

Region 3 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday November 1, 2012 - 9:00am-12:00pm

In Attendance: Tim Bowles, Kym Banton, Janice Bendall, Dianne Breton, Rick Calvert, Emily Clarke, Aziza Clayton, Samantha Forbes, Corey Gartner, Nancy Gentes, Donna Grant, Lorna Grivois, Heather Hintz, Jon Jacaruso, Alana Jones, Allon Kalisher, Tim Kearney, Eileen Lader, Joann Maben, Bill Martin, Cindy McPherson, Jennifer Nadeau, Lisa Sedlock-Reider, Laureen Sheehan, Ann Slater, John Suchocki, Bonnie Tompkins, Vinnie Ward, Mary Lou Woynar and Ronni Zoback

Welcome and Introductions Alana Jones & Tim Bowles

Review of Minutes Alana Jones

- 07/12/12 meeting minutes approved with the following changes: Lorna now has the \$34.00 dollar gas cards for family members to use to attend meetings (the dollar amount needs to be changed to \$30.00).
- Emily Clarke was in attendance.

Gas Card Report Lorna Grivois

- Lorna is no longer an employee at LEARN and will refer gas card inquiries to Catherine O'Brien.
- It was agreed that the gas card deadlines would be extended application deadlines until the end of the calendar year, motion made and approved. Lorna will find out how many have been used to date.

DCF Update Allon Kalisher & DCF Leads

- The dashboard was reviewed.
- Laureen is still actively overseeing TDM, 3 social workers will be dedicated to continuing this work.
- Parole services have been integrated into the regions and will be looking to the adolescent workgroup for some input.
- Willimantic and Middletown continue their efforts to make connections with out-posting
- Jon is working with Ken Mysogland on fine tuning the FAST contract to reflect that the focus of the contract is not the child but the family.
- DCF is currently in negotiations on the MST PSB contract which has been awarded to NAFI. The program will have 12 slots that will cover region 3 and Manchester.
- WRAP expenditures are being reviewed to see how they can be utilized in place of residential placements.

Norwich Kyle Parkinson

- DRS is at full capacity with FAR referrals based on current staffing levels (not contract).
- Out-posting continues to work very well. Services can now be offered independent of agency involvement.
- DCF's Practice Model's Principles of Partnership is getting better entrenched in performance.
- Case plans continue to do well.
- Redesigning some internal meetings to involve families in decision making.

Early Childhood

Eileen Lader

- Have started JRB's in the northeast corner.
- Focus on what services can really be measured.
- Requested some representation from Willimantic to join the group.

Education/Middle Childhood

Donna Grant

- Discussing barriers and conflicts with the department and the school systems. The needs of the department must be understood by the schools and vice versa.
- Would like to take part in meetings with Abby and Laura from the Juvenile Justice Alliance.
- Membership has fluctuated, need to get a group that is committed.

Foster Care/Kinship/Adoption

Jon Jacaruso

- Identified the focus of the group to be meeting the physical and emotional needs of kids in the home and how to measure them.
- Look at all connections to a kid, will use genograms.

Systems

Jon Jacaruso/Laureen Sheehan

- Made the decision to sit in on the other workgroups with the purpose being to serve the other groups.
- Will create a database of information on what is available for services and systems and determine if they fulfill the need and identify gaps.

Community Reports

Middletown

- The Area Advisory Council has reduced their frequency of meeting to every other month on the off month of RAC.
- They now have community support workers however one has already resigned. This was a state worker that took the job with CHR but when offered her job back she took it.

Norwich

- At the last NAC meeting health and wellness was discussed.
- They are looking at vicarious trauma.
- Concentrating on a membership drive.

Willimantic

- Trying to create an early childhood collaborative.
- Was awarded a grant for trauma focused CBT, will create a screening tool
- Will work on how to safely identify when a child is ready to address trauma.
- There will be a meeting on January 16, 2012 at The Lord Thompson Manor about Triple P. National people will be there to speak. If anyone is interested in attending you can contact Donna Grant at dgrant@teegonline.org.
- Child First Early Intervention is up and running in Windham, Putnam, Plainfield and Killingly.

Next Steps

- Put on paper what your RBA framework is.
- At the next meeting each group to provide a template of an RBA draft.
- Be aware of how to incorporate work that has already been done so as to not reinvent the wheel.