



Clay County Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health

"To promote an accessible, comprehensive and a unified children's mental health system within Clay County."

Thursday, December 3, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Megan Weiland welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone shared one good thing. Minutes from the November 5, 2020, meeting were approved. (Joni Medenwald/Hope Schatzke). The checking account balance is \$3,191.45. Carolyn Strnad will draft a letter to Social Services for our 2021 allocation.

Review of youth surveys: The group reviewed two youth surveys. Youth residing at the West Central Juvenile Center completed a survey. The second survey results were from a group of youth in foster care or recently aged out of foster care. Takeaways from the discussion included:

- This survey would be good to use as part of our annual survey process. The questions could be distributed to youth through social workers, foster care workers, etc.
- As a therapist, this is good feedback to have.
- Many youths rely on their family members to help problem-solve access to the help they need. It would be essential to provide information to family members as well as the youth. Where should the information be located for youth and families to access? One suggestion from the youth was to develop a binder.
- The survey included good feedback on foster care for those residing in foster homes.
- Peer feedback is essential.

Agency Updates:

Nystrom & Associates: Christy Fike reported that in January, there would be immediate openings for ARMHS and CTSS. The Mother and Baby program for teen moms has experienced an increase. The program offers one on one support and group meetings. Social skills groups for teen girls and school-age stress groups are also being provided. The Village Family Service Center has openings for in-office therapy appointments and in their in-home programming. DBT adolescent groups continue to meet. Through Zoom, they are offering a Pride group. This group is out of the St. Cloud office, but they hope to provide a group of just Moorhead youth. The group meets virtually now, but they hope to offer it in-person once COVID restrictions are removed. The CARES mental health walk-in clinic has been extended through the end of December. The school-based mental health services find they need to be flexible and individualized with each school district, basing their services off the direction the school district is offering education to students.

Mobile Crisis Response Program is working with the individual schools to offer support based on their current educational model.

Clay County: Jim Haney reported that the county had purchased a building near 12th Ave S. and 34th St. S that will house several county programs, including the recorder and treasurer's offices. The offices occupied in the courthouse will be remodeled to hold courtrooms and additional offices for judges and lawyers. CARES funding will be used for the purchase of the new building and the remodeling.

Carolyn thanked Jim Haney for his service on the LAC. Jim chose not to run for reelection, and this is his last LAC meeting. A new commissioner will be appointed in January.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 7, 2021