

Clay County Collaborative Administrative Group Minutes

Wednesday, 24 February 2010

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Probstfield Center for Education,
2410 14th St. S., Moorhead

In attendance: Bessie Askew (Churches United for the Homeless), Donna Baker (Lakeland Mental Health Center), Randy Bruer (Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton ISD #2164), Shelley Ford (Clay County Family Court/MN Dept. of Corrections), Mark Haugen (Rural Enrichment and Counseling Headquarters/Hawley ISD #150), Lynne Kovash (Moorhead Area Public Schools), Lanette Krinsky (Children's Mental Health LAC), Kelly Olson (The Village Family Service Center), Joe Pederson (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Carolyn Strnad (IIIP work group), Lori Ward (Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator),
Guest: Jody Crowe (*Healthy Brains for Children*)

Carolyn Strnad welcomed the group and we did a round of introductions. Minutes from the 1/27/10 meeting were unanimously approved. (Joe/Lynne) No changes were made to today's agenda.

Conversation with Jody Crowe (Healthy Brains for Children)

Jody has had extensive experience working in tribal schools as a teacher, principal, superintendent, and consultant. Because people who work in group homes, corrections, and in education see the effects of pre-natal alcohol exposure, Jody targets his speaking to service clubs so that community leaders become familiar with the effects of FASD and the costs to their communities. Some statistics: women in MN, ND and WI have the highest rate of alcohol consumption during their child-bearing years in the US - up to 63%. Of those, 50% of the pregnancies are unintended or unexpected so that means that up to 30% of children are born with some sort of pre-natal alcohol exposure. In a study of school shooters in MN and WI that Jody conducted, he found that four of the six mothers admitted to drinking heavily during pregnancy. When kids with pre-natal exposure start to fall behind in school, they start using their survival skills (blowing up, etc.). In his book, *Fatal Link*, he shares what he's learned about FASD. In response to a question, Jody shared new research that genetic markers in sperm can also be damaged by alcohol use. A huge barrier to properly diagnosing and treating FASD is that it does not appear in the DSM-IV because it's considered a medical condition yet medical doctors don't know what to do about it either. The brain damage caused by pre-natal exposure to alcohol creates challenges in all areas of life. Everyone is invited to attend the community meetings tomorrow at 3:30 and 7 p.m. in the Probstfield board room.

Nuts & bolts

✦ Financial report/FY10 budget

*A motion to approve \$1000 for petty cash for parent stipends in March passed unanimously.
(Randy/Donna)*

✦ LCTS report: Jane was unable to attend the meeting today. She wanted to add to her report that she will continue to train small groups of LCTS participants in Clay school districts throughout the spring.

✦ Coordinator's report: Dawn had no report this month. She sent out links following the Prevention & Early Intervention work group meeting – to an article about how living in poverty as a young child changes the brain and to a clip from "Invisible Nation" featuring Dr. Donna Beegle.

Approval of FY11 work plans

A motion to recommend approval of all of the FY11 work plans to the Board of Directors passed unanimously. (Joe/Lanette) This group will need to turn its attention now to prioritizing program spending from July 1, 2011.

Other

- Opportunities for collaboration
 - Joe asked each person to post a flier about Saturday's update on the Legislative Commission to end poverty by 2020 (6:30 – 8:30 at the Concordia College Centrum). He noted that the poverty rate has increased in the past year. Representative Lanning is introducing a bill to build ladders out of poverty. It includes things that don't cost much money, e.g. restricting predatory lending. The override of the GAMC bill veto will likely take place in the Senate on Friday and on Monday in the House. Joe encouraged everyone to attend the community meeting on Saturday.
 - Shelley passed around the issue of *Corrections Today* featuring an article about our reentry program. She will send a pdf of the article to Dawn who will distribute it to the group.
 - Carolyn informed the group that the LAC is working on transportation. Bessie added that Churches United, Social Connexion and other agencies would be willing to provide feedback to MAT. The LAC has sent out a survey to agencies to pass out to families with Rule 79 case management
- Selection of officers
Shelley agreed to be the representative from the government sector. Carolyn will continue as chair with Lynne as vice chair.

Next meeting: March 17, 3:30 – 5 p.m. **Location:** Churches United for the Homeless, 1901 1st Ave. N., Moorhead

Remaining meetings for FY10:

April 21 (3rd Wednesday because of meeting of Governance Board on 4th Wednesday)
May 26 (if necessary)

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tommerdahl
Collaborative Coordinator