

SPECIAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 19, 2015
Waukesha County DHHS – Room 114
12:00 – 1:30 PM

Members Present: Sara Barron, Kim Coronado, Jane DeGeorge, Jason Gahan, Wendy Heyn, Patrick Jauquet, Murrene Payton, Jennifer Siderits, and Bonnie Siegel

Members Absent: Jennifer Bertram, Eden Christman, Amy Elfner, Emily Enockson, Lisa Fusco, Missy Kueht-Becker, and Ann Shurte

DHHS Liasons Present: Chelsee Bates, Dan Borchardt, Emily Klunick, Caitlin Lang, Lisa Roberts, Amanda Trieloff, and Casey Vullings

Guests Present: Benhi Khabeb, Laurie Kohler, Julie Kunath, and Eryn Petersen

Agenda Item #1: Introductions

Members introduced themselves and their roles (parent or professional).

Agenda Item #2: Solicitation of Agenda Items/Approval of Minutes from 9/17/15

Sara Barron moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dan Borchardt and approved.

Agenda Item #3: Family Support Program Update

Casey Vullings

Casey Vullings commented that around the time of the last meeting, the Coordinators have left and other staff have helped pick up the workload.

2015 funding is getting wrapped up with all but \$10,000 have been allocated to families for the year. They have reached out to 115-120 families with funding so far this year. December or early January, next year's funding will be looked at.

They are in the process of sending out 2016 questionnaires.

The Children's Community Options Program (Children's COP) is not changing, only the name from Family Support Program. Everything will be run the same way. Lisa Roberts stated that the change was to consolidate resources. The waiver waiting list has approximately 235 children. The changes allows them to look at those with the highest needs on the waiting list and help them with services such as respite services and recreational activities. They keep some of the funding on the side for crises, and then utilize it at the end of the year if it is still available. Fund prioritization is based on challenges.

There is no projection as to families helped with funding for next year. In previous years, it has been approximately 130. Combining with COP did not allow changes in funding.

Agenda Item #4: CLTS Waiver/Card Covered Benefit Update (non-case specific)

Casey Vullings

Casey reported that as of January 1, 2016, intensive therapy, counseling, and therapeutic services, now covered by the waiver, are going to be covered by Medicaid and the Forward Health card. There is a

transition process set up. As of November 16, 2015, providers can apply to become Medicaid-certified. It is 10-30 days for a response. The waiver program is working on setting up timelines for the transition phases. They are working on reviewing clients to transition. The timeline for that is May-October. Providers will be notified by the end of November as to which group their current kids fall in to. Then, the provider will know when to write prior authorizations to Medicaid for that child. The county, as a waiver agency, will then know to cease the waiver. Mental health therapy sounds like it should be covered by the waiver. A letter will be going out next week on the autism waiting list notifying them of the card change and to work with their provider.

Children will still be on the waiver waitlist even if covered by Medicaid.

The autism waitlist will be entered into the big waitlist on the day that Compass was notified.

Casey and Diane Scheerer are going to set up parent meetings at Waukesha County in early to mid-December. Families will be notified via letter.

Agenda Item #5: Guest Speaker: Laurie Kohler, Mental Health Clinic

Laurie Kohler

Laurie Kohler supervises the Mobile Crisis Intervention staff in the Waukesha County Mental Health Clinic. They have had a significant expansion of services over the last two years, including mobile crisis services. The 51.42 Board, which the outpatient Mental Health Clinic is an agency with, was created to provide clinical services to county residents, supervise court commitments, and crisis services. There is a licensing committee that sets the rules for the crisis teams.

A person is experiencing a crisis when the situation is causing the person to mentally stress in a way that others cannot help them. The crisis staff determine who is in crisis, is it an imminent situation, and then come up with a plan to meet the immediate crisis needs. The crisis worker has to look at the least-restrictive method. A majority of the time, the crisis staff are working on phone calls coming in from family members of the person in crisis. If it is a high-risk situation and police have been involved, the mobile crisis worker will become involved in every juvenile crisis situation. Waukesha County does many emergency detentions, which involve involuntary hospitalizations, which are dismissed. By the time that the person is admitted into the system, they are calmed down. For children aged 13 and under, they can be signed in by a guardian for services. This can be an issue for children with autism or other issues.

A person can connect to a crisis worker from calling 2-1-1, call the department during open clinic hours, and via law enforcement. IMPACT Milwaukee runs 2-1-1, the carrier for all services for the area.

This is not a new program, but an expanded program. As of next year, all emergency detentions will have to be approved by a crisis mental health staff person. This will require crisis staff to be available 24-hours a day.

They also hope to have diversion services.

Since the mobile crisis team has started doing assessments and becoming more active when law enforcement are present with the juvenile, it has resulted in a reduction of youth emergency detentions. Three years ago, there were 220 youth emergency detentions to 120 last year. This year, they are looking at being under 100.

One of the initiatives they have been working on is trying to help youth earlier before it becomes a crisis. They are actively involved with training law enforcement. Waukesha County was the first to offer a Crisis Intervention Training for Youth, with 40 officers trained last year. Youth and parents are also being brought in to the training to discuss their experiences.

They have also been working with the Certified Peer Specialists of Waukesha County. The Certified Peer Specialists have lived through the situations, and there is a feeling of relatedness that can with the relationship. They are currently in Oconomowoc School District working on an anti-stigma initiative. They want adolescents to work toward their own wellness.

The team has worked a lot with NAMI Waukesha. They have adapted a model that is used in prisons, to help with those who work with the youth. This includes NAMI Basics that works with parents.

When people feel their child is in crisis and do not want to call police, Laurie suggests developing a plan with the child's providers.

School districts are addressing behavioral health issues and working to improve services.

Children do not typically call the crisis workers initially, but if it is part of a plan, they will call. They can also text "HOPELINE" to 741741, a service provided by the Center for Suicide Awareness in Appleton. HOPELINE can then dispatch out to 2-1-1.

Agenda Item #6: Agenda Items and 2016 Dates for Meetings

- Reach out to NAMI to explain the NAMI Basics program
- Mental Health First Aid (Peer Support) from NAMI
- Guardianship resources from ADRC
- For dates, in the past, they have been on the 3rd Thursday of February, May, September, and November. Suggestions given included different time frames such as later in the day or in the evenings and putting the meetings on the questionnaire that gets sent out. 2016 meeting dates are: February 18, May 19, September 15, and November 17.

Julie Kunath motioned to adjourn, seconded by Emily Klunick. Meeting adjourned at 1:27 PM.

The next meeting is February 18, 2016 from 12:00 – 1:30 PM.