

Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative
CCC Planning and Evaluation Work Group
Meeting Minutes
1 PM August 4, 2005
Room 6 Family Service Center

Attendance: Candace Richards (Arc), Brad Saville (Corrections), Gyda Anderson (Public Health), Jill Wenger (Sheriff's Office), Carol Beckstrom (Social Services), Pam Bernstein (Head Start, Lakes and Prairie Community Action), Lanette Krinsky (Parent Representative), Carolyn Strnad (Parent Representative), Rachel Stotts (Parent Representative); Barbara Eiden-Molinaro (Transition Project Manager)

1. The group reviewed the vision statement developed at the planning retreat. There was some discussion as to the appropriateness of making any changes and it was the consensus of the group that out of respect for the all the people involved and the planning process that the products of the planning retreat be recommended without alternation for adoption. **Motion:** Recommend adoption of the Collaborative Vision Statement: "Successful Partnerships Building Successful Families." (P. Bernstein/L. Krinsky/Carried)
2. The group reviewed the Core Values developed as a part of the planning retreat. There was one concept which had been central to the discussion that was not represented on the list as recorded: the value of partnering with families. This was seen as an oversight and added to the value of supporting families. This addition created a more balanced relationship with families, reflecting that families are not the passive recipients of support, but are full partners in the Collaborative. It was thought that this addition was a more accurate representation of, rather than a change to the work of the planning retreat. **Motion:** Recommend adoption of the Collaborative Core Values:
 - a. We care about children and families
 - b. We believe in collaboration and partnership
 - c. We believe in early prevention, identification and intervention
 - d. We believe in strength-based, family –centered services
 - e. We believe in partnering with and supporting families
 - f. We believe in accessible services
 - g. We value education and training(C. Strnad/C. Richards/Carried)
3. Since time had not allowed completion of the Collaborative mission statement the group took the words and phrases agreed to at the planning retreat and crafted a mission statement. **Motion:** Recommend adoption of the mission statement: "Our mission is to work in partnership and collaboration to empower and provide opportunities for children and families." (C. Beckstrom/G. Anderson/Carried)
4. The group discussed barriers to full implementation of the Mission/Vision/Core Values.
 - a. The name "Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative" was seen as threatening and power oriented, rather than inclusive and welcoming. The consensus was that if the Collaborative is serious about welcoming parents to the table, the name must be non-threatening. **Motion:** Recommend the name of the

Collaborative be changed from the Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative to the Clay County Collaborative. (C. Beckstrom/R. Stotts/Carried)

- b. It is difficult to recruit and maintain parent involvement. **Motion:** Recommend the establishment of a group to develop a plan to recruit, support and orient parents to serve on the Collaborative groups, and to provide training to service providers appointed to the Collaborative groups regarding how to effectively work with parents; and that appointed members have experience in recruiting, supporting and maintaining volunteers. (B. Saville/J. Wenger/Carried)
- c. The Collaborative structure and culture impacts the parent friendliness of the Collaborative. There was concern that the current culture as well as structure is intimidating to families, and many service providers. It is believed that the current culture and the current structure are intertwined and that a new culture would emerge with a new structure. After much discussion, the group determined that recommendations regarding the Collaborative structure were beyond the scope of the work assigned to the group, and that it would be inappropriate to enter unbidden into the Board's discussion of structure.
- d. The need to have a work group responsible for children ages 7-14 with disabilities was discussed. There are interagency groups established by statute to coordinate the system of care for all children with disabilities from birth to age 7, for the children's mental health local system of care, and for the transition (from school and children's systems of care to maximum self-sufficiency and adult systems of care) for youth 14-21.

These groups – the Interagency Early Intervention Committee (IEIC), the Children's Mental Health Local Advisory Council (LAC), and Community Transition Interagency Committee (CTIC) have elected not to come under the Collaborative umbrella and receive coordination and potential funding from the Collaborative, but rather, will be Collaborative partners and appoint parents to serve on the Collaborative's governance, and administrative levels, as well as on any work groups of interest to them. The Collaborative's IIIP Service Coordination Work Group will appoint parents of children with disabilities receiving services from the schools and at least one other agency who are receiving service coordination.

This leaves children between the ages of 7-14 with disabilities other than those related to mental health without any group to oversee their system of care. It also means that except for those using the IIIP, they will not be represented by parent/consumer representatives on the Collaborative. **Motion:** To recommend the establishment of a Collaborative Work Group to coordinate the systems of care other than the children's mental health and transition systems, for those with disabilities ages 7-21, and to assign a parent representation to the Collaborative. (C. Strnad/R. Stotts/Carried)

- 5. The group reviewed the issue areas identified during the planning retreat as priorities to be addressed by the Collaborative:
 - Issue #1: Parent friendly and family friendly referral and response system
 - Issue #2: Coordinated education and transitional services for youth who are at risk of, or who are frequently in and out of placement

- Issue #3: Assurance and Coordination of adequate medical services, including physical, dental as well as psychological care for all children and families.
- Issue #4 Prevention, identification, screening and early intervention**
- Issue #5 Identification of and a strategy to address risk behaviors and unmet children's mental health needs, including substance abuse – including meth, suicide attempts, and non-MA Rule 79 cases.**
- Issue #6 Increase in public awareness of how quality childcare (before and after school, infant and non-traditional hours; and childcare provider recruitment, training and support) is the key to successful well-being.
- Issue #7 Specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of mental health, developmental or physical disability issues of youth in our community.**
- Issue #8 Education for children, parents, community and government on the diverse needs of low-income and at-risk families, to promote understanding of the culture of poverty**
- Issue #9 Respite care and crisis services including those children birth-18 not covered under the Mental Health Work Group.
- Issue #10 Parent Involvement**

Participants at the planning retreat first developed these ten issues and then selected Issues #4, 5, 7, 8, and 10 as priority issues which need to be addressed by the Collaborative. The group discussed these five priority issues and how the Collaborative could best address them:

Issue #4 Prevention, identification, screening and early intervention
This issue was determined not to fit well under any Collaborative Work Group or interagency committee, so will need its own problem-solving work group.

Issue #5 Identification of and a strategy to address risk behaviors and unmet children's mental health needs, including substance abuse – including meth, suicide attempts, and non-MA Rule 79 cases. This issue was divided into two issues:

5.A. Identification of and a strategy to address risk behaviors and unmet children's mental health needs, suicide attempts, and non-MA Rule 79 cases. It was determined the Children's Mental Health Work Group should be responsible for addressing this issue and it should be included in its FY06 work plan.

5.B. Identification of and a strategy to address youth substance abuse – including the use of meth. Since there is no existing work group to address this issue in a comprehensive fashion, it was decided this issue will require the establishment of a problem-solving work group.

Issue #7 Specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of mental health, developmental or physical disability issues of youth in our community. This issue was also divided:

7.A. Specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of mental health issues of youth in our community. This issue was referred to the Mental Health Work Group, for inclusion in their work plan.

7.B Specialized training and support of parents, teachers and community members in the monitoring of developmental or physical disability issues of youth in our community. This issue was referred to the work group that is recommended to be created to serve kids with disabilities.

Issue #8 Education for children, parents, community and government on the diverse needs of low-income and at-risk families, to promote understanding of the culture of poverty. While this is an important issue to be addressed by every Collaborative partner organization, it was determined that it did not require a collaborative approach, as training is readily available to meet each organization's individualized needs.

Issue #10 Parent Involvement This is being addressed by the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP) Work Group and is included in their FY06 work plan.

Motion: To recommend these issues for inclusion in the Collaborative's FY06 Work Plans of the designated work groups. (J. Wenger/R. Stotts/Carried)

6. The group discussed its role with the Collaborative. The CCC quit meeting as such in May, as there was no similar group under the new Collaborative structure and their work concluded with the review and recommendation of the last round of grants. Members agreed to become the planning group for the June 22 planning retreat, and today finished those responsibilities. Those members present agreed that they would like to serve on the Collaborative's Planning and Evaluation Work Group, and will ask to be appointed by their organizations to do so.
7. Carol Beckstrom informed the group of the need to solicit input on Clay County Social Service's CSSA plan and discussed ways that partner organizations, parents and Collaborative groups could be involved in this planning process. The concern was raised that this not seem redundant to the Collaborative planning process, so will be treated as an opportunity to review and discuss the findings of previous planning efforts.
8. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 3 PM. The Planning and Evaluation Work Group will be convened following the adoption of the Collaborative structure.