,957,228.16

Expenses	Adopted FY08 Budget	Expenses Paid	Balance
Contracted Services: Collaborative Coordination	63,000.00	63,000.00	-
Contracted Services: LCTS Coordination	5,400.00	5,400.00	-
Meeting Expenses	1,400.00	1,220.62	179.38
Audit*	6,500.00	6,500.00	-
MCIT	6,500.00	5,993.00	507.00
Fiscal Host Services	0.00	-	-
Parent Stipends	15,000.00	6,926.05	8,073.95
Family Support Model Program Work Group	116,000.00	103,144.89	12,855.11
Re-entry Services Program	138,859.50	145,510.15	(6,650.65)
Restorative Justice Program Work Group	66,000.00	39,309.00	26,691.00
Truancy Intervention Program Work Group	225,694.00	183,944.00	41,750.00
IIIP Service Coordination System Work Group	2,450.00	-	2,450.00

Children's Mental Health System Work Group	149,612.00	134,625.61	14,986.39
School-Age Disabilities System Work Group	3,250.00	2,017.36	1,232.64
Parent Involvement Committee	6,000.00	1,585.22	4,414.78
Planning and Evaluation Committee	5,550.00	1,443.27	4,106.73
Prevention and Early Intervention Problem-Solving Work Group	2,500.00	210.69	2,289.31
Substance Abuse Problem Solving Group	4,000.00	715.28	3,284.72
Legal consultation	500.00	-	500.00
Other	0	290.00	(290.00)
Total Expenses	818,215.50	701,835.14	116,380.36
Anticipated Fund Balance as of 6/30/08	1,139,012.66		
Approximate fund balance at the end of FY08	1,318,457.96		

Pending the outcome of an appeal by the State DHS, the Collaborative could potentially be asked to repay \$176,462.