

Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health
October 10, 2007
Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance: Lori Ward, Head Start; Lanette Krinsky, parent; Monica Engelstad, Access; Kathy Johnson, Clay County Public Health; Carol Beckstrom, Clay County Social Services; Carol Sheridan, PATH; Kerry Larson, parent; Carolyn Strnad, parent.

Minutes from the September 12th meeting were approved (Monica/Kathy)

Carolyn informed the group that the meeting on the Maintenance of Effort was not held this month. Carol B. is waiting for additional information.

Carolyn, Lori and Monica updated the group on the last Children's Mental Health work group meeting. The work group has decided to continue to move forward with seeking Bruce Miles assistance in doing a system review. Carol Beckstrom, Ron Odden and Shawna Croaker will do a conference call with him. The Mental Health Summit is tentatively scheduled for February 7th. We hope to secure Julia Dinsmore as speaker. She has written a book and speaks on her struggles to raise two sons with mental health disorders while living in poverty. A work group will be formed to assist with the day planning.

Carol B. reviewed the CCSSA plan. It was presented to the board on October 9th. There was some very positive feedback from commissioners on doing more in the early intervention stage. Carol explained the process for this plan. The state develops the format for the plan, which uses federal funds to address issues such as access. The county determines the formula for those funds which divides them between adult and children services. Measurable outcomes are to occur with this plan. Screening is the first priority. Re-entry into foster care within 12 months of leaving is also monitored as well as a process to limit the number of moves a child makes while in out of home care. Cut backs because of budget concerns as resulted in higher case loads which make it more challenging to develop the relationship with parents that would improve outcomes for children. Once the board approves the plan it will become a public document.

Carol will set up a time for the LAC to meet with the County Board to share stories and information on gaps.

Next month's agenda: 2008 budget review including contracted and non-contracted services; Board visit.