

## Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative

[www.otfsc.org](http://www.otfsc.org)

Working Together...

Serving Families

... Improving Lives

## Minutes of the CEO Group Meeting

January 31, 2011 Noon – 2 PM

Thumper Pond, Ottertail City

**Non-Profit Agency, County Departmental and Education Representatives of Member Organizations:** Allen Jensen (Ashby ISD #261-63); Shannon Erickson (Fergus Falls Area Special Ed Coop – 66); Clair Prody (Lakeland Mental Health Center-70); Norm Kolstad (Lakes Country Service Cooperative – 40); Gene Benson (Lutheran Social Service-70); Todd Cameron (New York Mills ISD #553- 48); Maureen Kenney (Northern Connections-22); David Hauser (OTC Attorney's Office-66); Diane Thorson (OTC Public Health-40); Kyle Mack (Prairie-St. John's- 150); Chuck Kitzman (OTC Probation – 40); John Dinsmore & Doug Huebsch (OTC Human Services-82); Davis Leino-Mills (OTWCAC – 32); Kelly Olson (The Village-125); Jeremy Olson & Lisa Carlson (Underwood ISD #550-80); Judy Moeller (Parkers Prairie ISD #547-60); and Mary Phillippe (United Way of OTC-60). **Contracted staff:** Jane Patrick (Collaborative Coordinator)

1. Chair Davis Leino-Mills began the meeting. Davis is the new chair for 2011 from the non-profit sector replacing John Dinsmore from the county sector. A round of introductions was made.
2. Davis requested that the school partners caucus to nominate and elect a replacement to the Trio since Todd Cameron's membership is now expired. The school partners met briefly and reported that they had nominated Jerry Ness from the Fergus Falls Public Schools to serve on the Trio for the next three year period of January 2011 – December 2014. Since Jerry was not in attendance, the group requested that Jane check with Jerry to see if he will accept this appointment. A report will be made back at the next meeting.
3. Davis requested a motion for approval of the November 1, 2010 CEO Group minutes which were posted on the Collaborative website. **MOTION:** Approval of the minutes of the November 1, 2010 meeting as prepared. (J. Dinsmore/G. Benson/Carried)
4. The group shared Opportunities for Collaboration including:
  - Mary Phillippe gave an update on the status of the Feed the Hunger Backpack Program. Work on individual community programs has expanded and has nearly reached completion since the time of the last meeting. Seven districts have started the program and Underwood will be starting on February 4. Ashby should not be far behind. At the present time, a total of 182 Otter Tail County students are receiving supplemental food in their backpacks to eat at home on the weekends and extended school breaks. Mary also reported that the Friends of Friends Fighting Hunger annual event was held last weekend on January 29<sup>th</sup> and we should learn shortly if they have reached their fundraising goal of \$75,000. You may recall that Friends of Friends committed at least \$10,000 to this project to be used throughout the county as needed to fund Backpack programs. Jane noted that in November, we received notification from the Lutheran Community Foundation that the Collaborative was awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,000. In October, we discussed the possibility that if received, this funding could potentially be designated to the county-wide Backpack Program efforts. **MOTION:** To recommend to the Executive Council to designate these additional funds to the Backpack Program (J. Dinsmore/T. Cameron/Carried (12 yes – 2 no).
  - Mary also reported that in an additional effort to end hunger in Otter Tail County, the United Way has approved four mobile food drops in 2011. They are hoping to also keep the human service program information piece in place, and are tentatively scheduling drops in March, June, September and December. Locations for the food drops will be Perham, Battle Lake, Fergus Falls and Pelican Rapids.
  - Jane reported on the recent School-based Dental Sealant Program RFP which could provide funding to support the development of a school-based dental sealant program. Three of the eight districts responded indicating some

interest. Jane will connect these partners with Apple Tree Dental to see what can be developed. If additional school districts are interest in participating, they should contact Jane as soon as possible.

- The Children's Mental Health LAC continues to extend their offer to provide presentations related to children's mental health throughout the county. In January three sessions were hosted at the Fergus Falls School for teachers and staff pertaining to bullying. The group discussed the potential for inviting someone to come to a future CEO Group meeting to learn more about work place bullying. Jane will try to find out more information about this sort of offering.
  - Todd reported that Tamara Uselman had been offered a position with the Bismarck School District. The group requested that Jane send a congratulation letter to Tamara on behalf of the Collaborative.
  - Diane Thorson provided an update about the fact that early childhood program oversight has been relocated to one state office of early learning. Diane also noted that Public Health is interested in exploring options for restructuring the early childhood screening process. Public Health will be connecting with individual districts about this topic soon.
  - Diane also reported on the Minnesota Health Care Outreach grant. A corrective action plan has been put in place by the State with the understanding that if we are not able to come into compliance with the grant requirements by March 31, 2011, they will be rescinding the grant allocation. 30 families have been enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs since the start of the grant in August.
5. The group discussed meeting with local legislators to update them about our Collaborative work and to make an introduction with our new senator Gretchen Hoffman. Maureen noted that they would be attending a meeting at Northern Connections on March 4<sup>th</sup> and thought the Collaborative could piggy-back on that meeting if members were available. The group created a tentative agenda for the meeting including:
- tour of Northern Connections, introduction to staff, and sharing of success stories about Northern Connections services provided (this will be for Northern Connections board members/staff and will not involved the Collaborative partners)
  - luncheon – introduction of Collaborative partners and overview of partnership with Northern Connections/Collaborative
  - overview of Collaborative programs, activities and successes to date
  - overview of challenges to collaboration, including examples of funded and unfunded mandates for partners and how they hinder collaboration
  - overview by partners of challenges they are facing due to past, present and future budget cuts
  - Q & A
6. Jane Patrick shared the current FY11 budget report. A total of \$179,330 has been received by the integrated fund since the start of the fiscal year on July 1. Total expenses have amounted to \$151,802, leaving a current fund balance of \$249,284.
7. John Dinsmore shared an update from the School-based Mental Health (SBMH) Work Group. The large SBMH Work Group met this morning prior to the CEO Group meeting to review 2010 annual data collected for the program, to finalize their FY11 future planning document and to draft a budget and work plan for FY11. Results of the 2010 data collected by SBMH staff working within the schools were also shared.
8. Jane referenced the report of the Early Childhood Work Group which was included in the Coordinator's Report. Program numbers for 2010 were included.
9. David Hauser shared updates and program numbers regarding the work of the Truancy Program, including updated numbers of students served by the County Attorney Mediation Program.
10. The meeting was adjourned by consensus. **The next CEO Group meeting has been set for Monday, March 7, 2011 at Noon in the Rush Lake-Walker Room at Thumper Pond.**