

Local Advisory Council
November 14, 2007

Attendance: Monica Engelstad, Access; Kathy Johnson, CC Public Health; Tara Fitzgerald, PATH; Carol Sheridan, PATH; Amy McEwen, parent; Shawna Croaker, Dakota Medical Foundation/RVCSCC; Lanette Krinsky, parent/Chairperson; Deborah Jendro, Federation of Families; Karla Flisk, Access/CUFH; Kelly Olson, Head Start; Carol Beckstrom, CC Social Services; Bryan Hanson, Lakeland Mental Health; Dawn Tommerdahl, CC Collaborative, Karla, Church's United; Carolyn Strnad, parent

Lanette welcomed the group and led us in a round of introductions.

Minutes from the October 10, 2007 minutes were approved (Kathy/Monica)

Agenda items for today's meeting: Update and report from social services; update and report on systems evaluation project; Dr. Blaska training report; report on Dakota Medical Foundation project; agency updates. Agenda approved (Carol/Kathy)

Update and report from social services: Carol reported that she has scheduled a time on December 11, 2007 at 9:00. We will have approximately 30 minutes to share information on the work the LAC has been involved in, and children mental health needs as well as sharing stories. Kerry Larson and Carolyn Strnad will share their stories. Amy also said she would share her stories if someone could work with her on what to present. Carol has met with Rhonda Porter, CCSS Director. They were not able to get our input on the upcoming budget because of the crisis the budget was in at the time. They have developed a strategy to meet with Rhonda in April to identify unmet needs. Lanette suggested that we invite Rhonda to our April LAC meeting. Carol will do that but we also should identify one person who could work with Carol and Rhonda on the budget numbers in April. That information would then go to the board during the budgeting process. Carol also shared information on a crisis grant that is in the process of being applied for to the state. It will be a regional application with Becker, Wilkin and Otter Tail Counties. The purpose of the grant is to develop a mobile crisis intervention team that includes crisis respite and crisis stabilization. The intent is to reduce our of home placement and assist with de-escalation in the home, community and possibly schools. An input meeting for the grant has been scheduled for December 6th. Letters of invitations will be sent out to stakeholders in the near future.

Update and report on systems evaluation project: Dawn reported that Dec. 12th Bruce Miles will be here to work with us on looking at our system and possible redesign. It will take place after the December LAC meeting. Parents and users of the current system will give feedback in the process on what we would like to see in a children's mental health system. In the afternoon providers will look at the system that was identified in the morning and determine how to get it accomplished. A 3- 5 year plan to accomplish it will be developed.

Dawn also shared information on a possible SAMSHA grant that is available for application. The work done with Bruce Miles can be used as a planning guide for that grant application if the entities decide to apply for it. That grant could be used for both Cass and Clay Counties.

Dr. Blaska Training Event: Carolyn updated the group on the Dr. Blaska training event held on October 27th. Forty people were in attendance. The evaluations for the event were very positive. A follow up meeting will occur in three months with participants who want to gather and share how they are using the information they gathered at the Parent Forum.

Dakota Medical Foundation Project: Shawna reported that the advisory board has settled on two priorities for the upcoming year. The work will be done with two subcommittees. The first committee is looking at evidence based screening and work with physicians. The CATCH grant will be the main worker of this group. A second group has been formed to look at setting up trainings beginning in April of 2008. The target audience will be parents, day care providers and foster parents. This group will also look into the possibility of having a call in line for parents, daycare providers, and foster parents who have questions regarding a child in their care. Shawna will be developing a quarterly newsletter. Anyone with information they would like included in the newsletter should contact Shawna.

Updates:

MECCA is setting up parent book groups on the book “Know” by David Walsh in preparation for his workshop to be held in our community in May.

The Children’s Mental Health Fair will be February 7th; it will be a similar format as last year with a speaker in the afternoon for professionals and then a parent event with the same speaker in the afternoon. It will be conjunction with the Head Start Parent Night that month.

The next Brown Bag Lunch sponsored by the Children’s Mental Health Workgroup of the collaborative is scheduled for December 4th. The speaker will be presenting on financial wellness.

The Village has begun a brown bag lunch series as well. It is for professionals as well as parents. Anyone with ideas for presentation topics should contact Kelly. The lunch series is being held at Atomic Coffee in Fargo. Kelly will send the announcement to Dawn who will send it out electronically to the email groups she has established.

Heartland is selling coupons for the Sunday night shopping extravaganza. Contact Lanette if you would like a ticket.

Next meeting is December 12, 2007 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Marriott