



Success Partnership building Success Families
Children's Mental Health Work Group
Tuesday, February 4, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Lanette welcomed everyone to the meeting and all shared one good thing. Today's agenda was approved with no changes. Minutes from the January 7, 2020 meeting were approved. (Michelle/Merri)

FY20 Update: Flex funds used to date: \$560 Balance of \$4,440.

Agency Updates:

Moorhead Public Schools: Moorhead residents can participate in an online strategic planning survey by clicking on the survey link on the school's website. They are also looking for participation in focus groups. Work is ongoing with the Career Academy which will open in fall of 2021. Due to retirement, moving and other issues the school is looking to hire seventeen positions in special education with a couple of individuals for speech therapy and one in OT. The district is currently working with Fargo and West Fargo to offer classes through a partnership with MSUM that will assist staff in obtaining licensure for the various teaching positions. The school district will teach the class, with the first-class piloting in March. There is a shortage of general education teachers and special education teachers. Other changes coming up include the educational opportunities with the expansion of the West Central Juvenile Center and Tele-Medicine services to students who have barriers getting to medication monitoring appointments. Horizon West will be the location for the Tele-Medicine pilot program.

Mobile Crisis Response Program had 100 phone support calls in January. There were 47 dispatches with 6 of the dispatches for children. 70% of the children served were able to remain in the home. Scott, a staff person with the program started this week being based out of Horizon East. Hopefully this will decrease wait time for crisis staff to get onsite.

Lakeland Mental Health has had some staff turnover with one staff leaving for another position and one soon to go on maternity leave. A new therapist has been hired for the day treatment program at Horizon East.

Clay County Public Health continues to do outreach to medical staff and community on their programs. They are able to take referrals within a couple of their children's programming.

Clay County Social Service is expanding their physical presence in the building and will be taking over the Lutheran Social Services space on the second floor. Lutheran Social Services has built their own offices off campus. Michelle has been participating in a rural mental health group for the state. They are identifying mental health needs and will be preparing a report for the spring legislative session. One need recognized among the group is for residential treatment centers. The group has discussed the need for expanding children's mental health services in the rural area of the state. Staff from both Social Services, Lakeland Mental Health, Solutions Behavioral Health and Access attended a training on Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services. The staff was mostly case managers who will be referring children to the program. Michelle shared the out of home placement

numbers and costs. Year to date through November 30, 2019 the county has spent \$2103,814.34 In addition to those funds they have spent \$934,446.10 for voluntary placements (mental health/residential/group home settings). For a total of \$3,038,260.44. The unduplicated number of children that were in out of home care at one point in 2019 through November (child protection, mental health, probation) was 257. The total of children currently in out of home placement is 151. Placements are mainly younger children. The county is dealing with parents who have mental health and or substance abuse (mostly to meth). The out of home placement number is high but not as high as it once was.

Freedom Resource Center: Living Well 102 class starting on Thursday. Anyone age high school student with services through adults can attend. There is no cost for the class.

Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health: The information shared at last month's meeting was incorporated into the annual professional survey and parent survey. A link to both online surveys was sent out to this group. Please take a moment to complete it and to share it with staff and families. It should be completed by March 20th.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 1pm – 2:30pm