

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, December 15, 2015

TIME: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Sharon Oberkrieser, Amy Stack, Kortney Dahm, Linda Pierron, Barbara Sheldon, Tracy Gehrke and Erin Kraft

ALSO PRESENT: Greg Blume, Director of Operations – Catalpa Health

STAFF PRESENT: Beth Culp and Dorothy De Grace

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

1. **Approval of Minutes for the October 6, 2015 Meeting:** The minutes of the October 6, 2015 meeting were approved with no additions or corrections.
2. **Member Sharing:**

Sharon Oberkrieser represents the Down to Earth group. They are having their Christmas party on Friday, December 18.

Amy Stack is the parent of a child with a disability.

Kortney Dahm is public health nurse with the City of Menasha. They are finishing up giving flu vaccines—their numbers were lower this year. They received a grant and will use it in focusing on breastfeeding-friendly day care facilities.

Linda Pierron is the director of special education for the Oshkosh School District. She reported that they were recently awarded a transition improvement grant, which they will use for their Outcome for Kids program for students aged 14-21. They were also awarded a grant called Project Search which offers assistance to high school senior students with intellectual disabilities to find jobs. They have partnered with several hospitals and local companies. Linda also reported that Traeger Elementary School is lobbying for a new “inclusive” playground.

Barbara Sheldon works for the WIC program at Public Health Department. She reported that they’ve successfully converted all benefits going to families from paper checks to a benefit card. Brief health informational lessons are provided to consumers when they come in to apply for benefits.

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Tracy Gehrke is a public health nurse with the Winnebago County Public Health Department. She said they will be working with child care providers in training them to become supportive of breastfeeding mothers. They are starting to provide a mental health component of service and have been working with the wellness screenings in the Oshkosh School District. They plan to expand into the Omro District. They are in the process of providing a syringe access program at Public Health Department.

Celeste Brennan was excused from today's meeting, so Beth Culp distributed information from her about a free two-day workshop that Celeste is hosting at her new retail store (selling clothing & accessories for special needs children) in downtown Neenah on January 12 & 13. There is also a two-day event at the Fox Cities performing Arts Center on January 14 & 15 for students with autism and their parent or caregiver.

Erin Kraft is supervisor of the Family Preservation Program at Lutheran Social Services. They provide in-home family therapy, parent education, mentoring, and day respite services.

- 3. CATALPA** – Greg Blume explained that Catalpa Health (mental health & wellness for kids) started in November 2012 with three parent organizations: Theda Care, Affinity Health System, and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. They have offices in Appleton and Oshkosh where they offer out-patient services, and they work with about 21 schools for the HOST (Helping Our Students Thrive) Program. They are part of the PATH Program which is overseen by United Way Fox Cities, and they are also part of the E3 Program (a school-based mental health program). Catalpa operates under an Access system where each call is triaged by a call specialist or provider, and an appointment is set up accordingly. About 10% - 30% of the calls are currently referred to other community partners, depending on number and urgency of calls. Their goal is to match the client and family with the appropriate provider within 10 business days with only 10% being referred out.

Catalpa's Day Treatment Program started in August 2015. To be admitted to day treatment, a child would need to have had previous treatment that was unsuccessful or where insurance companies won't authorize payment for services. The kids in day treatment don't generally have significant behavior problems, but have diagnosable mental health conditions like anxiety or depression. About half of the kids evaluated for day treatment are referred to outpatient services. They've had some successful discharges from the program so far.

- 4. Medical Assistance Covered Therapy in 2016:** Beth Culp explained that all therapies that are currently covered by one of the Medicaid waivers or the Family Support Program will be covered by Medical Assistance starting in January 2016.

- 5. Family Support Program Updates:**

- 2015 Statistics – Beth Culp reported that we currently have \$163,000 authorized for services. The Family Support budget is about \$120,000; we anticipate spending only \$109,000 of that amount.

Beth Culp said that for 2016 the Family Support funding source will convert into Children's Community Options Program (COP) funding. Under this funding there will no longer be a \$3,000 maximum allowed per family, and the funding cannot be used for rent and housing expenses.

- State Plan for 2016 Children's COP – Beth Culp is anticipating developing the 2016 State Family Support Program Plan in the fall 2016, and she will share it with the committee for review. The current plan will remain in place until then.
- Advisory Committee – Beth Culp said we anticipate that we may need to expand the committee to cover all target groups because of the conversion to Children's COP funding and to meet governing statutory language.

6. Birth-to-Three Program Report:

- 2015 Stats – Beth Culp said the number of children referred is slightly down for 2015; but the number of children with an active Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) is up. We have had a better process of determining which children are eligible based on social and emotional needs. Beth said we received notice from the state that the Birth-to-Three Program is 100% in compliance with federal indicators.

7. 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, March 8, 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