

Clay County Collaborative Administrative Group Minutes

Wednesday, 28 November 2007

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Churches United for the Homeless, 1900 1st Ave. N., Moorhead

In attendance: Terry Atherton (The Arc of West Central Minnesota), Donna Baker (Lakeland Mental Health Center), Bill Bergquist (Clay County Sheriff), Shelley Ford (Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections), Gary Groberg (Churches United for the Homeless), Steve Jordahl (Barnesville ISD #146), Lanette Krinsky (Children's Mental Health LAC), Pam Ness (Lakes Country Service Coop), Mark Altenburg (Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters), Larry Nybladh (Moorhead ISD #152), Jane Patrick (LCTS Coordinator), Joe Pederson (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Rhonda Porter (Clay County Social Services), Barry Steen (West Central Regional Juvenile Center), Carolyn Strnad (IIIP work group), Sandi Zaleski (The Village Family Service Center), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Rhonda welcomed the group and we did a round of introductions. Minutes from the 10/24/07 meeting were unanimously (Mark/Gary). Today's agenda was approved with one addition, an update from Joe on the legislative listening session that was held October 24-25. (Bill/Shelley)

Nuts & bolts

- ✦ Financial report/FY08 budget: There were no questions on the budget or income/expense report. *A motion to approve \$750 in November/December for petty cash to pay for parent stipends passed unanimously.* (Larry/Sandi)
- ✦ *LCTS update:* Jane noted that the third quarter payment was lower than the other quarters – that is typical because schools are not in session. There were no missed random moments. The cluster reports were good as the number of clusters under-reporting went down. Jane has done targeted training for groups that were under-reporting reimbursable codes. So far there are no updates on the potential payback. John Dinsmore (Otter Tail County Human Services/MACSSA) hopes for a decision in December.
- ✦ *Coordinator's report:* Shelley noted that she will go back to the Board after the Collaborative makes its funding decision to ask that the County make up for some of what the Collaborative won't fund. Sandi reported that she is interviewing applicants for the TIP coordinator position - over 20 people applied, including some internal applicants. She hopes to hire a new coordinator by next week.
- ✦ *Other:* Rhonda gave an update on the child welfare targeted case management that TIP claimed for awhile. Once the final rules are in place, it might be possible for Truancy to start claiming for that again. The State has set aside \$32 million to appropriate to counties in the event of reduced federal claiming.

Discussion

Dawn went over the recommendations for handling the funding cuts from the Planning & Evaluation Committee that she sent out to the group last week. Mark explained that PEC discussed that it was important to make across the board cuts to preserve the Collaborative programs as long as possible. They felt that a shared loss across the board would be equitable. He noted that PEC felt that any total cut to programs should be made by the Administrative Group and therefore PEC did not choose to recommend that option. It was noted that the greater county schools don't benefit as much from the truancy program as Moorhead does, for example. A suggestion was made that the group should consider targeting funds to where they would do the most good. A suggestion was made the project work groups respond to how they would deal with a 20% cut and a 30% cut for projects. The group

also discussed fully funding programs for one more year and then being done. A suggestion was made that project work groups discuss whether they would like to be fully funded for one more year and how they would deal with cuts. If 20% or 30% is unacceptable then they could have one (and only one) more year of funding. The group agreed that this was a good plan. Dawn will collect the information from the project work groups and put it on the agenda of the next PEC meeting scheduled for Dec. 20. PEC will then revise the scenarios they presented this month.

Other

- *Audit:* Dawn noted that the description of the Governance Board is the old GB, but that was in place for part of the period of the audit. Dawn will make sure it is changed for the next audit. Dawn passed along the comment from Brian Stavenger, our auditor, that the notes have to do with changes in accounting rules and are quite common on audits of organizations of our size.
- *Other:* Joe summarized the visit of the Legislative Commission to End Poverty by 2020 to our region October 24-25. Bud Nornes (OTC) and Morrie Lanning are both involved in this effort. Some notable things the group learned: the number of people who heat with fuel oil and the impact of that price increasing. Energy assistance isn't enough to cover the costs. Joe sensed that funding asset building seems to be the way the legislature wants to go. A number of other Administrative group members spoke at meetings with the commission. They will report back on their findings in February 2009. Rhonda complimented L&P for arranging the visits and listening sessions.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Next meeting: 3:30 p.m. January 9 (please note change from what was decided on at the meeting)

Location: Probstfield Center for Education, 2410 14th St. S., Moorhead, Room 204 (conference room in the Superintendent's Office)

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tommerdahl
Collaborative Coordinator