



**Children's Mental Health Work Group:** A collaboration of representatives from local county agencies, schools, providers and community mental health who work in partnership to identify needs of families and the children's mental health system. Working together, this group works toward developing and maintaining a coordinated system of care for youth and families to ensures easy access to services needed.

**Family Support Models Work Group:** This workgroup provides critical feedback and support to the neutral facilitator for the Wraparound Process offered to families in our county Families that are receiving services from three or more mental health programs, school and county programs are eligible for this ongoing team coordination. Wraparound Process is a child centered, family driven, team process that uses a strength based model to address the needs of children who are at risk of out of home placement.

**Restorative Justice Program:** The goal of CC-RJP is to reduce the number of youth entering or re-entering the criminal justice system by offering opportunities for offenders to be involved in restorative justice processes. As a philosophy and practice, restorative justice is concerned with the harm involved in wrongdoing. Acting in response to what laws or rules have been broken is less important than acting in response to how people have been harmed. It acknowledges that when a person does harm, it affects the person(s) they hurt, the community and themselves. Restorative justice requires that we address victims' harms and needs, hold offenders accountable to put right those harms, and involve victims, offenders and communities in the process.

**School Age Disability Work Group:** This group looks at programming specifically to children of school age who have special needs. Information on programming both within the schools and outside of the school day are gathered and shared with partners and families. Past funding has been used to offer training to Collaborative partners and community members on integration of youth with disabilities in "typical" community programming; To provide family fun events where children have an opportunity to practice their social skills and families are able to network with others who share common experiences and challenges of raising a child with special needs; and, training on specific disability topics.

**The Truancy Intervention Program (TIP)** is a collaborative effort between schools in Clay County Minnesota (all public schools K-12) and The Village Family Service Center with a focus of increasing academic success as well as decreasing absences. Schools monitor student attendance and make referrals for TIP services when students reach a certain number of absent days/periods in the school year. There is a family advocate assigned to every public school in Clay County.

Other committees that the Collaborative works in partnership with:

**Early Childhood Initiative:** The Early Childhood Initiative focuses on the youngest members of our county, children ages birth to 5. Partnerships among providers, families and community members allow us to strengthen and support the early childhood systems in Clay County. Young children and their families are benefiting from the strong partnerships formed among providers, families and community members who ensure that our youngest members experience high-quality child care and educational opportunities. Funding for the Initiative is provided through West Central Initiative. Activities provided by the ECI include annual Week of the Young Child events, dental awareness, legislative roundtable, presentations on early childhood programming, Little Free Libraries. Work coordinated through the ECI include: PreK - Grade 3 Alignment Leadership Team; Prenatal Leadership Team; and Pathways to Quality.

**Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health:** The 1989 Children's Mental Health Act of 1989 requires counties to have an advisory council. Council duties include seeking input from parents, consumers, providers and others about the needs of children with emotional disturbances in the county; review, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the local children's mental health system as part of the annual report to the county board. The LAC is made up of parents, mental health providers, county representatives and consumers of mental health services. A work plan is established each year and supported through funds made available to the council from Social Services. <http://claycountymn.gov/1202/Mental-Health-Services>