

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** Tuesday, September 16, 2014

**TIME:** 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Oshkosh Human Services Building  
220 Washington Ave., Oshkosh  
Conference Room #33

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Beth Culp, Sherry Nedens, Kristin Baumann, Tracy Gehrke, Sharon Oberkrieser, Linda Pierron, Wendy Newman, and Kortney Dahm

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kayla Pieper and Dorothy De Grace, Human Services

Sharon Oberkrieser called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Tracy Gehrke moved for approval of the agenda as written; seconded by Beth Culp and carried.
2. **Approval of Minutes for the May 20, 2014 Meeting:** With no additions or corrections, Tracy Gehrke moved for approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting; seconded by Linda Pierron and carried.
3. **Member Sharing:**

Sharon Oberkrieser represents the Down to Earth support group for parents of children with a disability. She shared information from the Kinetic Department at UWO regarding activities they offer for children of various ages with a disability.

Sherry Nedens represents Down's Syndrome Association of Wisconsin (DSAW) – Fox Cities. She said they will have their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Walk on October 4 at Riverside Park in Neenah starting at 10:30 a.m. Last year they had almost 1,500 people attend the festivities following the walk. On October 26 they will have an IEP presentation and open house at the facility they share with NAMI in Appleton. This past summer they offered speech therapy for kids with Down's syndrome using a grant they received. They also received a technology grant and are able to provide some pieces of technology to kids that don't have the resources to get them otherwise.

Linda Pierron is the Director of Special Education for the Oshkosh Schools. She said the Encompass Program expanded this year to Oshkosh West High School. Linda would like to see all students with a disability get training before age 18 at Eastman House, which is a Cerebral Palsy Respite House. They will adopt the state's life skills curriculum. Both high schools are part of a research-based social skills study for kids on the autism spectrum through a grant from CSESA at the Weisman Center.

**4. Child Care Resource and Referral Presentation:**

This presentation will be given at a future meeting.

**5. Family Support Program Updates:**

Beth Culp said we are planning to add a service coordinator position to the table of organization. She said most of the referrals we get are for severe emotional disturbance.

- 2014 Statistics – Beth said we authorized \$76,000 for services as a match to federal waivers. We have close to \$49,000 in Family Support funds, which is for families that get just state funding. We are currently \$5,000 over the amount authorized. Although we don't have any Family Support funds available, we have other funding available for families. Most of the families are using close to the \$3,000 maximum allowed. A lot of our funding this year has gone for higher priced adaptive items, such as for home and vehicle. We are currently serving 80 kids.

**6. Birth-to-Three Program Report:**

- 2014 Stats – Kristin Baumann, speech therapist with Birth-to-Three said there were 263 referrals to Birth-to-Three through August 31 compared to 277 at the same time last year. There were 124 active Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP's) compared to 112 last year. She said year-to-date they are operating within their budget allocation. They are in the process of distributing 2014 Family Outcome surveys. The state will be running reports indicating whether the Birth-to-Three program was in compliance for fiscal year 7/1/13 to 6/30/14.

**7. Additional Items:**

Beth Culp said Haven of Hope recently closed, but they are working on reopening again. They serve all ages with day care and respite services. Cerebral Palsy has a respite home in Wautoma and Oshkosh, and they are going through some changes.

**8. Future Agenda Items:**

Beth Culp will try and schedule Child Care Resource & Referral to present at the next meeting. She will discuss eligibility requirements for the waiver program. She will also talk about the "Autism Tool Box," which is a resource for kids with autism.

**9. Next Meeting: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Family Support Advisory Committee has been scheduled for **Tuesday, December 16, 2014** from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in **Room 33** of the **Oshkosh Human Services Building**.**

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary