

# **Clay County Local Advisory Council**

## **March 12, 2008**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Present: Kathy Johnson, Clay County Public Health; Karla Frisk, Access/Churches United for the Homeless; Bryan Hanson, Lakeland Mental Health; Monica Engelstad, Access; Deborah Jendro, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health; Dawn Tommerdahl, Clay County Collaborative; Lanette Krinsky, parent; Lacey Rice, intern/Federation of Families; Kerry Larson, parent/Heartland; Carolyn Strnad, parent

Lanette called the meeting to order with a round of introductions. The following are agency updates: Dawn distributed a number of flyers on upcoming activities; Deb shared information on the May 10<sup>th</sup> Awareness Walk. There will be public awareness announcements and other activities to recognize May as Mental Health Month. Deb is working with Prairie to host support group meetings at their facility and to collaborate to get the word out on the support groups that the Federation has to offer. Karla noted that the shelter is still full. Families are still in need of housing. The children's mental health work group will be hosting an opportunity for people to view the video from Julia on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30.

Approval of February 12, 2008 minutes (Kathy/Karla) motion carried with no corrections. Agenda approved by consensus as presented.

#### **Financial Report:**

Carolyn reviewed the information on the budget and the maintenance of effort funding that Rhonda presented at our last meeting. See February meeting minutes for additional information. Carolyn also updated the group on the information on services at Lakeland. Rhonda met with Donna Baker at Lakeland to discuss issues of enough providers and cancelled appointments. Lakeland is in the process of hiring additional psychiatrist and other mental health professionals. Appointments may be cancelled if the client is late due to insurance reporting restrictions. Work is ongoing to address this issue.

After some discussion it was decided that we would do the survey with Rule 79 families in March and April. Will review the results at our April meeting and share with the Commissioners some time after that. Bryan will assist with distributing surveys to Rule 79 case managers at Lakeland. Monica will do the same with workers at Access. Each case manager will be asked to assist five families to fill out the survey.

We are still waiting on the tax id number from the state of Minnesota. It is needed to open the bank account. Carolyn will check into where the state is in processing our request.

Old Business:

Bruce Miles Goals: Still waiting on word as to whether or not we have received the mental health services grant Lakeland applied for. If we receive it we will invite Donna Baker to come to the LAC and discuss the services that will be available in our county under this grant. Social Services did receive word that we were awarded the crisis grant that was applied for. Funding under this grant will provide crisis services to families from after school until later at night, as well as on the weekend. Carol will give a full report on its implementation next month. With the awarding of this grant, the children's mental health work group of the collaborative will use their funds to assist schools with crisis issues. Continue to address the areas in the third goal of tracking children prior to school enrollment.

Mental Health Day on the Hill: Carolyn attended this event. There were about 500 people there. Some highlights of the rally include work on the rights of parents when it is a voluntary placement, work through the court system to ensure that those aging out of the foster care system and have mental health needs are prepared to live independently, work to provide insurance for those individuals until they turn 21. It will be a very difficult year because of the budget cuts, which hopefully will not include the funding for the grants the county has applied to.

Chili Cookoff: Colleen and Kerry provided a chili for the competition. We took Judge's Choice. Colleen also prepared a tri fold to bring awareness of the LAC to those attending. Kerry will provide a copy of the award for our historical records. Congratulations!!

New Business:

Survey will go out this month. It was decided that we would use the same survey. Rule 79 workers will assist in its distribution. Lanette will pursue a meeting with the commissioners. May Mental Health month will include a resource fair where the LAC will have a booth, as well as trainings. The Community Resource book is available in print and electronically. Those wanting a copy should contact Shawna Croaker at Dakota Medical Foundation. Work continues on our website. It will include agendas, minutes, historical information, LAC purpose and mission and other items.

Carolyn has the historical documents for the LAC. She received some of them from the previous chairpersons. The group needs to decide what to do with the material. It includes past agendas, meeting minutes, May mental health month materials, newsletters, and past survey information.

Next month's agenda: Work on a new brochure (Kerry will bring draft); review survey data and begin to prepare report to commissioners; report from Carol Beckstrom on the implementation of the crisis grant; table at the Mental Health Fair.