

## **FAMILY RESOURCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—June 1, 2020**

Present were: Connie Anderson, Parent; Gail Olson, Consumer; Renee Peters, DHHS Health Unit – C-COP/Birth-Three Program; Rachel Prellwitz, DHHS Health Unit; Kate Meyer, CLTS/CCS Coordinator; Kathy Anderson-Kemnitz, Parent; Harley Reabe, County Board Chair; Jessica Bielmeier, ASTOP; Shelby Jensen, DHHS Economic Support Unit; Katie Gellings, UW Extension; Tara Eichstedt, DHHS – CST; Jason Jerome, DHHS Director; Tony Beregszazi, ADVOCAP; Mark Podoll, Sheriff, Kristina Boeck, Parent; Robyn Morris, Parent; Susan Sleezer, Children & Family Services Unit Manager

**Certification of Open Meeting Law:** The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Jerome.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Introductions:** Introductions of members were made.

**Election of Chair:** Jerome opened nominations for Chair of the Family Resource Council. Beregszazi made a motion for Gail Olson to serve as Chair. Olson declined. Motion/second (Beregszazi/Anderson-Kemnitz) close nominations and make a unanimous ballot for Connie Anderson as Chair. Jerome questioned three times if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, all ayes. Motion carried.

**Election of Vice Chair:** Jerome opened nominations for Vice Chair of the Family Resource Council. Beregszazi made a motion for Gail Olson to serve as Vice Chair. Olson confirmed she would do it. Motion/second (Beregszazi/Anderson) close nominations and make a unanimous ballot for Gail Olson as Vice Chair. Jerome questioned three times if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, all ayes. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Motion/second (Podoll/Beregszazi) to approve the March 2, 2020 draft minutes. All ayes. Motion carried. Discussion followed.

### **DISCUSSION ON PROGRAMS/POLICIES:**

**Treatment and Diversion Program:** Jerome updated Committee members regarding the Treatment and Diversion Program and the effects of COVID-19 on continuing to run the program. Jerome reported a 2<sup>nd</sup> graduate from the program.

**Coordinated Services Teams:** Eichstedt explained working with the kids from home and difficulties with COVID-19. Sleezer reported that there were some grant funding opportunities made available through the State. Sleezer reported that Green Lake County applied for approximately \$23,000.00 to be utilized by Sept 30 2020. The applications were due May 29, 2020. Sleezer explained that the primary use of funding would be to purchase 9 laptop computers/accessories to help staff working out in the field with consumers. Some funds would be for rewards for clients and some funds for training. Committee members will be updated as to the results of the application.

**Children's Community Options Program:** Peters reported regarding the Children's Community Options Program funding/program (C-COP). Peters reported that the program, in the midst of COVID, was able to help one family with child care for a child with special needs that was not in school.

**Birth-Three:** Peters reported regarding the Birth-Three program. Peters reported regarding with the outbreak of COVID 19, the Birth-Three program suspended in-home services. Peters reported that last week the State lifted those restrictions and Green Lake County is working as team with therapists, and establish how to safely provide in-home services.

Referrals continue to come in and 2 new clients were enrolled virtually. Peters explained challenges working with children virtually.

It has been difficult to correspond with the 3 Amish families due to lack of electronic equipment.

Peters reported that transitions to school day services has been very difficult. Right now staff/children can not go into school and be evaluated for school services. There have been some meetings virtually with school personnel.

Peters reported that there are 16 individuals enrolled in the Birth-Three program at this point.

**CLTS (Children's Long Term Support) Program:** Meyer reported regarding the CLTS (Children's Long Term Support Waiver) program.

Meyer reported that 30 families are being served at the present with 2 on the waiting list. Meyers reported that it is difficult to brainstorm to provide needed services virtually. There are numerous families struggling through the COVID not being able to get the needed services.

Some services are starting to be provided in the community later in June for needed services.

**Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Update:** Meyer reported regarding the CCS program to Committee members.

Meyers reported that during COVID 19, there are around 37 children and adults receiving services. Meyers reported that doing this virtually has been a struggle. Meyers reporting that staff have been trying to bring new consumers into program. This is difficult since there is a lot of paperwork involved in this process. Meyers states it is hard to gain a relationship with individuals over the phone.

The state is starting to develop how to safely allow staff to start interacting with consumers through CCS program. Meyers reported that a big concern is child care and concerns with families going back into the work force.

**Health Unit:** Prellwitz reported that with the outbreak of COVID-19 the majority of Health Unit staff time has been spent on working with this. At the present there are 20 confirmed cases with 11 probables which include mostly household members of the positives.

Prellwitz explained how follow-up on the COVID cases is being performed which does not allow for much else being done at this point.

**Appearances: ADVOCAP:** Beregszazi reported that at present ADVOCAP is not open to public. He anticipates that beginning around June 20<sup>th</sup> ADVOCAP will serve people by appointment only.

Beregszazi reports that a lot of services are being performed remotely.

Beregszazi reports that staff continue to recruit for Headstart in fall. ADVOCAP is facing challenges with partners not being able to recruit that way that normally is done each year, ie. Child Development Days.

Beregszazi reports that staff are continuing to deliver groceries to Headstart families and this will continue possibly through the summer.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP staff have been helping small business owners who are facing not reopening and/or how to carry on through this period affected by COVID and closures/reduction of business. Beregszazi reported that there loan funds are available for those that are eligible.

Beregszazi reported that the weatherization program does not have crews out working at present but anticipates to begin near future.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP will be receiving a lot of money to help individuals with rent. If you have any referrals, refer to the ADVOCAP office in Berlin.

Jensen reported that anyone interested should contact ADVOCAP and they will then be referred to local agencies to apply for energy assistance first before eligible for rental services. Payments will actually come from the State of Wisconsin.

Beregszazi reported that ADVOCAP has other resources also to help if the individuals are at the point of eviction. They should also contact the ADVOCAP office in Berlin.

**ASTOP:** Beilmeier reported that support groups are continuing on-line. Referrals are being made over the telephone. Calls continue to be received with the increase of families at home more with COVID.

**Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services:** Sleezer updated Committee members that Kari B, Director, is working with Green Lake County until a new staff person is hired.

**Community Options:** No report. This will be removed from agenda.

**Sheriff:** Podoll reported that programs at the jail have been suspended with the COVID pandemic. Podoll anticipates some programs will start up with limited contact in the near future.

**UW Extension:** Gellings reported that there have been Zoom meetings with Drug Court participants regarding money management.

Gellings reported that anyone interested should Google - UW Mindful money moments through facebook. There are some helpful videos that can be utilized. Gellings reported that "Money as you grow" for youth will be put on videos as well

**Victim/Witness:** No report.

Anderson wanted to commend all groups for their continued hard work through these unusual times.

**Future Meeting Dates:** The next meeting is September 14, 2020 and December 7, 2020

**Future Agenda Items for Action/Discussion:**

Anderson adjourned meeting at 12:15 p.m.