

Family Support Model Project Work Group Minutes

Tuesday, 28 November 2006

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Family Services Center, Room 1

In attendance: Melanie Fierstine (Moorhead High School), Aimee Griffin (Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota/Family Support Model Coordinator), Shanna Kleindl (intern, Moorhead High School), Lanette Krinsky (parent), Nicole Names (Clay County Social Services), Denette Narum (Lakeland Mental Health), Yolanda Redding (The Village), Ruth Smith (REACH), Carolyn Strnad (parent), Jill Wenger (Clay County Sheriff's Department/Restorative Justice), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Meeting chair: Nicole Names

After we did a round of introductions we moved on to approval of the 10/26/06 minutes which were unanimously approved. (Lanette/Denette) There were no changes to today's agenda which was approved. (Aimee/Melanie)

Program update from Aimee

- *Wraparound* is taking off. Now there are 16 teams, including two from rural Clay County. Aimee would like to attend further training to deal with conflicts and other small things that have come up at meetings. Many teams aren't willing to be independent yet. Group members suggested avoiding eye contact and beginning to skip a meeting now and then so the team starts to get the idea that wraparound is their team. Nicole suggested that Aimee could attend a workshop on conflict resolution. There are some coming up in January or February. Nicole suggested working with her team. Denette said that anyone's invited to attend Lakeland's staffings on Thursday mornings.
- *Family group decision making:* In response to Aimee's question about how to refer to FGDM when more of the grant should be devoted to family preservation, Nicole said that in Becker County all families are referred as soon as a case is opened. Jill suggested doing a walk through in Social Services so that social workers in child protection would know her. Denette suggested Aimee could go to staff meetings at REACH, the schools, Lakeland, the Village, etc. to talk more about FGDM. Referrals would still have to go through the County but people who work with families could suggest to the county workers that a family be referred. There's a family conference tomorrow and another is in the works.
- Nicole said that any billing for the *grant* should be submitted by December 13, so November billing will have to be submitted as soon as possible. Through October, \$10,000 + \$7000 remains to be spent in November/December in the grant for the three counties in the sub-group (Clay, Otter Tail, Wilkin).
- *Flex funds:* Expended so far: \$1770.65 for three families. On some teams there's talk of applying, but for various reasons people haven't been applying. There's a family who's going to apply for lunch money. At the middle and high schools in Moorhead kids without money in the account are getting their trays pulled, due to a change in the system. Kids at the elementary level get a peanut butter sandwich. Melanie will find out what's going on in Moorhead and give a report next month. Perhaps the group could make a deal with the schools to have money on deposit so kids could eat. Ruth will find out how it's handled in Hawley, Ulen and Barnesville. Nicole will find out what DGF does.

Discussion

- *New facilitator:* Three people were interviewed but LSS decided not to hire any of them. A person who interviewed for another position at LSS would be interested in having this as part of her job. She's coming to meet with Patty and Aimee on Thursday. There is no guarantee of a consistent number of hours per week. Jill said that Brenda (who will be hired by RJ) would also be interested in contract work; she's trained in both wraparound and FGDM. Jill and Nicole will do some checking about whether a part-time position could be shared between the Sheriff's Department and Social Services so the person would qualify for benefits.
- *FY08 work plan:* We'll spend most of the time at our December meeting working on the work plan. In the meantime, Aimee and Patty will draw up a budget.
- *Outcomes/surveys:* Aimee will set up a spreadsheet based on the surveys she's given after meetings and keep it up.
- Lorrie ordered the "Fidelity index tool" (see p. 9 in her report).
- Aimee will check into ordering samples of wraparound materials that we could use.
- Dawn will make a budget for the work group so they can see how the line items are doing.

For next time: Read Lorrie's report and highlight things that we could/should incorporate into next year's work plan.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 19, 9:00 a.m., meeting room 3 (note different room!)

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tommerdahl
Collaborative Coordinator