

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 20, 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, Tracy Gehrke, Elizabeth Jones, Sharon Oberkrieser, Cindy Flauger, Rob Paterson, Linda Pierron, and Amy Stack

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Laurie Ann Meyer, Kelly Hinz; also Dorothy De Grace, Andrea Haque, Human Services

Elizabeth Jones 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 Rob Paterson and carried.
2. **Approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2014 Meeting:** With no additions or corrections, Beth Culp moved for approval of the minutes of the March 25, 2014 meeting; seconded by Tracy Gehrke and carried.
3. **Member Sharing:**

Liz Jones reported that on May 3 the Friends of Autism group hosted the Walk for Autism, which was very successful. They had 3,600 walkers, and they raised more money than any previous walks.

Tracy Gehrke said Public Health is in the process of distributing children's car seats to parents at this peak awareness time.

Rob Paterson said the Human Services Board will have its Public Hearings on Wednesday, June 18 at the Neenah Human Services Building starting at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday, June 19 at the Oshkosh Human Services Building starting at 8:30 a.m. followed by the 2015 Budget review. For anyone unable to attend the hearings, information can be sent to the Director of Human Services at 220 Washington Ave., Oshkosh.

Laurie Ann Meyer operates Little Miracles Family Day Care. She is the current president of Care which is a local support group for family child care providers, and she is past-president of Wisconsin Family Child Care. They recently held their spring conference.

Amy Stack recently attended the annual conference for children sponsored by the Wisconsin Council for the Blind & Visually Impaired. She learned of many resources available for families of children who are visually impaired.

Sharon Oberkrieser is representing the Down to Earth group for parents of children with a disability. She mentioned that the Discover League Baseball in Neenah is available for children who have a disability and are interested in playing baseball.

Linda Pierron is the Director of Special Education for the Oshkosh Schools. She said they plan to expand their Encompass Program to offer a continuum of service for kids that are integrating from alternative placement back into the schools. They are looking to include the program at the elementary, middle, and high school level. The program would share resources and physical space with other programs to include mental health programming and daily living skills.

Kelly Hinz represents Parent Connection. She distributed a copy of their most recent newsletter explaining upcoming events. One of the classes they will be offering this summer is "Healthy Choices: Early Risk Prevention."

#### **4. Family Support Program Updates:**

Beth Culp said we hired someone to replace an employee who retired. We've also added a temporary position to our team, and we hope to add it to our table of organization for 2015. Beth was informed that Haven of Hope is now certified to provide respite for children.

- Eligibility Criteria – who do we serve? Beth said we have strict criteria from the state as to who we can serve with the funding we receive. A child must meet an ICF-MR level of care (Intermediate Care Facility); psychiatric hospital level of care; nursing home level of care; or hospital level of care.
- 2014 Statistics – Beth said we authorized \$117,000 for services for 75 children, which is nearly the same as our allocated funding amount.

#### **5. Birth-to-Three Program Report:**

- 2014 Stats – Cindy Flauger distributed copies of a summary of the ECO Family Outcome Survey for 2013. Families that responded to the survey have been in the program for at least six months. The state looks at three general outcome areas: 1) parents understanding their rights; 2) being able to communicate their child's needs and 3) feeling confident in their ability to help their children develop and learn. Cindy said 16 surveys were returned to us out of the 54 that were sent out. Our ratings on a 0-5 scale were higher than the state's overall average. The state then looks at five additional categories: 1) understanding their child's strengths, needs, and abilities; 2) knowing their rights and advocating for their child; 3) helping their child develop and learn; 4) having had help developing support systems; and 5) having had help accessing support systems in their community. Our ratings in all categories exceeded percentages of the state.

Cindy referred to the handout of Birth-to-Three referral statistics. We had 168 referrals to the program through April. Some of them might be duplicated because of a subsequent referral done after being found not eligible from a first referral. We currently have 117 children with an active Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) compared to 124 at this same time last year. The trend for referrals has gone up over the year.

**6. Additional Items:**

There were none.

**7. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Time/Place:**

Child Care Resource & Referral will present at the next meeting.

**8. 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, September 16, 2014** from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in **Room 33** of the **Oshkosh Human Services Building**.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary