

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, December 6, 2011

TIME: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Beth Culp, Cindy Flauger, Tracy Gehrke, Elizabeth Jones, Amy Stack, Rob Paterson, Luann Rodriguez, and Dorothy De Grace

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Norton, County Board Member

Elizabeth Jones called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Rob Paterson moved for approval of the agenda as written; seconded by Amy Stack and carried.
2. **Approval of Minutes for the September 13, 2011 Meeting:** With no additions or corrections to the minutes, Tracy Gehrke moved for approval; seconded by Rob Paterson and carried.
3. **Introduction of New Members:** All present introduced themselves.
4. **Member Sharing:**

Tracy Gehrke said there is a support group in Omro for parents of children with disabilities.

Beth Culp said there is also a support group for parents in Winneconne that meets at the library.

Cindy Flauger said there are now 3 or 4 additional handouts that are posted on the Family Voices website as a resource to families that may be struggling to navigate the LogistiCare transportation and mileage changes that have occurred. Beth said there is now a LogistiCare Advisory Board.

Beth Culp said the ARC and Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin have merged in Oshkosh. They will be located in the Hooper Building on Broad Street.

Elizabeth Jones said a new Autism Treatment Center has opened in Kimberly. They will do intensive treatment during the day and have social skills classes and activities after school for kids that are post-intensive, ages 11-14 and 15-18.

Amy Stack said the parent's support group for downs syndrome and the Oshkosh Special Needs Parent Coalition are merging.

5. Family Support Coordinator's Report:

- 2011 Statistics: Beth Culp said we have authorized services for 89 children this year using Family Support funds. We authorized \$136,000 and have used about \$74,000 through part of November.
- 2012 Family Support Plan: Beth Culp said we will be preparing a Family Support Plan for 2012 similar to the 2011 plan. She shared a copy of this year's plan for review and comments or suggestions.

6. Birth-to-Three Program Report:

- 2011 Stats – Beth Culp referred to a statistical report showing referrals made to the Birth-to-Three Program through November. The total number of referrals has been increasing over the years. There were 397 referrals so far this year, compared to 364 through December 2010. Beth said the standards in operating the program have gotten more rigid, but funding has not increased.

Cindy Flauger said they are contracted with a cost reimbursement level that is capped, regardless of the number of referrals. She said they can't have a wait list for the Birth-to-Three program. They are seeing an increase in referrals to the program, but are also seeing an increase in the number of children found not eligible. This could be because of the increased Child Find efforts and awareness within our physician community where more screening is being done. We sometimes get referrals for children where a parent has expressed a concern or question and the physician treats it as an automatic referral. Cindy said we are serving 138 children as of December 1. We had a total of 262 children that were found eligible so far this year, compared to 249 at the same time last year. Beth Culp said she will follow up with more physician outreach to clarify the services that are offered.

Cindy said in 2011 they were able to use some American Recovery & Reinvestment Act dollars in the operation of the Birth-to-Three program. She said the legislative rule has been revised to include changes that were authorized in 2004 by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. We now have to write those into the state statutes that regulate the Birth-to-Three program and include them in our amended state plan, which is due in February. Cindy said we will have to change and revise things based on clarification that we receive from the state.

Cindy said Winnebago County needs to do a self-assessment for Birth-to-Three in 2012. The state has shortened the list of questions that need our response, since they can obtain some of the data from a computer system. We hope to finish the assessment by February.

Cindy Flauger gave an update to the Third Party Administration 1937 Benchmark Plan. She said in Birth-to-Three our current funding sources are federal dollars that come to the state and also county dollars. In the last administration's state budget, we had the opportunity to move Birth-to-Three services to a waiver. This would have given us the opportunity to bill some of our services to medical assistance. Under the new administration it was decided to change that to a 1937 Benchmark Plan, but we were assured that it is still a means to draw down additional federal dollars. It wasn't meant to replace county funding, but to use as a match on some of the required maintenance programs that counties have. Three services that now must be included in this plan are occupational, speech, and physical therapy.

Beth Culp said under the new administration, instead of a Medicaid waiver the Medicaid card plan will be amended to pay for therapy and other services.

7. Children's Long Term Support (CLTS)/Birth-to-Three/TPA and Other Updates:

Beth Culp said another component of the new state amendment is that payment to provider agencies will be handled by a third party administrator, Wisconsin Physicians Services (WPS). Payment to private providers will continue to get channeled through the county.

Beth Culp said that Claims Management Service at the federal level has approved our new children's waiver. It will include three new services that will be available to families—mentoring services; community integration services; and a change to the levels of our autism services. The first tier will be 30-40 hours of intensive autism services and a second tier will be 10-20 hours of intensive autism services, plus respite services or adaptive aids for the child; and post-intensive services. Families will be grandfathered into the new procedure.

8. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Time/Place:

There were no suggestions.

With no other business Beth Culp moved for adjournment; seconded by Tracy Gehrke and carried at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Family Support Advisory Committee will be held on **Tuesday, March 6, 2012** 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