



Clay County Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health

Thursday, April 2, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Carolyn Strnad welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held via video conversation due to COVID – 19. Minutes from the March 5, 2020 meeting were not distributed so will wait for next month to approve.

Treasurer's report: The checking account has a balance of \$3,4891.08 Expenses for March included \$17.54 for meeting expenses. The amount of \$1,500 was deposited this is our 2020 funds from Clay County Social Services

Mental Health Awareness Month: The plan to hold a Lunch and Learn in combination with a resource fair has been put on hold due to the COVID-19. This year, the LAC will be developing an advertising spot for the billboard across the street from the Dairy Queen on the corner of 8th Street and Main Ave. the cost of the billboard is \$289.63. Carolyn sent out a couple of ideas for the billboard. Leslie Funk offered to help with the design.

Annual County Report: The LAC will present the report on Tuesday, May 5th. Due to current restrictions, Carolyn will present the report by herself. Members are welcome to watch the meeting via the internet but will not be able to attend the Board meeting. Results of the professional and parent surveys was distributed to the council prior to today's meeting. The results were reviewed by those in attendance today. Carolyn will summarize the surveys using bullet points and submit as part of the annual report to the Board.

Agency Reports:

Churches United for the Homeless: One family has moved to permanent housing. Two families moved to the YWCA housing. Up until last night there were no families utilizing overflow shelter but one family moved in last night. The shelter received two emergency housing vouchers which will allow a move to Bright Sky apartment. They are currently working with the school to identify a way to connect students to the Moorhead Public School so the youth can access their class work. The agency is closed to community members including volunteers. Staff is splitting their attendance on site with half of the staff onsite and half working from home a week at a time. Summit Guidance has set up a tele med space at the shelter.

Friends of the Children: Dave reported that they are working with families through phone calls and video chats. He has been encouraged with the number of families who were willing to continue services using this method. The agency is working on obtaining tablets so that youth can have access to do homework. They had five tablets donated and are looking at getting three more. Workers have been helping families connect to the resources such as food and household supplies.

Head Start: Staff are doing weekly contacts with families offering support and helping families meet their basic needs. For those families who receive special education services through EIS they are working to share phone calls to those families in order to reduce the number of professionals contacting them during the week. Head Start is taking enrollment information over the phone.

Mobile Crisis Response Team: Team members are utilizing phone support for crisis calls. Due to COVID-19 they are not going to homes to provide face to face response.

County Social Services: All staff that can work from home have been directed to work at home. The County building is closed to the public. Video conference and phone contact is being used for children in foster care to connect with birth families. Children protection assessments are required to be face to face. Screening prior to going out is taking place to make sure everyone is healthy in the house before staff goes out.

County Board: Drunk driving arrest numbers are down. Inmate numbers at the Correctional facility are down. The County Board is watching the numbers closely. Less than 3% of those who have contracted the virus have died. Number of people being diagnosed with the virus have slowed down in the state. Jim cautioned us to listen to the reliable news source for information on COVID-19.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 7, 2020