

Children's Mental Health Systems Work Group Minutes

Tuesday, 3 March 2009

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Family Services Center, Room 7

In attendance: Liz Bjur (Clay County Public Health), Shawna Croaker (CMH Coordinator for Cass-Clay), Karla Flisk (Churches United for the Homeless), Gerald Gomez (Prairie St. John's), Joan Kirk (Access of the Red River Valley), Lanette Krinsky (Parent representative), Kristin Phillips (Head Start /Lakes and Prairies Community Action), Ruth Smith (REACH), Beth Wallman-Zimmerman (Lakeland Mental Health), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Shawna volunteered to chair the meeting. She welcomed the group and we did a round of introductions. Minutes from the 2/03/08 meeting were unanimously approved. (Lanette/Kristin) No changes were made to today's agenda.

Updates

- CMH coordinator: Shawna informed that the group that she's working on the speaker for May 7. Chris Poyzer has been confirmed for May 14. There will be a panel on May 21 followed by 1 hour with Jody Bock on stress management. The CMH Fair work group meeting scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed to next week. The spring newsletter is ready for publication.
- Children's Mobile Crisis Team: Beth reported that the training was very successful. Pilot sites will start in mid-March with a group from Wilkin Human Services, a day treatment group in Perham and clients of Rule 79 case managers from Lakeland catchment area.
- Other: Dawn passed out information from the Arc: Rally at Capitol for people with disabilities, March 7; Get Set, March 30; Trust & Guardianship, April 6. She reminded the group that the bowling party for children with special needs and their friends and families is coming up on March 7 at 10 a.m. at All-Star Bowl in Moorhead.

FY09 work plan

- *Respite:*
 - Rule 79 respite grant: No report
 - Respite for younger kids: none dispersed since last meeting
- *Flex*
 - Distributed since last meeting: \$575.
 - Distributed so far in FY09: \$11,516.75 (\$4426.05 for children under 9, \$7090.70 for children 9 and up)
- *Churches case worker:* Karla reported that she has seven families and only two of the children are school-age. Transportation, busing, housing are all issues for families, especially for people who have to work past 6 p.m. She's turning away large families (6 – 7 children) who have lost or are losing their housing.
- *REACH project:* Ruth reported that eighteen children received counseling in February. Food shelf use is down (60 families, 63 children) this month. Ruth gave out one Salvation Army voucher. Easter baskets will be distributed in April. Churches will help more with these (baskets of candy for kids, etc.). Churches will also have tables to hand out other things during the distribution of the baskets on April 9.
- *Follow Along Program (Liz):* Numbers are hard to track at this time. PH has been taking steps to improve survey return rates especially if people move.

- Other
 - Lessons from the Field series: The February session was really well-received. Remaining dates are: April 14 (ITV room, FSC) – Multidisciplinary Interventions, May 13 (ITV room, FSC); all sessions from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; register online at cmh.umn.edu. If registration is full, show up anyway as there are always no-shows.
 - The group discussed a request from Kelly Olson (The Village) to help financially sponsor the DC0-3 training that will be held at the Marriott on May 14 – 15. *A motion to sponsor up to 1/3 of the cost of the training passed unanimously. (Lanette/Karla)* Dawn will forward the following questions to Kelly.
 - CMEs (medical education credits) available?
 - Could it be held in Fargo - Prairie? Other venues in Moorhead?
 - Are dates absolutely set?
 - Attendees? Physician? Psychiatrists, etc?

Other

- FY10 work plan: The group confirmed that the numbers were OK!
- Collaborative strategic planning: The group voted on the top three issues:
 - Transportation
 - Poverty, financial difficulties
 - Limited access to MH treatment (appointments in a timely fashion)

Dawn will fill these in the questionnaire and send it out – please think about what this work group can do about these issues for next time.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tommerdahl
Collaborative Coordinator