

FAMILY RESOURCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—November 3, 2008

Present were: Sue Sleezer, DHHS Children & Family Services Unit Manager; Elden Dallman, County Board/Health & Human Services Board; Gail Olson, Consumer; Jeri Higgins, Faith Representative; Gretchen Malkowsky, CCS/CST Care Manager; Kathy Munsey, DHHS Health Unit Manager; Jan Hauer, Green Lake Schools; LeRoy Dissing, DHHS Deputy Director; Marian Sommerfeldt, Child Care Community Rep.; Mike Maslowski, CCS Consumer; Marge Bostelmann, Green Lake County Clerk; Tony Beregszazi, ADVOCAP Inc.; Connie Anderson, Parent; Jean Richter, ADVOCAP Headstart; Tammy R. Smith, Parent; Julia Smith, Parent; Linda Van Ness, DHHS Director; Fern Engel, Community Representative; Dan Priske, County Board; James A Warriner, CCS Consumer

Certification of Open Meeting Law: The requirements of the Open Meeting Law have been met.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:55 a.m. by Sommerfeldt.

Appearances/Introductions: Introductions of members were made.

Approval of Agenda: After discussion, Anderson made a motion to approve the amended agenda to include "Alternate Response Grant". Maslowski-second. All ayes. Motion carried.

Action on Minutes: After discussion, Dallman made a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/2/08 meeting. Maslowski-second. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None.

DISCUSSION ON PROGRAMS/POLICIES:

Family Support:

Sleezer reported regarding the Family Support Program. Sleezer reported that the Family Support Program has served 13 children's plans. Two families have moved out of the county and did not use their budgeted amount. Three families had children that transitioned to Family Care. Two children are receiving funding through Children's Waiver. Through these changes, new families from the waiting list are being served with these funds. Sleezer reported that there have been 11 new children's referrals for Long Term Support services. Of these 11, there are 6 new referrals to the Family Support Program funding.

Sleezer reported that there has been one emergency use of funding for a child this summer. Braille instruction was provided so that the child would not fall behind since the school did not qualify her for summer funding. It was questioned if this would need to be ongoing funding each summer. Sleezer will check into this and let Committee members know.

Birth-Three: Munsey updated Committee members regarding the Birth-Three program.

Munsey reported that the State Birth to 3 Program under the direction of the Office of Special Education (OSEP) has begun issuing annual determinations on the performance of each early intervention program. The determination is based on the performance on compliance indicators (listed in the first column of the chart) as well as valid, reliable and timely data, non-compliances and audits. We recently received our determination for FFY 2006-2007 and we awarded the determination of “meeting requirements” (see certificate). The other determinations are needs assistance, needs intervention or needs substantial intervention.

Munsey reported that this month, Birth to 3 will begin using a new data collection system called PPS (Program Participation System). This system will be more user friendly than the old system called HSRS for data collection. It will ensure the State easy access to the data they need in monitoring our compliance on the federal indicators. It will also be linked with DPI, (The Department of Public Instruction) and will streamline our notification and referrals we make from our program to the local school districts.

Coordinated Services Team (CST)/Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Update:

Sleezer explained the Coordinated Services Team (CST) that the funding lapsed last year. The program has been continuing on an informal basis. Sleezer reported that two cases are on teams through Targeted Case Management and two teams that has on attached funding and one team is county funded.

Dissing reported that he attended a recent Integrated Service Program (ISP)/CST Directors’ meeting in Stevens Point. One of the afternoon breakout sessions discussed the similarities and differences between CST and CCS. Both are very team focused and consumer driven. CST is more process oriented but CCS requires more assessment domains to be addressed than CST. Dissing passed out a schematic that shows the overlap between CST/CCS and Targeted Case Management (TCM). The schematic shows CST as the primary focus for case decision making and service delivery with the other two programs viewed as funding sources. Discussion was held on how the assessment and case planning for all programs could be “blended” so only one would need to be completed that met the requirements for all.

Dissing also reported that bill AB700 will likely be introduced in the next biennial budget for consideration. This bill provides 1.4 million dollars to ongoing funding to 44 counties that utilize the CST approach. The legislative subcommittees have been unanimous in their support of CST because it has shown to reduce costly out of home care for children.

Malkowsky reported that currently there are 11 participants in the CCS program. Malkowsky reported that two individuals have recently been discharged, one has moved out-of-county, and one individual has met the goals. Malkowsky reported that 3-4 potential participants need to be assessed for services.

Malkowsky reported that in July a weekly training program was initiated to help CCS members become peer support volunteers. In order to be a volunteer, there needs to be at least 40 hours of training required in several different areas to help to interact with these peers. Discussion followed.

Van Ness reported to Committee members regarding the potential for children's resource center pilots, meaning a single point of entry for services. Discussion followed. There might be the possibility of piloting such a program in which Green Lake County would consider implementing.

Alternate Response Grant: Sleezer reported to Committee members regarding a grant received for a prevention program for child abuse/neglect. Sleezer reported that in a six-month period, 180 unduplicated families were served through this program.

Sleezer reported what constitutes a family/individual being referred to the Alternative Response program: parenting concerns, inadequate supervision of children, medical concerns, home environment concerns, past history of CPS referrals, etc.

Sleezer reported that there is a single point of access for the Children & Families Unit in both counties to determine if this would go to the Community Response program or through the traditional child abuse/neglect services. Discussion followed regarding the procedure initially meeting with the parents and explaining all of the resources available. Connections are made with other services in the community. Sleezer explained the flexible funding which is used through this program. Discussion followed.

Sleezer reported that Green Lake/Marquette Counties received an extra \$20,000 flex funding to utilize by families involved in the Community Response program.

Sleezer reported that Respite funds have been received each year to supplement this program.

Sleezer reported that a survey is completed by the families at the end of the program to be sent to the State to evaluate the program. Sleezer reported that gift cards are being provided for those that successfully complete the surveys.

Resource Sharing:

Beregszazi reported regarding the Green Lake Literacy council changing relationship and trying to empower them to take the lead on literacy and be in a more support level of assistance. Father Read/Mother Read and sub-contract with funds from a grant received to fulfill such a program.

Beregszazi reported that Witkowski is focusing on the Volunteer programs.

Beregszazi reported on additional programs:

- Weatherization program- the model of weatherization is changing (from # of homes 400 per year) focus is on high energy users. High energy consuming properties are evaluated and solutions are found to reduce the cost of the energy.
- New partnerships with counties on emergency furnace replacement program.
- Employment and training, operate for low-income adult training through Fox Valley Workforce Development Board and also will be doing dislocated person program. There are some targeted dollars for these programs.
- Project Independence – targeted to victims of domestic abuse transitional housing. Training resources to help with job development for employment

Beregszazi reported that the Skills Enhancement program is being utilized again. The focus is on low-income individuals who are working part-time. Funding is providing for training/education to get better paying jobs.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP is the lead agency for a number of organizations for services to refugees. The funding has been reduced in this area. There has been an increase in "Road to Work" dollars because of success in that program.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP has applied for grant through WETAP, (Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program), helping low-income individuals purchase low-income vehicles. Beregszazi explained the process of how this program works.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP is re-funded to assist first time home buyers with down payment, closing costs and rehab of the property. The funds are no-interest and are paid back to ADVOCAP when the home is no longer their primary residence. ADVOCAP also has loan funds to help existing home owners to rehab their properties to bring them up to housing quality standards.

Richter reported that Headstart Prairie View is full with children on a waiting list.

Richter reported to Committee members that there are Rural Women's Circle Groups have been initiated in Berlin which meet monthly. Richter explained that there is usually a theme for discussion at the meetings and that one individual gets "the floor" at a time. The next Berlin meeting will be held November 21, 2008 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Berlin ADVOCAP Center. There will be a group meeting held in Markesan at Prairie View - Headstart on November 14, 2008 from 1:00-2:00 p.m..

Higgins reported that Helping Hearts that in addition to their normal collections, they are collecting hats/mittens/boots.

Sommerfeldt reported that she recently attended a summit in Fond du Lac on infant and childhood mental health. Sommerfeldt reported that there is an Alliance for infant and childhood mental health which provides educational information. Sommerfeldt reported that Fond du Lac is one of three counties that is receiving funding from the State. Discussion followed.

Smith reported that the Playground Committee is getting ready to start fund-raising for the project. Discussion followed. Smith explained to Committee members that beside the handicapped accessible playground equipment there will be new hiking paths, bird watching stations/feeders; Frisbee golf course and possibly a new bathroom. Committee members will be updated.

Anderson questioned whether the Committee needed to have election of officers. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting if needed.

Current Issues: No discussion.

Future Meeting Date: The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2009

Future Agenda Items for Action/Discussion: Coordinated Services Team Update, CCS update

Adjournment: Motion made by Beregszai to adjourn, seconded by Maslowski. All ayes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.