

LAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

8:30 – 10 a.m.

meeting room 2, Family Service Center, Moorhead

In attendance: Carol Beckstrom (Clay County Social Services), Shawna Croaker (DMF CMH Initiative coordinator), Karla Flisk (Access of the Red River Valley/Churches United for the Homeless), Deb Jendro (North Dakota Federation of Families), Lanette Krinsky (chair, parent representative), Beth Wallman-Zimmerman (Lakeland Mental Health Center), Dawn Tommerdahl (Clay County Collaborative)

Lanette called the meeting to order.

Carol brought color copies of the LAC brochure. All were pleased with how they turned out.

We did a round of introductions and agency updates.

Carol reported on **flood relief efforts** – behavioral health is suddenly on the front burner. Rhonda has been involved in the emergency operations center because Social Services is the designated mental health provider for the county. Carol reported that they have been working closely with Red Cross. The Red Cross won't be around forever but their behavioral health sub-committee will continue to meet. Many people who used evacuation shelters had mental health issues. A 3-person MH crisis response team from Bemidji came for a few days to help the county come up with a plan for how to address mental health in the weeks following the crises. They also worked with people at the evacuation shelter. DMF and United Way will both have funds available to help families with unmet needs. Many other organizations from around the country are also waiting to make donations. Carol reported that the Red Cross does "hot shots" (visits to families who seem to be in crisis).

Carol has learned that as of April, Southeast Mental Health Center has a walk-in mental health center – people aren't turned away. Two visits are free and then people must pay. They will take MN families but only once at which time they will make referrals to MN service providers.

Minutes from the March meeting were unanimously approved. (Dawn/Carol)

Financial report: No activity so the balance is the same as last month - \$542.12. Lanette has sent a letter to Carol requesting a check for \$1000. Carol reported that the "Jeans for Charity" fundraiser (Thanksgiving – Christmas at the County) funds (\$700) were sent to Churches United to pay for transportation for children and families and for activities that can't be funded from other sources.

New business

- a) *Follow Along Program:* No update because of flood-related work.
- b) *Mobile Crisis Grant:* Wilkin and Otter Tail pilots are up and running; because FirstLink is prioritizing flood-related calls, so neither of them has received calls from families. Only 2 ½ MH practitioners are left on the "on-call" list, so Beth will do some more recruiting. The next stakeholders meeting will be on April 30 from 1 – 2:30 at Lakeland in Moorhead with ITV hook-up to Otter Tail County.
- c) *Mental Health Month:* Shawna passed out information about the upcoming Children's Mental Health Fair and training series. Please post fliers at your agencies and distribute to

parents. They are also available on www.halfachild.com and www.claycountycollaborative.org. Booth spaces are full. Robert Wood Johnson site visit is still on for April 22, but may need to be rescheduled.

- d) *Website*: Carolyn has made some notes about additions. Lanette will send the document out to the group. Please make recommendations about links and other things you'd like to have added.
- e) *Meeting with Commissioners*: Still on for April 21. Carol noted that any information that should be sent out to the board with their packets should be in to Vicki (County Administrator's Office) by April 15.
- f) *Work plan*: The group looked over the work plan Carolyn developed based on our discussion last month. Karla noted that funding her position will remain a challenge after June 30, 2010. *A motion to approve the work plan and budget as presented passed unanimously.* (Carol/Beth)
- g) *Other*
 - a. Deb reminded the group of the *Federation fundraiser*: May 9 with Ogg Creek String Band, 7 – 9 p.m. at 1104 2nd Ave. S. (Johnson Activity Center) in Fargo.
 - b. April 9 and 23, noon – 1, FSC, meeting room 1: Book discussion of *In Their Own Words*. Books and lunch provided. Come to one or both sessions! Contact Dawn for more info.
 - c. April 14, 8:30 – 12:30, ITV room at the FSC: Next “Lessons from the Field” series on Multi-disciplinary interventions for autism. Register online at cmh.umn.edu or just come!

Next meeting is May 13 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40.