

Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative

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Working Together...

Serving Families

... Improving Lives

Children's Mental Health Local Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

11:30 AM -1PM July10, 2009

Otter Tail Lake Room, Government Services Center

Attendance: Jody Lien (OTC Public Health); Sarah Kampa (PATH-5); Jodi Wentland and Tammy Friederich (OTC Human Services); Sue Ewy (MN Dept. of Health- MCSHN – 5); Carrie Beithon (Community Representative); Beth Wallman Zimmerman (Children's Crisis Program Coordinator-5); Cori Brown (Head Start-3); and Jane Patrick (Collaborative Coordinator).

1. The meeting began with introductions. Sue Ewy agreed to chair the meeting.
2. The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed and approved by consensus. The group discussed follow-up from the April meeting including:
 - A review of the Windmill evaluation. A total of eight parents from Otter Tail County attended this year's retreat which was only half as many as last year. Sue indicated that overall attendance was also down. All families from OTC were very happy with the retreat and felt it was useful. Jane reported that she had received several thank you cards for the LAC and Service Coordination support to attend the retreat.
 - The group discussed the Adult LAC initiatives which were discussed earlier this spring. Jodi indicated that that SAVE training had not yet been scheduled but that she would let the group know once it had.
3. Jane Patrick reviewed the work group budget. Jane reported that total expenses for FY09 amounted to \$1,824. The unspent balance was returned to the integrated fund for the Collaborative to be redistributed to programs in FY10.
4. The group discussed the Brown Bag Lunch series.
 - Jane shared a summary of the May sessions which featured Carrie Beithon and her son. The evaluations and response to the information was extremely positive!! The group extended a big THANK YOU to Carrie and her son for their efforts.
 - Ideas were discussed for the September Brown Bag session. The group reviewed requests from the participants attending thus far. Sue suggested that Jane contact Maryjo Hoffer from Lakewood Health Systems to see if she would be available to give a presentation on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in September. The group also discussed hosting a session on the east side of the county and asked Jane to discuss this option with Maryjo Hoffer.
5. The group discussed parent involvement opportunities and ways to enhance parent and consumer involvement. The group discussed the possibility of inviting Theresa Carufel from the State Mental Health Advisory Council to attend their fall meeting to learn more about how other LACs have successfully implemented strong parent and consumer involvement. The group also

reviewed the draft letter which the Service Coordination/CTIC work group had created which generated significant interest from several community representatives. The group decided to prepare a draft letter but to wait until they were able to obtain some feedback from the State Mental Health Advisory Council on whether or not this was a recommended method of information sharing about the LAC. If a letter is developed, the group would distribute the information via mental health case managers at the county and at the schools, at the libraries, clinics and other places where families might be receiving services. The group also discussed that fact that in order to achieve consumer participation, it may require a meeting time which is more convenient to consumers. The group's goal and the state's recommendation is to have at least 60% of consumer participation on the group. Other suggestions included reinstating free lunches if the group decides to stay with a mid-day meeting time so consumers can at least have lunch if they are using a lunch hour from work to attend. The group also discussed creating a brochure to share more information about the LAC. Jodi will send Jane a copy of the adult brochure to see if this is something that can be modified for our use.

6. The group discussed work plan task #3 to participate in the biennial mental health plan. Jodi explained that this process was currently on hold due to funding unallotments by the State. The plan is a two-year plan that counties are required to submit which outlines how the county will allocate and spend their mental health dollars. Jodi will bring the draft proposal to the LAC once it is clear from the State what will be required. The plan is tentatively due on September 30th.
7. Updates include:
 - Beth Wallman Zimmerman shared an update on the Connecting Families First mobile crisis stabilization program. Pilot programs are up and running in Wilkin and Otter Tail Counties. Clay County is still in need of mental health practitioners to participate in the program. Beth explained that the program is looking at options for combining the adult and children's crisis program models in order for it to be more streamlined.
 - Lakeland Mental Health Center, Jodi and Tamara Uselman from Perham will be presenting at the fall mental health conference on school-based mental health programming. Thank you to Jodi and all for sharing information about our valuable program!
 - Jane reported that five of the eight Otter Tail County schools again have plans in place to provide school-based mental health programming in 2009-10. The three remaining districts are discussing options for implementing new programs at the start of the next school year. The Collaborative has approved \$75,000 in funding to support school-based mental health programming for next year.
 - Healthy youth activities – Jane reported that Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Fergus Falls is now opening up the parish residence house to teens during the week. Teens in grades 6-8 are welcome to come from 4-8 PM on Tuesday evenings and teens in grades 9 – 12 are invited to attend on Wednesday evenings. The parish house is located directly across the street from the OLV School doors on the south side of the building.
8. **The next meeting will be held from 11:30 AM - 1 PM on Friday, September 11, 2009, in the Otter Tail Lake Room at the Government Services Center in Fergus Falls.**