

Children's Mental Health Systems Work Group Minutes

Tuesday, 7 April 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), Lanette Krinsky (Parent representative), Michelle Mullikin (Lakeland Mental Health), Barb Schaub (Lakeland Mental Health Center), Ruth Smith (REACH), Carolyn Strnad (Parent representative), Beth Wallman-Zimmerman (Lakeland Mental Health), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Carolyn volunteered to chair the meeting. She welcomed the group. Minutes from the 3/03/08 meeting were unanimously approved. (Lanette/Liz). No changes were made to today's agenda.

Updates

- *CMH coordinator:* Shawna passed out information about the upcoming Children's Mental Health Fair and training series. Please post fliers at your agencies and distribute to parents. They are also available on www.halfachild.com and www.claycountycollaborative.org. Booth spaces are full. Flint Communications is working on publicity (e.g. writing news releases that will be distributed to the media in upcoming weeks, radio, TV ads). Robert Wood Johnson site visit may have to be rescheduled – Shawna will keep us posted.
- *Children's Mobile Crisis Team:* Pilot sites in Wilkin and Otter Tail are up and running. The CFF Clay pilot is postponed because FirstLink is just taking flood-related calls. There is a desperate need for MH practitioners to be on call. They have plenty of MH professionals lined up. The last parts of the advertising campaign are being put in place. The October – April report to DHS is due April 22 so Beth will have more to report next time. The next stakeholder meeting is scheduled for April 30 at 1 p.m. at Lakeland in Moorhead with ITV hook-up to Fergus.
- *Other*
 - CTIC's Transition Expo will be held this afternoon from 4:30 – 6:30 at the Moorhead Center Mall.
 - April 9 and 23: Book discussion of *In Their Own Words*. Books and lunch provided. Come to one or both sessions!
 - April 14: Next "Lessons from the Field" series on Multi-disciplinary interventions for autism.

FY09 work plan

- *Respite:*
 - Rule 79 respite grant: Carolyn did a training on MH disorders for potential respite families or childcare providers – twenty-eight people attended.
 - Respite for younger kids: none disbursed since last meeting
- *Flex*
 - Distributed since last meeting: \$1668
 - Distributed so far in FY09: \$13,184.75
 - Surveys will be sent by Friday to families whose children received funding for school-year activities.

- *Churches case worker:* Karla reported that six family rooms are full (15 kids – only 3 are of school-age, also two children with autism and one severely disabled). The shelter is full. All shelters did overflow when the river was high. Many people (singles and families) are turned away every day. Call Bess (218.236.0372) if you're interested in volunteering. Typically 60 – 120 evening meals are served. The number of meals served doubles during the summer when kids aren't in school.
- *REACH project:* Ruth reported that 15 children received counseling in March. There were many cancellations due to weather and flood. Fifty-two families (including 50 children) used the food pantry. Food pantry numbers are down, perhaps because Felton opened a food pantry at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. A new counselor from Valley Christian (Sara Steigen) will start coming out to REACH today. Easter baskets will be distributed this Thursday. Ruth passed out fliers for this year's motorcycle run fundraiser for their food pantry (June 6 – during rodeo week).
- *Follow Along Program:* Liz reported that Public Health has been busy with flood-related work so there isn't an update about FAP.
- Other
 - *Lessons from the Field series:* Remaining dates: April 14 (ITV room, FSC), May 13 (ITV room, FSC); all sessions from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; register online at cmh.umn.edu
 - DC0-3 training dates have been changed to June 29 - 30.

Other

- Collaborative strategic planning: The group discussed strategies, what the Collaborative and work group can do.
- Representative from this work group at Collaborative strategic planning (April 22, 9 – 12 at Probstfield): Shawna will come if her site visit is rescheduled. Liz will be the back-up if Shawna can't attend.

Next meeting: May 5, meeting room 7, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Dawn Tommerdahl
 Collaborative Coordinator