

## Clay County Collaborative Administrative Group Minutes

Wednesday, 20 February 2008

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Lakeland Mental Health Center  
1010 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave. S., Moorhead

*In attendance:* Mark Altenburg (Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters), Terry Atherton (The Arc of West Central Minnesota), Donna Baker (Lakeland Mental Health Center), Steve Jordahl (Barnesville ISD #146), Lanette Krinsky (Children's Mental Health LAC), Bernie Lipp (Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164), Kathy McKay (Clay County Public Health), Barry Nelson (Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative), Pam Ness (Lakes Country Service Coop), Jane Patrick (LCTS Coordinator), Joe Pederson (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Rhonda Porter (Clay County Social Services), Carolyn Strnad (IIIP work group), Lori Ward (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator), Ken Fradett (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Norma Bourland (Children's Defense Fund), Jim Koppel (Children's Defense Fund)

Rhonda welcomed the group and we did a round of introductions. The agenda was approved with an addition of school-based mental health grant under "other." (Kathy/Lanette) Minutes from the 1/9/08 meeting were unanimously approved. (Barry/Donna)

### Nuts & bolts

- Financial report/FY08 budget. All partnership payments are in. *A motion to approve \$750 in March for petty cash to pay for parent stipends passed unanimously. (Joe/Steve)*
- ✦ Jane gave an additional LCTS update after speaking with John Dinsmore (Otter Tail County Human Services). The county can expect a bill for the payback in the next few months and Rhonda will pass it along to the Collaborative. MACCSA is also working on a position paper to ask that more than the current 10% of LCTS be allowed to be spent on administration.
- ✦ Coordinator's report: Mark gave an update on the grant-writing round table that was held at noon today, sponsored by the Planning & Evaluation Committee. Dawn reported that Shelley has just submitted a grant to the MN Department of Public Safety for the Reentry Services Project.

### Discussion

- Barry gave a presentation on the Search Institute youth survey results. Last spring 17,000 students in Moorhead, Fargo and West Fargo took the Search survey. Some of the questions are similar to those on the Minnesota Student Survey. Others ask students to assess their community and their place in it. Search Institute developed a set of 40 assets based on interviews with kids. They found out that the more assets a child had, the less likely they were to engage in risky behavior. Moorhead has been involved in asset-building since 1994. Juvenile crime has dramatically decreased in the past 14 years, but it's difficult to prove a correlation. Other risky behaviors have also dropped (also shown by the MSS). The survey was given in a slightly altered form to kids in grades 4 -5 for the first time this year. The Healthy Communities Partnership (MHCI plus Fargo/West Fargo) chose ten areas (five strengths and five opportunities for improvement) to work on based on the survey results.
- Jim Koppel (Children's Defense Fund Minnesota) spoke briefly about the web tool CDF developed several years ago to help families access the public support programs they need ([www.bridgetobenefits.org](http://www.bridgetobenefits.org)). CDF would like to send trainers to our area to train people to use the website so that more people who would be eligible for federal programs would enroll. The programs are designed to increase family stability. Norma Bourland asked people to sign up to be on CDF's mailing list. Thanks to Norma for arranging this visit!

- Joe added that Lakes and Prairies will house food outreach assistants to the community. They will also be adding medical assistance outreach.

**Other**

The group thanked Carolyn for her service as a parent leader. Lanette had already left the meeting. Donna will give an update on the School-based mental health grant that Lakeland submitted next time.

*Next meeting: Wednesday, March 19, 3:30 – 5 p.m.*

*Location: Board room, Probstfield Center for Education, 2410 14<sup>th</sup> St. S., Moorhead*

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Tommerdahl  
Collaborative Coordinator