

Stars PAC Minutes for retreat
11/14/2009
Draft copy
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 at the Old country buffet in St. Cloud

1. Chris, the STARS project director reported on our site visit from our Federal Project Officer, and discussed our need for doing the following.

1. Broadening our parent base.
2. Organizing families
3. Reaching Families
4. Listening to many parent voices and stories.

Chris discussed:

Contracting with Connie Wells for T.A. with family involvement

That we need to work on parent involvement with other family organizations to help families find the support , services and education they need.

Site visitors wanted STARS to make a concentrated effort on reaching National Evaluation families. The field evaluators are a component to reaching these families

We are looking at doing some town hall meetings in each county.

We are looking at how Sara got youth involved with STARS

We want to put the system of care in a position that it can sustain the work when people retire, move on etc.

We will work on an intake process with the counties to get families involved with STARS

We will be working on a strategic plan over the next 90 days to submit to our federal project officer about how we are going to get families receiving case management information about STARS

2. Telling our story – why are we involved in children's mental health issues (written stories)

30 minutes

We all shared our own stories.

3. Sharing our network sheets,

10 minutes

Michelle shared her semi-completed network sheet.

4. Meeting with the Our children Succeed Initiative , nw mn. and Deb S. of Macmh

Michelle shared that we met with the OCSI site and Deb to discuss the development of a family run organization with strong relationships to macmh. We would also be looking at pulling in supports from other org's such as PACER, Nami, ARC, etc.

5. Catalyst training. I believe we tabled this.

Stars PAC Agenda for retreat
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Chris – STARTS

Site visit – this is the 5th site visits

Chris talked about 2 types of site visits

- 1) evaluation of the entire program (done in July 2009)
 assess where the community is developmentally
 give score – cultural competencies, collaboration...
- 2) federal officer comes out with technical support person
 they listen and provide some recommendations
 end of the 4th year site visit

One of the areas commented on was much has become stronger and stronger in the area of parent involvement

Another recommendation was to focus on family involvement. We have a good start, and the organizational part and bring families together, but needs to be more automatic. Needs to be a mechanism for families to get together more regularly – there needs to be a way of helping families learn what things are available and what the different organizations are that are available

Recommendations – over the next 90 days – come up with a plan to include families in the intake

 One way to achieve this is to set up something that is across the board types of thing – it would have actual consumers involved

 Make to hear what families feel is important and what they want/need as families – resources, information...

 Connection with MACMH is right on base

 Networking is important for families, but some feel it is too stressful to expect families to be involved

 We need families so they feel heard, know that you are not alone

 Federal investigator recommended a specific consultant

 Connie Wells – is in Tenn., knows MACMA and PACER – Connie has worked with fragmented systems... not connected with the federation of families, but is very good.

One possibility could be a “Town Hall Meeting”

Train coaches in different communities

Funds were talked about...

MACMH regional conference

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Some ideas:

 Work through social workers to give an invitation to collaborate as families

 Follow up with families?

 Maybe a “save the date” to a meeting with Connie

 Could have a consultation with Connie prior to a meeting

May be good to talk with Sarah to find out some ideas to get people involved – she has

done a lot with the youth – it could be about empowerment

Family involvement is not about adding work to a social workers... it is doing it differently.

Network Sheets

Some discussion about the network sheet

Confidentiality in mind, but for some reason moved to secrecy with created isolation

Meeting with the Our children Succeed Initiative - Michelle

NW MN does not have the resources that we have – we are looking at collaboration with other regions

Emotional to Advocacy – primary legal organization

We need an umbrella of services – we need to preserve values of parents and families