

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, September 1, 2009

TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Neenah Human Services Building
211 N. Commercial St., Neenah
Conference Room #002

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beth Culp, Cindy Flauger, Cindy Knaggs, Luann Rodriguez, Katie Schierl, Paulette Stoltzmann, Kara Van Vooren, and Kathy Wagner

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Carie Achterberg, Mary Beth Connors, Ashley Hesse, Elizabeth Jones, Danica Lewis, Lisa Mcallister,

OTHERS PRESENT: Rob Paterson, citizen and Dorothy De Grace, Human Services Department

Beth Culp called the meeting to order at approximately 11:30 a.m.

1. **Approval of agenda:** With no additions to the agenda, it was approved as written.
2. **Approval of minutes for June 2, 2009 meeting:** With no additions or corrections to the minutes, they were unanimously approved.
3. **Member sharing:**

Cindy Knaggs said a special needs support group has been started in Oshkosh and it is going well.

4. **Family Support Coordinator's Report:**

Beth Culp reminded committee members that it is a long process to get public assistance for funding; therefore, consumers should be encouraged to apply early on. She said so far this year over 80 families have been served with Family Support funds. There are no families waiting for funding at this time.

5. **Birth-to-Three Program Director's Report:**

- Stats – Budget Update – Cindy Flauger distributed a copy of referral and comparison statistics for the Birth-to-Three program over the past 15 years. There are currently 115 children actively being served; 194 in total have been served year-to-date.

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Cindy said that as of the end of July they have been able to stay within budget. They have had to contract for an occupational therapist because of a military leave of an employee. Third party reimbursement has increased, which includes private insurance and medical assistance billing.

Cindy said the Governor's 2010 budget included three initiatives to increase funding to counties for B-3: 1) a waiver that would allow counties to obtain 60% federal dollars for services that aren't covered under MA; 2) an initiative for counties to bill MA for special education; and 3) to fill the gap in MA reimbursement for therapy services. Cindy said the Joint Finance Committee approved new language in the budget for American Recovery & Reinvestment Act dollars that explains in detail how the monies can be used.

- Picnic – Cindy said they had about 62 attendees at this year's picnic for parents, children and extended families.

6. Advisory Committee Recruitment:

Beth Culp said she has been sending information about the Family Support Committee to all potential recipients of family support services. They are invited to be members of the committee. Beth said we are required to have a certain percentage of family members of people who are eligible for the Family Support program on the committee. Beth asked the committee for other suggestions in getting more members.

7. Child Find Activities/Update:

Cindy Flauger said an initiative from the state is for counties to be more active in child find, which is specific to increasing an awareness of Birth-to-Three services. Beth Culp said they have been doing ongoing activities such as attending resource fairs to connect with parents regarding Birth-to-Three services. They have partnered with agencies to target physicians' offices, and they are tracking referrals to find which physicians are referring people. They are also targeting day care centers.

Cindy said we are not serving children aged 0-1 at the level that is expected by the state. In some cases their needs are being met by another resource. Cindy said the Public Health Department will be including a Birth-to-Three brochure to all new parents in the rural areas. There is an option of Public Health doing some of the screening, and then the Birth-to-Three program would use the information to make a determination if an evaluation is warranted. Cindy said the state has made a list of child find activities based on what counties are doing. The Birth-to-Three employees have categorized the list by groups and they will put together a plan of action. Cindy said a work group at the state level is looking at whether the target count is higher than it should be.

8. Fund Raising Ideas:

Beth Culp said some Family Support Advisory committees do fund raising to purchase things specific to a family or for informational materials, etc. She asked committee members how we would target the monies if we had a fund raiser. She asked for fund raising ideas.

Cindy Flauger suggested there might be a policy against fund raising for the department. Beth explained the casual days the department currently promotes. Beth will try to find out what other counties are doing in this area.

9. Future Agenda Items:

None were identified.

With no other business Beth Culp adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Family Support Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, **December 8, 2009** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in **Room 008** of the Neenah Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted by:
Dorothy De Grace, Secretary
Winnebago County Department of Human Services