

Clay County Collaborative

Prevention & Early Intervention Problem-Solving Work Group Minutes

Tuesday, 22 February 2011 11:00– 11:45 a.m. Family Services Center, Room 1

In attendance: Shawna Croaker (Children's Consultation Network), Dawn Tommerdahl (Collaborative Coordinator)

Agency Updates

Shawna shared the following about the *Children's Consultation Network*:

- Hilton Garden Inn is tentatively set as the site for the Children's Mental Health Fair and training on May 5. NAMI trainer will come up Thursday evening (prior to their other Moorhead workshops). Shawna and the trainer are working out a two-hour session pulling information from the other workshops.
- CCN is sponsoring the free parent evening with Lisa Bravo on April 7, 7 p.m. at the Ramada in Fargo.
- Social-emotional screening's going well. Watch for expansion coming in the near future – to WIC Clinic in March (after switch in ID numbers has been completed).
- A pilot screening just started at Our Redeemer childcare in Moorhead.
 - A letter will be sent to parents to get their permission.
 - On a certain day, classroom teachers will do the screening for each child whose parents gave permission to be screened.
 - Parents will be invited to do the screening for their child, too.
 - Parents will be notified if the screening shows a red flag about social-emotional or behavioral issues that might need further attention.
 - Jody is working with a number of childcare centers to make environmental changes based on social-emotional issues (such as routines, consistency, scheduling, behavior management, positive reinforcement).

Dad-related

- Update on *fathers of young children* group

Tom was unable to attend the meeting today, but he sent the following update:

We have had a good start to this round of meetings. At the first meeting, we discussed "What is a father?" and had 3 dads present. We had our second meeting last week and had four dads present and another who called and said he couldn't come because of work." One of the new dads at this meeting was referred by First Choice Clinic. Our topic that evening was "Discipline." Had a very good discussion on the topic of the evening right up to 8:00 and could have kept going even longer! Our topic of discussion on February 24 will be "Father's Rights" with Anne Hofgren (Legal Aid of MN) coming in to talk with the dads and answer their questions. Anne has come in to every group I've had and does an outstanding job!

I want to say thank you to all members of the Collaborative for their continued interest and support of the "Fathers of Young Children" support group. Thank you for spreading the word of the group by mouth, by fliers, whatever. I have really appreciated all the materials for fathers to take home with them, too. The interest shown in the group is a clear sign that this group is needed in our area. Without the members of the board, we wouldn't have the successful group we have. Thank you!

Tom Thoreson

If ever any member of the Collaborative has a question about what we are doing in the group or whatever, please feel free to contact me by e-mail tomjant@hotmail.com or by phone 287-4396 or 218-841-8837.

- *Fatherhood Leadership Circle:* Several work group members have attended conference calls with Pat Krauth (MFFN) to get the Leadership Circle up and going. At the last call, we decided that the meetings around MFFN and the Leadership Circle would replace our regular work group meetings for the time being. Plans are well underway for the first Fatherhood Leadership Circle event on March 3. Joe Kelly aka The Dad Man (<http://thedadman.com>) will present “Fatherhood 101.” He comes highly recommended as a dynamic and knowledgeable speaker. He has also written several books, blogs and articles on dad-related topics (see his website for more information). In the afternoon, a smaller group (8-20 people) will meet to do some assessment that will guide our planning for the remainder of the year. Please let Dawn know if you (or someone from your agency) are interested in attending the afternoon session! The Parent Involvement Committee will provide a continental breakfast for the morning session and cookies for the afternoon session. Moorhead ECFE is paying to rent the space at Trinity Lutheran. Thank you to these community partners for providing these resources!

Other

- FY12 work plan: The Collaborative’s Administrative Group meets tomorrow to approve FY12 work plans and budgets. The Parent Involvement Committee has added \$1500 to its training/education line to support the group for fathers of young children and the Fatherhood Leadership Circle. One of that work group’s goals is to provide training that leads to more effective communication between parents and professionals.

Next meeting: March 3 – a.m. Fatherhood 101, p.m. Fatherhood Leadership Circle planning session at Trinity Lutheran Church (Christian Life Center), Moorhead

Remaining dates for FY11: As needed in conjunction with Fatherhood Leadership Circle planning/coaching

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tommerdahl
Clay County Collaborative