

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 19, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Sara Barron, Laura Cherone, Kathy Duffek, Pam Groh, Darlene Johnson, Lindsay Just, Conrad Lynstra, Maura McMahon, Lauren Miller, Holly Norkofski, Luke Pinion, Diane Ripple, John Schiraj, Dianne Susitti, Karen Villarreal, Lauren Miller

**STAFF PRESENT:** Danielle Birdeau, Bridget Gnadt, Kathy Mullooly, Sara Schmalz, Casey Vullings, Linda Wetzel

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 MEETING**

A motion was made by Darlene Johnson, seconded by Pam Groh, to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2017 CAFSAC meeting.

**BOARD LIAISON UPDATE**

Darlene Johnson, Board Supervisor indicated there were no new updates at this time.

**COORDINATED SERVICES TEAM UPDATE (CST) (Danielle Birdeau)**

Danielle Birdeau, Crisis Services & Coordinated Services Team Supervisor gave an update on the CST. The Children's Partnerships for Mental Health Committee is meeting on October 26, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Health and Human Services building in Room 114. The educational segment will be Narcan/Naloxone training. Birdeau will provide CST and CCS updates and the floor will be available to other agencies wanting to share updates. Any agency wanting to be added to the mailing list can send her their email address and will receive notification of future meetings.

Birdeau introduced Sara Schmalz, the new Senior Mental Health Counselor. Schmalz will be working in the Outpatient Clinic with children and families who have Settlement Agreements or Chapter 51 Commitments.

**SPECIAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE (Casey Vullings)**

Casey Vullings is the Children's Long Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Program and Children's Community Options Program (CCOP) Supervisor through Lutheran Social Services (LSS). SSAC meets quarterly. The committee is comprised of program staff, parents in the community and community partners (school districts, providers, etc.). The purpose of the committee allows communication to the providers and families about changes in the program, and also to hear from them about needs and challenges that they face which assist in adjustments in program services.

The CLTS Waiver program and CCOP will be undergoing future changes. Currently the CLTS Waiver program in Waukesha County has a Wait List of over 400 children waiting for funding sources for services. With the recent passing of Governor Walker's 2018 budget he has set aside

funding over the next 2 years to eliminate the Wait List Statewide. The program will be removing 400 children from the Wait List and will provide services to them which will entail adding more staff to assist in providing those services. This affects CCOP funding which has served the families on the Wait List. During the last SSAC meeting there was discussion regarding how different CCOP will look in the future. After valuable input from the families and providers it was decided that the program will continue to send out the yearly surveys to all families on the Wait List even if they may get Waiver services before CCOP. Vullings stated that by doing this they will continue to have a better understanding from the families regarding what they are experiencing personally in their families and what services are needed for them.

Vullings also mentioned that they continue to work on recruiting parents to attend SSAC utilizing email notifications and flyers to make them aware of educational topics and speakers and the importance of their voices that assist in program changes.

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES (Bridget Gnad)**

Bridget Gnad, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Department of Health and Human Services explains what the Department is doing to prepare for disasters/events. Gnad discussed the different themes and trends in the community. The numbers of disasters and emergency events are increasing and becoming more severe. The aging population brings a new set of challenges in emergency preparedness such as functional and access needs and according to the 2010 US Census 1 in 5 people were self-reported as having some type of disability. Cultural diversity and growing preparedness mandates also affect the challenges.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid have a new requirement called the CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule. This requires 17 different types of providers who receive CMS money to be in compliance with this Preparedness Rule, they must have an emergency preparedness plan, and complete an All Hazards Risk Assessment for their facility and the community. They also need to train their staff in emergency preparedness as well as conduct a minimum of two exercises each year; one can be facility based and the other needs to have community involvement. One being a full scale functional exercise where they are practicing plans and the other a table top discussion, that they would discuss how they would implement their plans.

There are 17 different facilities affected such as dialysis centers, home health care, etc. and in Waukesha County government this effects the Waukesha County Inpatient Mental Health Center. They do not receive hospital preparedness funding and are now required to follow the mandate. Hospitals that have received hospital preparedness funding throughout the years have had these requirements already in place.

The Public Health Department receives money from CDC for preparedness funding. There are two main sources of funding; one is that we are a suburb of Milwaukee, and Milwaukee is a major city and is at higher risk for terrorism attacks. Money received are for specific types of threats through the grant, and the other is from a general preparedness fund.

Gnad shared a video made for Health & Human Services staff by staff regarding what is expected of staff and the roles they will play in emergency preparedness. Staff were also

provided with information summarizing the types of responses that HHS is responsible for such as Sheltering, Mass Clinics, Reunification Centers, Family Assistance Centers and reminded people that they will not be in the trenches clearing debris, directing traffic, etc. Also provided is staff education, exercising plans, community education, and collaborating with community partners.

How can others get involved:

- Participate on the Waukesha County FAST Team
- Register on the Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry
- Join the Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC Region 7)
- Join the Waukesha Area Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
- Volunteer to help with preparedness exercises
- Take FEMA courses online at <https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx>

The FAST (Functional Assessment Service Team): Groups in shelters will talk with clients to see if they have a special need to maintain their independence and function as well as possible in an emergency shelter situation.

WEAVR (Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry): Affiliate with a County, Region or State. You can be deployed for emergencies based on geographical preferences. It is geared towards medical professionals such as doctors, nurses, home care, behavioral health, veterinarians, etc.), however not exclusive to medical professionals

### **PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES (PSSF) PRESENTATIONS (Kathleen Mullooly & Team)**

Reports are received from agencies that receive funding from the PSSF Federal Grant that is passed through the State. It is to support, preserve, and reunify families if those families are divided for Child Protective reasons. Our agencies that come to CAFSAC are the recipients of those funds.

BIRTH TO THREE (Linda Wetzel):

Linda Wetzel, Program Manager for the Birth to Three and Early Intervention Services at Lutheran Social Services. LSS contracts with Waukesha County to administer the Birth to Three, Developmental Screening, and Trauma Informed Care for At-Risk Preschoolers program.

A part of the Child Protective Services Capta Law is that when children under the age of 3 have a substantiated finding of abuse or neglect are required to be referred to the Birth to Three program for developmental screening and possible enrollment. To qualify for services the child needs to show 25% delay so there is criteria for the program. Some referrals received for abuse and neglect would screen out okay but even though there were risk factors they typically did not reach the 25% delay criteria and they were unable to assist them. Birth to Three staff and HHS

management discussed this issue and wanted to serve the “most at risk” for developmental delay and started the Trauma Informed Care At-Risk Program for Preschoolers. Children that are ages 5 and under who have been placed in out-of-home care are served. This is a home visiting program designed to provide support to the caregivers which include the foster parents, biological parents, and the professionals that work on the case.

The Birth to Three team have child development and family systems experience and the understanding of physiology and neurology and how trauma and stress influence development and influence caregiving systems. The overall goal is to build resiliency among the children and families in order to promote developmental skills and to help them learn.

Currently they serve approximately 29 children. This is a voluntary program for foster parents and biological parents and they try to offer support when they are ready to be involved. The program is providing education to help caregivers understand what may be going on inside the child when they are showing poor behaviors. A child’s behavior is communication. In looking at the child’s developmental skills there are 14 different skill levels to look at to get an understanding of where the child is at. Children with trauma history have skills that are at different levels and their communication level is typically low. Quality of language helps them understand their emotions and get their feelings across to others. Pre-academic skills can also be affected when they do not learn high level skills.

Supporting the families, working on reunification with the biological parents, and giving information that is helpful and useful will assist to move the parents forward to get the children back in their care.

#### PARENTS PLACE (Kathy Duffek)

Parents Place provides service to a broad range of families from a variety of different walks of life and issues. One of the programs that the PSSF Federal Grant monies has been beneficial for is a program for parents with children with special needs. The children in these groups have a broad range of special needs. The parents meet in one group and the children meet in another. Many of the children are bullied and ostracized because of their disabilities and Parents Place is somewhere for them to go and be with friends and have fun. The program offers guest speakers such as therapists who discuss anti-bullying techniques, social skills, OT, self-regulation, creativity, anxiety & depression. Strong willed children, mindfulness, and triple parenting are also skills and support that the parents and caregivers receive.

Parents Place also provide programs for Spanish Speaking Families. They are doing this in collaboration with other agencies and organizations in Waukesha. There is a part-time bi-lingual worker who offers translation for Parents Place. She manages a play group for Spanish speakers and allows the parents, caregivers and children to get together and discuss what is happening in their lives. They have also provided Love and Logic and Anger in the Family programs along with an 8-week Nutrition program in Spanish. During the summer they have monthly fun-in-the park with ice cream socials, story time, and field trips to the Waukesha Public Library who also offer many materials in Spanish.

There is a large multi-cultural event (Block Party) that occurs once a year which took place this year on September 16th. The emphasis is on Spanish speaking families but it is a diverse event and has grown each year. It is now a collaboration of UW-Extension, the Waukesha Public Library, the Literacy Council, and Parents Place.

#### PARENTS PLACE SUPERVISED VISITATION (Lauren Miller)

At Parents Place supervised visits continue to grow. Through July of this year they have served 101 parents and 130 children in the County. They average approximately 60 hours a week of direct contact in supervision with the families. They are building services by having families come to visits using informal supports and increasing time between the biological parent and their children when the children are in out-of-home care. Through the PSSF grant they are able to serve an additional 3 families a week. Through September 2017 with the grant alone they were able to serve 12 families. The program continues to grow and they continue to promote more time to build relationships and offer services so that parents can see their children as often as they can allow.

#### SAFE BABIES HEALTHY FAMILIES/EASTER SEALS (Karen Villarreal)

SBHF/ES are a home visiting program working with families prenatally until 5 years old. The two biggest goals are breaking the cycle of abuse and getting the children school ready. Many of the families they assist are high risk and high need. A case manager works with the family from beginning to end which allows them to assist with trauma, mental health, AODA, Domestic Violence and other risk factors.

Outcomes for 2016: 99% of children free of abuse and neglect after entering the program. 177 Waukesha families were served. They also provide services in Milwaukee and Walworth Counties. Of those families 91% of them had healthy births outcomes and weighed above 5.5 pounds. All families are screened for postpartum depression (screened multiple times), until the child is 1-year old. 94 families were screened, and 42 had positive screens. Of the 42 families, 20 were receiving services with a counselor. All children are screened for ASQ developmental screens and are screened often; there were 184 screens for the target child since the beginning of 2017. If they score in a concerning area they are referred to Birth to Three.

#### LAD LAKE (Kathy Mullooly)

Lad Lake is providing mentoring services for juveniles who are still living in their homes. Many of the juveniles have some very extreme behaviors and tough emotional issues. Some parents are traumatized because they are trying to raise a juvenile with extreme behavioral issues and keep them in their home, and often with other children involved. Having a team of social workers with them is helpful and we have been partnering with Lad Lake to assist in that.

A part of the PSSF fund supports foster parents providing monthly events such as picnics and zoo trips. Implementing a monthly event helps County foster parents feel more like a community. Being a foster parent can be isolating at times with the extreme behaviors of the child. Not being able to communicate with other parents about a van picking up the child for

visitation or the child not being able to leave the state to visit grandparents, so having a connection with other foster parents is supportive.

At this time Waukesha County is low on foster homes. At any one time there are less than 10 beds available and often require specifics such as; not a bed for teenagers, or cannot place a sibling group of three. It can be challenging when children continue to need placement. At this time we are recruiting for more foster homes and there is a statewide sponsored recruitment event. This event gives technical tools and trainings across the state to target recruitment of families. Waukesha is a large County and keeping children in their school districts is important but can be challenging when there may not be a foster parent available in the child's specific district.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE/VOTE

Lindsay Just, CAFSAC Chair discussed the addition of two new members. Diane Ripple reached out to the City of Waukesha Police Department however because it is their community policing unit and they rotate every two years they do not want to submit the officers name for membership at this time. They will talk to the police chief to see if they may be able to still get an officer to attend meetings however they would not be a voting member.

Darlene Johnson sent a referral for Rob Jadrnicek, Mukwonago Police and Fire Chaplain. Lindsay has not heard back from him at this time. Inquiries were made regarding Judge Kathryn Foster and possibly looking to the new Juvenile Court Judge, Lloyd Carter or possibly Judge Domina to join the committee. Diane Ripple offered to contact Laura Cherone to make contact with Judge Foster.

Sara Barron reached out to Emily Enockson from Zachariah's Acres. Emily has a prior Thursday morning commitment and may not be able to attend CAFSAC meetings.

Danielle Birdeau suggested that the agencies receive the standing position which allows the agency to vote at the meeting but if you need to send a representative to the meeting because the primary cannot attend it allows the agency to maintain a vote and the committee to maintain their quorum. The standing position is the agency but have a primary contact and can send someone in place when necessary. Birdeau also suggested for the membership list, adding "interested parties". They can receive communications but they do not have to be a voting member. It also allows new agencies to come on board and decide if they would like to continue and possibly become a member.

Voting took place on the current membership of the 2015-2017 members continuing their terms to 2019. Luke Pinion was added from the City of Waukesha School District. There was also discussion regarding the Board Liaison. Darlene Johnson can be added to the membership list but at this time not as a voting member because she is on the Board Committee and was not a Board Member. Adele Revoy & Adam her assistant from Drug Free Communities Coalition will also be added as members.

Pam Groh moved to approve the current list, and Karen Villarreal seconded.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

John Schiraj noted from Drug Free Communities that October 28 is Drug Take Back Day if you want to turn in unused prescriptions.

Diane Ripple wanted to acknowledge the passing of Mary Hennis from the Women's Center who was a big influence in Waukesha County on Domestic Violence. There will be a celebration of her life and work on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Pam Groh moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Karen Villarreal at 10:10 a.m.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 271 of the Human Services Center, 514 Riverview Avenue.

November 16, 2017

**APPROVED**

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mireya Casarrubias & Tammy Kokan*