

Children's Mental Health Systems Work Group Minutes

Tuesday, 1 September 2009

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Family Services Center, Room 2

In attendance: Carol Beckstrom (Clay County Social Services), Liz Bjur (Clay County Public Health), Shawna Croaker (CMH Coordinator for Cass-Clay), Karla Flisk (Churches United for the Homeless), Randy Huss (Clay County Probation), Deb Jendro (ND Federation of Families), Lanette Krinsky (Parent representative), Carolyn Strnad (Parent representative), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Carol welcomed the group and we did a round of introductions and updates.

Updates

- CMH coordinator:
 - Shawna is working on getting all the pieces in place for the Robert Wood Johnson project - licensing and contracting are issues she's facing right now. On September 21 the advisory board will meet at 8:30 followed by a press conference at 9:30 to announce the grant. Shawna will learn how to administer the ASQ-SE and then she will train Innovis staff. Screening will begin in October. Marketing of the phone/email consultation will take place through FirstLink or the DMF webpage.
 - Stepping Stones Resource Center, a drop-in center for youth, is open as of today. Chris Johnson has been hired as director. There are several articles about the program in the newest Fraser newsletter.
 - As a follow-up to last month's minutes, Shawna reminded the group that parent coaches training is coming this fall. They're looking for a few more Clay County professionals to participate in additional training sessions that will be scheduled for the winter and spring. Tina Feigal requires that trainees have a four-year degree. Training with Howard Glaser is scheduled for April (Thursday for parents, Friday for professionals, Saturday for childcare providers).
 - Send Shawna anything you'd like to have in the next newsletter (calendar or article) from the CMH Initiative.
- Children's Mobile Crisis Team: Carol reported that trying to combine the children's and adult teams by January 1 has been confusing.
- Other:
 - Liz urged people to contact Kristina Hansen at Public Health (emergency preparedness coordinator) if they have questions about H1N1 vaccination plans. Shawna noted that the spiritual and wellness group (sub-group of Red River flood recovery group) is continuing to meet through flu season. Carol added that this group is working on publicizing resiliency in the face of crises of any sort. A "resilience week" is being planned for September (tentatively scheduled for the week of September 27).
 - Deb informed the group that Laughter yoga training (September 30 – October 2) still has spots available. There will be a barn dance in her gym on October 3.
 - Randy is transferring to adult probation starting tomorrow. At this point they don't know if he will be replaced.

- Carolyn is doing training this week for paras at Horizon on FAS and for Lake Agassiz Special Ed. Coop staff on IIP. Carolyn encouraged us to invite someone to give a presentation on behavioral aides (a CTSS service) to the work group.

FY10 work plan

- *Respite:*
 - Rule 79 respite grant: No updates at this time
 - Respite for younger kids: none dispersed since last meeting
- *Flex*
 - Distributed in August: \$2132.00
 - Distributed so far in FY10: \$7461.38 (\$2238.70 for children under 9, \$5222.68 for children 9 and up)
- *Churches case worker:* Karla reported that the family rooms are full all of the time. One person moved out yesterday a.m. and it was occupied by the afternoon. She's working on getting children registered for school and set with school supplies and clothing. She needs the following school supplies: big pink erasers, washable Elmers glue sticks, Fiskars scissors, disinfectant wipes, pencil pouches, expo markers and erasers. A group painted a chalkboard for kids to draw on. Many other groups have volunteered over the summer.
- *REACH project:* Following the meeting, Ruth sent this report: children seen for counseling in August – 6; Food Pantry families-91 (106 children); we now have Dress for Success back at the REACH office and are doing dressings.
- *Follow Along Program:* Liz went over highlights from the year-end report. 179 were families enrolled in the program during that time, of which 177 were new. Children who are experiencing delays are referred to Early Intervention Services while children with mental health needs are referred to Access, Solutions, and The Village. Several nurses are health consultants to childcare centers. Lanette wondered what could be done to support home childcare providers. One of the nurses and a support staff person attend regional meetings to get Follow Along Program updates. They adjust the schedule for sending out surveys for prematurity. Nurses also address any health concerns that may come up on the surveys.
- *Budget:* The group discussed how to allocate carryover from FY09 - \$37,000 and we budgeted for \$30,500:
 - Carolyn suggested having a MACMH training – she has contacted MACMH.
 - Karla has a hard time to get MH appointments for children because they're there such a short period of time. The need is for both parent coaching and mental health treatment. Shawna would like to see a contract for someone to work an hour a week at the shelter with parents and/or children. Shawna will find out what DMF would require to do a match.
 - Dawn has received an informal request that the unused funds allocated to REACH be carried over, but she hasn't received a written request.

Other

- *Collaborative strategic planning:* Last week the Administrative Group approved a plan to proceed with developing strategic plans for each of the four top priorities (prevention & early intervention, truancy, community-based services, children's mental health). Everyone who was invited to the strategic planning session (and relevant work groups) will be asked to participate on one of the four task forces. Each task force will meet in September and

October to come up with a plan for its priority area. These plans will be used to guide the work of the Collaborative into FY11.

- The group examined relevant statutes (LAC and LCC in MN Statute [245.4875](#) (Local Service Delivery System) **and** CMH Collaborative statute [245.493](#)) and began discussing the role of this work group vs. role of LAC. We will continue the discussion next month. Please bring your ideas!
- Carol will attend the Collaborative annual meeting as chair of this group. It will be held September 16, 3:30 – 5 p.m. at the Marriott. All are welcome to attend!

For next time: look at the statutes and the grid to see who we might invite to come to our meetings.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 1 – 2:30 p.m., meeting room 7

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Tommerdahl

Collaborative Coordinator