

STARS Regional System of Care Board Minutes

Members present: Greg Boelter, Brenda Mahoney, David Nusbaum, Elisabeth Rogers, Gene Garman, Hanna Kaufman, Julie Carpenter, Marcia Schlattman, Mary Jo Verschay, MaryJo Cobb, Pearl Lieb, Rosemary Cyr, Sandi Shoberg, Sharon Backstrom, Joan Collins-Marotte, , Kim Emanuel, Walter Bardell, Kris Kuper
Members absent: Ethan Turck, Glenace Edwall, Ismail Ali, Julie Martindale, LaRone Greer, Mayuli Bales,
Non-Voting Members present: David Baraga, Sara Dahlquist, Michelle Ulfers, and Christine Schmid

Visitors: Tara Freed, Judy Coley, Terry Peterson

1. Call to order

- a. Mission Statement read by David Baraga

2. Approval of June minutes–

Motion by: Mary Jo Verschay **Seconded by:** Brenda Mahoney **Motion: Carried**

3. Approval of Agenda –

Motion by: Mary Jo Cobb **Seconded by:** David Nusbaumr **Motion: Carried**

4. Committee Reports

a.) Transition Committee Update – Motion Requested

-Career Center Concept: Is a transition project that is being started in the Wright/Sherburne area as a place for transition age youth with mental health concerns to come and get additional supports and services.

Rosemary Cyr reported activity of the transition committee. The committee has been collaborating and learning about the career center concept from Wright/Sherburne counties and special ed districts. There is \$15,000 set aside from the youth budget to support some sort of transition project and the committee is recommending that the Career Center Concept be the direction to go toward. The Board decided that the Stearns and Benton Special Ed districts be offered the same opportunity to develop something like this career concept. The match from this project may be around \$300,000.

Motion: David Nusbaum to issue a fast track RFP for \$15,000 to address the transition needs for the 4 counties and in the direction of the career center concept. The RFP should be sent to the email group and posted to the website.

Second: Kris Kuper **Motion:** Carried Walter Bardell, abstains.

Joan Collin-Marotte requests time on next month's board agenda to discuss the decision-making process for issuing or not issuing Requests For Proposals (RFPs) for funds so that there is consistency across committees and coordinator's work plans.

b.) School Based Committee- Motion Requested

-RFP recommendations

STARS issued a request for proposals to fund a school based mental health project in the amount \$80,000.

System Transformation of Area Resources and Services

Two great proposals were reviewed by board members, youth advisory members and parent advisory members. Reviewers read and scored the proposals and then participated in a conference call to finalize a recommendation. Reviewers noted that both were very worthy projects but the proposal that scored highest was the proposal submitted by Lutheran Social Services to expand the Youth Intervention Project (YIP) from Sherburne County to all 4 counties. Though not required, the project will offer \$421,463 non-federal matching funds. There was a recommendation that STARS work with THRIVE to provide information or support to finding other sources of funds.

Motion: MaryJo Cobb to approve the recommendation of the reviewer

Second: Kim Emanuel Motion: Carried, David Nusbaum, abstains

Discussion included a consideration for the Board to have a chance to review the proposals and budgets prior to voting.

c.) Sustainability and Strategic Planning

MaryJo Cobb reported the committee met but not many showed up. They will be reviewing the time of day the committee meets for future meetings. Currently there is not a meeting scheduled for September. The sustainability survey has been shortened and is being translated for distribution to families, youth and underserved populations.

d.) JJ Project (C-BAY) Report

A Launch of C-BAY (Community-Based Alternatives for Youth) involved with the Juvenile Justice System was held in Monticello on August 5th. Attorneys, law enforcement, probation officers and others attended. About 40 persons were in attendance. C-BAY is accepting referrals and currently has 2 from Sherburne County. As we work out the bugs and begin to bill 3rd party whenever possible, STARS funds will cover charges to families for the first 6 months. More referrals are needed.

e.) Crisis Care Updates-Crisis Response Team

Many great changes have occurred with the hiring of a full time director, Diane Pagel. The CRT is mobile response for youth and families experiencing crisis. They are mobile about 25-30% of the calls made to the hotline. Contracts for billing the service are in place. A poster was developed and will be available for placement in schools. The cultural guides/Family Support Specialists have been very valuable to staff. The Crisis Care Service enhancement was launched this month with a kick off picnic between CRT staff and the therapeutic foster parents from LSS and PATH. Crisis care is a brief stabilization respite that CRT staff may access if on a call that does not seem to be stabilizing without a "break". The Crisis Care coordinator looks for a home nearest to the family home and is trained in the Wraparound skills and will be following up with families using a wraparound approach.

f.) Fiscal -Jennifer's Handouts

Gene reported and reviewed the fiscal handouts provided by Jennifer. The 3rd quarter is complete. Chris would not guess the amount of projected carry forward dollar possibilities. The fiscal committee is scheduled for extra meetings in September to look at the possible amounts and should have a better idea by our September meeting.

g.) Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee

Mary Jo Verschay reported The Somali Town Hall meeting will be held September 30th at the St Cloud library. Our first scholar from Camaroon completed his internship and had a positive experience at Sherburne County. 2 others start this fall in Sherburne and Wright Counties. STARS Cultural Guides and the Somali Care Coordinator were highlighted at the Anaheim Grantee meeting during the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Pre-Meeting. The CLC Committee will be making an effort to go to the youth advisory committee groups in the future.

h.) Training

There is currently a contract with Opportunity Manor Inc. that looks into gaps between higher education curricula and the workplace training needs. The contract goes through September and a report to the Board will be made after its completion. Next year there is a huge cut to the training budget. Trainings will focus on wraparound, evidence based practices and systems change versus diagnoses and single mental health issues.

i.) Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Julie Carpenter reports the PAC is up and very functional with 6 members. Tonight there is a Somali Family Connections Night with 30 registered. There is a blending of the Family Support Specialist and Cultural Guides positions and the PAC is using the STARS Trek model (personal networking) to recruit and inform.

j.) Youth Advisory Boards

The youth boards started with 3 members in 2007 and now have more than 50 members. The Sherburne/Wright Board have been working on sustainability with the River City Extreme. The Youth Advisory Boards have been sought out at Statewide and National Conferences, developed a survey about providers' partnering with youth and volunteered over 500 hours of community service.

5. Old Business (4:45- 5:10)

a.) Wraparound Training and Coaching Update

Brenda Mahoney presented Pearl with a letter of commitment from Stearns County to use a wraparound approach. 4 Case managers were trained as wraparound trainers last spring. A second HFWA skills training was held this summer. New case managers and adult case managers, parents and other community members were trained. Days 5-6 were added to this training and the majority of the case managers trained last fall went through this training. The training was provided by Tammy Peterson, Wright County and John VanDenBerg. Also, the FSS were trained in the Family Support skills needed to effectively partner with WA teams and families. There is a coaching training set up for next week. All this training is set up in a way that provides the greatest opportunity to self-sustain HFWA according to National Standards. 121 families are currently being served with a wraparound process across the 4 counties. About 400 families are enrolled in county case management.

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b.) Membership

Met by email. Recommendation was made for Greg Boelter from Stearns County to be appointed to fill the JJ position vacated by Abe Abrahamson. Stearns County has a Board process to approve appointments.

Motion: David Nusbaum to approve Greg Boelter as a new STARS Board Member

Second: Brenda Mahoney Motion: Carried

c.) Follow up on Hannah's Concerns

Gene met with District personnel and learned that the No Child Left Behind requirements make them watch the amount of out of classroom time for students. District social workers, psychologists and counselors will be doing something for students in-house, district officials said. The move is likely due to Hannah's persistence raising the issue. Hannah was thanked for her persistence. Kris Kuper suggested the Youth Advisory Board may consider a presentation for district officials. Gene will also be discussing with one of the Monticello Board members.

6. New Business (5:10 – 5:25) tabled until next month

a.) Anaheim Report-- Liz Sweet next visit: Tentatively November 9-11, 2009

b.) SOC MACRO Assessment Update—4 months before we see the final, but informally great progress was noted by our reviewers.

7. Motion to Adjourn (5:30) Motion: Sandi Shoberg Seconded: Elizabeth Rogers Motion: Carried

Next Meeting: September 17, 2009 – 4:00pm-5:30pm St. Cloud CMMHC/Blue Room

System Transformation of Area Resources and Services