

## TIP FY08 Report & FY09 Work Plan

**Name of Project:** Truancy Intervention Program

**Risk Factor(s) Being Addressed:** Preventing Out of Home Placement

**Priority Need(s) Being Addressed:** Attendance and Truancy Issues in School

**Name of Focus Group That Identified the Need:** Prevention and Early Intervention

**Name of Agency Managing LCTS Grant:** The Village Family Service Center

**Name of Person Preparing the Report:** Jose Sanchez, Coordinator

**Today's Date:** June 19, 2009

**Dates of Report:** April 1, 2009 through May 31, 2009

### PART I

#### DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF CHILDREN SERVED

##### Number This Quarter by Gender

Male: 1, 455  
Female: 1,190  
Total: 2,645

##### Numbers Year to Date by Gender

Male: 1, 455  
Female: 1,190  
Total: 2,645

##### Numbers This Quarter by Race

Native American: 245  
Asian: 21  
Hispanic: 448  
Black: 280  
White: 1,754  
Total: 2,748

##### Numbers Year to Date by Race

Native American: 245  
Asian: 21  
Hispanic: 448  
Black: 280  
White: 1, 754  
Total: 2,748

##### Number This Quarter Grade Level

K-5: 1,486  
6-8: 193  
9-12: 965  
Total: 2,644

##### Number Year to Date Grade Level

K-5: 1,486  
6-8: 193  
9-12: 965  
Total: 2,644

## **PART II: Outcomes**

The Truancy Intervention Program was designed to provide early intervention by identifying students who exhibit signs of truancy or attendance issues. The project will provide services, which will enhance attendance monitoring and improve contact with parents/guardians. Meetings with the students and their families are conducted and an intervention plan is developed to address the identified issues and risk factors. Referrals may be made for additional services or educational adjustments. The goals of this early intervention include increasing student attendance, maintaining or decreasing the number of referrals to the juvenile justice system and increasing the number of students referred for mental and chemical health assessments or other types of intervention.

Two measurable objectives will be monitored to determine the effectiveness of this program during the school year. The first objective is to maintain the current rate of absences for all students in Clay County. In the past this program has monitored only unexcused absences, thus we will have no comparable information and this will be our baseline year. This data will be unexcused, excused periods and unexcused, excused days for all schools in Clay County. Attendance information gathered this year will be higher than in past years due to this change. The average days missed in the Moorhead elementary schools was 1,366 days. Horizon Middle School students missed 2,643 periods and 435 days. Moorhead High students missed 10,047 periods and 3,258 days. Red River Area Learning Center students missed 1,822 periods and 347 days. The Greater County schools missed 1,814 periods and 409 days (this is high schools and middle schools) at the elementary level 132.5 days missed. These numbers are for the past three months of the program-School Year 2008-2009.

The second objective is to maintain the number of court referrals for truancy. An average of 31 petitions have been filed over the past four years with the TIP. This year the program filed on 34 students this is a little higher than the past years, but our program looks at the court is not always a negative and should not be viewed as failure. In some cases it takes the court's intervention for students and families to take school attendance seriously and to follow through with getting the help they need. We also have about thirty (30) students on with Clay County Probation.

Other objectives that the program monitored this year, was looking at all the 2008-2009 seniors that the truancy program worked with, out of 374 seniors the program worked with 108 seniors that graduated from Moorhead High School. We will monitor this data next year to see how this year senior (2009-2010) class will do.

## **PART III: Other**

### **Briefly describe any difficulties or problems you have had in implementing the project.**

Filling the position at the outer county schools, worked out great, but we will be losing our county worker next year. She will be moving. Now the problem for next year will be, if we fill her position. We will need to wait for the end of the year budget to see how much carry over is left. So, at this point we are looking to have 4 employees with Truancy Intervention Program (2009-2010 school year). This staff will need to cover all of Clay County Schools.

**Explain how the service/program has been collaborating with community partners.**

The Truancy Program collaborates with school personnel and administration on a daily basis due to being located in the schools and sharing information about students and families. We also work with social services, probation, law enforcement and mental health agencies within the county. By knowing students and families we can work together to address attendance concerns or other concerns that are affecting attendance.

*Staff this quarter: place of work(2008-2009 school year)*

Kyle Geaumont- Outer County/ Moorhead High School

Laura Carr- All the Moorhead Elementary Schools

Michael Ochoa- Horizon Middle School

Jose Sanchez- Moorhead High School/Coordinator

Stacy Nielsen- Red River Area Learning Center (RRALC)

**PART IV: Additional Comments**

This year the Truancy Program has made slight alterations in their approach due to feedback received from collaborative partners. In the past we have invited families to CAMP (County Attorney Mediation Program) only if it looks as if the student may be referred to court. This year we are inviting them earlier in hopes that it will deter further absences as well as get families, especially those that we have not successfully been able to contact, involved. Hearing the possible consequences of truancy from the County Attorney sometimes gets the attention of students and families more than hearing it from the family advocates in the program.

**PART V: Budget**

**Dawn Tommerdahl(coordinator-clay county collaborative) will fill out the budget info., with the help of The Village reports.**

## PART V: FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>Category</b>	<b>Approved program budget</b>	<b>Accrued cumulative expenditures year-to-date</b>
Personnel	96,063	130,817
Benefits	22,525	19,481
Contracted Services	13,400	2428
Telephone	1675	870
Travel	3350	2517
Training	1340	140
Supplies	503	1004
Advertising	503	450
Administration (8%)	11,186	12,439
Equipment	670	586
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151,215</b>	<b>170,732</b>