



Clay County Collaborative
Successful Partnerships building Successful Families
Governance Board
Thursday, March 5, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Members present: Jim Haney, Clay County Board of Commissioners; Frank Gross, Clay County Board of Commissioners/Clay County Public Health; Janelle Cheney, Department of Corrections; Mike McCarthy, Lakeland Mental Health; Scott Steffes, Moorhead Public Schools; Jeff Lee, Hawley Public School; Pete Larson, Arc MN, West Central Region; Lanette Gorder, Parent; Adair Boening, Churches United for the Homeless; Marla Field, Barnesville Public School; Carolyn Strnad, Coordinator;

Carolyn welcomed everyone to the meeting. Lanette joined the meeting at 3:10 and took over chair of the meeting. Today's agenda was approved as presented. (Mike/Scott) Minutes from the December 5, 2019 meeting were approved with no changes. (Jim/Scott)

Truancy Intervention Program: As requested, Carolyn has met with the superintendent of Moorhead Public Schools and Rhonda Porter of Clay County Social Services. Additional individuals that attended the meetings were Quinn Jaeger, Child Protection Services; Michelle Thordahl, Children's Mental Health division, both from Clay County Social Services; Janelle Cheney, MN Department of Corrections; and Duane Borgeson, Director of Learner Support Services, Moorhead Public Schools. The consensus of the group was that the current model is not effective. With the cuts in funding over the last few years, the program has not been able to keep staff, provide services effectively at all schools and work as closely with families that successful outcomes require. Discussion to date includes going to a targeted case management program where staff will be hired to do intensive case management with the most at-risk children at the elementary school level. The second option would be to keep the current model and find additional funding that supports the program at the level it requires to be successful. Members asked that data be put together that outlines the success of the program. Jeff noted that the two highest needs of the school district is truancy and mental health. He is concerned that going to a case management system would significantly reduce the number of children served. This would be the case as the truancy case managers would focus on the highest need students, leaving schools and the county to address truancy needs among the other students. The Board would like to know how many of the truancy cases also have a mental health component.

The FY20 budget and programming was reviewed. The budget shows invoiced expenditures for programs through January 31st. Carolyn is waiting on several reports prior to paying out submitted invoices, per the funding policies. The Administrative group was reminded of the policy at its February meeting. This year's collection of LCTS revenue has been significantly lower than anticipated. To date, we have received \$188,876 of the \$250,000 estimated revenue. This time,

last year, our LCTS revenue collections was \$220,147. Discussion and recommendations to return the following non-contracted funds to the general funds to address the decrease in revenue:

- Administrative meeting expenses: \$ 750.00
 - Adverse Childhood Experiences \$ 1,061.59
 - Circle of Parents \$ 9,510.73
 - Flex Funds \$ 4,440.00
 - Self-Group \$ 1,000.00
- Total \$ 16,762.32

Motion to follow the recommendation to move non-contracted funds, a total of \$16,762.32 to the general funds. (Mike/Jim) Motion approved.

FY21 Funding discussion: the FY21 application was reviewed. Carolyn will double check reporting requirements for the MN Department of Human Services report to ensure that both reporting requirements match. Discussion on possibly reducing administrative costs due to the decrease in revenue to be used for next year's expenditures. The other unknown in our revenue situation is the Family Preservation Act. The state is slowly rolling out the requirements for the Act whose purpose is to keep children in the home rather than out of home placements. It is unsure how this will affect the LCTS collection.

LCTS Coordinator's report: Jane was available by phone for questions. See attached summary

Coordinator Update: The yearly LCTS report was completed and sent to the state. Susan Roll in the county auditor's office was a big help in completing the report. A new spreadsheet has been developed that will make reporting easier. Carolyn, by invitation, presented information on the Collaborative on the Barnesville Public School Board.

Next meeting: May 7, 2020 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm