

**CHILDREN'S COP PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, September 13, 2016

TIME: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Sharon Oberkrieser, Vicky Duley, Tracy Gehrke, Chris Dirkes, Iris Jacobson, Amy Stack, Joe Hameister, Sue Berndt, Celeste Brennan, Bridget Hammon, Pam DeLap, and Brittany Rewolinski

STAFF PRESENT: Beth Culp, Bridget Shimon and Dorothy De Grace

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

1. **Approval of Minutes for the June 14, 2016 Meeting:** Tracy Gehrke moved for approval of the minutes of the last meeting, and the motion carried.
2. **New Family Support Supervisor:** The new supervisor was unable to participate in today's meeting.
3. **Member Sharing:**

Vicky Duley is the parent of a two-year-old child with special needs.

Tracy Gehrke is a public health nurse with the Winnebago County Public Health Department. She reminded everyone about the drug drop boxes for disposing unused medicines at the local police stations. Public Health plans to apply for a Department of Transportation grant for car seats next year again. Refugees to the area are an example of qualified community members who use the free car seat service.

Beth Culp is the Division Manager of Long Term Support services. Beth shared that she recently attended a session on mental health for children and on efforts in looking at young children's development from birth to 5 years. The state started an Infant Mental Health Chapter where people can become credentialed in their expertise of working in infant mental health areas. The Fox Valley started a chapter several months ago and are working on what they can do to support young children's development regarding social and emotional interaction.

Chris Dirkes is with the Oshkosh Area School District. He said they started their Project Search site in partnership with Mercy Medical Center, the DVR, Lakeland Care District, the IRIS program, and The Management Group. It involves 12 students with intellectual disabilities doing a year-long internship with the hospital for 25 hours a week. The goal is that each intern will have community competitive employment opportunity. Good Will Industries is providing the job coaches.

Children's COP Committee Meeting
Minutes of 9/13/16
Page 2

Chris Dirkes said they are working with the public library on training staff in PBIS (Positive Behaviors Interventions & Supports) with a goal of having common expectations and procedures.

Beth Culp explained that the Oshkosh Area School District offers the WIT (Whatever It Takes) program. If a student can't be maintained within the district in the most intensive non-inclusive programs that are offered, they could be sent to an alternative school; but because of the cost and the distance to travel, the OASD has started its own simulated program called WIT in collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club.

Iris Jacobson is representing the Oshkosh Area School District. She said they have had over 30 new staff people in the Special Education Department this school year. They have a new IEP (Individualized Education Plan) form this year, and the IEP will address reading for any disability area. They will make IEP meetings more parent-friendly with a survey to complete at the end of the meetings.

Amy Stack is the parent of a daughter with Cerebral Palsy. Amy said she is very pleased with the help her daughter is receiving through the school.

Joe Hameister is with the Northeast Regional Center for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). They are currently working with parents on health care transition and coordinated care for their children. They are working in collaboration with Winnebago County in trying to recruit respite providers to assist families who are on the waiver program and in need of respite services.

Sue Berndt is a Family Resource Specialist with the UWO Head Start program. Sue said they do intake continually throughout the school year.

Bridget Shimon is a Family Support worker on the Long Term Support Team for Winnebago County. Bridget shared that the Northeast Region is looking at offering training to our staff and supervisors regarding reflective supervision, which should help in interacting with families.

Celeste Brennan is a parent of a 12-year-old boy with autism. Celeste owns "Happy Face Apparel" retail store in Neenah, which offers clothing and accessories for kids with special needs. Her business offers resources to parents, and she is hoping to increase that in the near future with more community outreach.

Bridget Hammon is facility and assistance coordinator at Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin. They are currently working on a program that gives repaired bikes to families for their children. There is no cost for use of the bike for the first month to try it out, but then it will cost \$25 a month if a family wants to keep the bike.

Brittany Rewolinski is client services coordinator at the Respite House for Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin. They offer an after-school program for children aged seven years and older. She said they are staffed 24/7 to accommodate families.

**Children's COP Committee Meeting
Minutes of 9/13/16
Page 3**

Pam DeLap is the parent of a 16-year-old child with special needs.

Sharon Oberkrieser has an 11-year-old son with Downs Syndrome. She facilitates the Down to Earth group, which is mostly for parents of children with Downs Syndrome or other disabilities. The group meets mostly for social interaction.

4. Children's COP Program Updates:

- 2016 Authorizations – There was nothing to report.
- CCOP Plan – Beth Culp said she is still working on the plan, and she will present it at the next meeting.

5. Birth-to-Three Program Report:

- 2016 Stats – Beth Culp said there are currently 120 children in the Birth-to-Three program with an active Individualized Family Service Plan. Referrals are down just a bit, but the children being found eligible for the program has increased slightly.

6. Next Meeting: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Children's COP Advisory Committee has been scheduled for **Tuesday, November 29, 2016** 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, Recorder