

Local Advisory Council  
Clay County  
February 14, 2007  
Minutes

In attendance: Carol Sheridan, PATH; Bryan Hanson, Lakeland; Jeremy; Joel Balken, Solutions; Carolyn Strnad, parent; Alison Eide, ARC intern; Lanette Krinsky, parent; Lori Ward, Head Start; Dr. Linda Geotz-Klieman, pediatrician; Deb Jendro, Federation;

Lanette welcomed everyone and introductions were done. Carolyn motioned, seconded by Jeremy to approve the January minutes; motion carried.

Presentation: Dr. Linda Geotz-Klieman is a pediatrician who has been working with the Head Start staff on children's mental health issues. 75% of her clients have mental health needs. She would like to see some coordination of services and information available to parents and providers. Her involvement at this point is to gather feedback to see how the medical community can work together with us to support families and children. She is presently working with Gina Nolte from Public Health. They have received a grant from the Academy of Pediatrics. They will be working together to develop a screening tool and surveying physicians. Often times if the parent doesn't ask they don't get any information and at times their concerns are brushed aside. The tool will be the first step in identifying children. The physicians can then use the book Head Start put together to refer them to other providers who can offer the care they need.

Joel Balken is from Solutions. There are offices in Moorhead, Alexandria and Detroit Lakes. The agency was founded on unmet needs in the community. They offer the following services:

Parental work: Evaluations

Co Parenting: Therapist works with the parents – referral comes from lawyers  
It is a national program and expensive to run but effective

Autistic: Behavioral consultation with the schools, program promotes socialization

Mental Health Case Management: 1 case manager

Children's Therapeutic Support Services – in home, skill building, teaching parents

Residential Program: Serves children who have failed in traditional placement programs. 24 hour program that follows into the school, goal is to learn to handle free time/alone time. Homes serve ages from 9 to adult. County pays for the cost of placement. Costs are determined by the needs of the child.

Adolescent Sexual Program: mild to moderate offenders, group work

DPT: therapy group for adolescents

Next month's presentation will be Carol Sheridan from PATH and Rhonda Porter from Social Services.

Survey: Rule 79 case managers received the LAC survey this week. They will distribute it to the families. Discussion on other places that we could place the survey to get feedback from families not served by case manager. Lakeland, Head Start and Solutions were identified as places.

Budget: \$500 is the allowed amount for this year. Carolyn will talk to Carol about getting a monthly report.

Mental Health Work Group: Discussed budget presented to the collaborative board which includes funding for the crisis hot line, flex funds, non ma case management, rural mental health services, Homeless shelter case manager, and training.

Mental Health Fair: The fair was well attended thanks to Head Starts work on promoting the event. Approximately 45 people attended the afternoon presentation and approximately 60 parents attended the evening event. Evaluations from the event were excellent. Thanks to the Rule 79 workers who helped with set up and staffing the resource area.

Next meeting: March 14, 2007