



MEDINA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

1.	Andregg, Carol	Family Representative
2.	Barlow, Betty	Oaks Family Care Center
3.	Calvert, Sandy	HANDS Foundation
4.	Carmon, Gail	Alternative Paths
5.	Castele, Lynne	Family Representative
6.	Dockrill, Diane	Solutions Behavioral Healthcare
7.	Grace, Debbra	Wadsworth Salvation Army
8.	Hardin, Beverly	Society for Handicapped Citizens
9.	Jackson, Sienna	Medina Salvation Army
10.	Jenks, Michael	ADAMH Board
11.	King, Julie	United Way of Medina County
12.	Koran, William	Medina County ESC
13.	Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie	Medina Metro Housing
14.	LaMar, Michelle	Community Services Center
15.	LeSure, Suzanne	Cornerstone Wellness
16.	Manes, Jan	Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities
17.	McGuire, Beth	Hospice of Medina County
18.	Meador, Barbara	Community Action
19.	Nowak, Brian	Medina County Drug Abuse Commission
20.	Pendlebury, Dee	Ohio Department of Youth Services
21.	Quallich, Kristine	Medina City Schools
22.	Radecky, Debra	Office for Older Adults
23.	Ray, Billy	Family Representative
24.	Simon, Betsy	Family Representative
25.	Solar, Nick	City of Brunswick, Chair
26.	Stepp, Randy	Medina City Schools
27.	Titterington, Phillip	Juvenile Court
28.	Williams, Bradford	Solutions Behavioral Healthcare, Chair-Elect

GUESTS PRESENT

1.	Hudson, Nancy	OSU Extension
2.	Mutch, Faylin	Student Intern
3.	Reed, Kellie	Family Advisory Candidate

STAFF PRESENT

1.	McCourt, Jayme	Family First Council Administrative Assistant
2.	Ruf, Christine	Family First Council Coordinator and Help Me Grow Project Director

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nick Solar welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Introductions were made.

2. ELEEMOSYNARY (CHRISTMAS) PROJECT – FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In the absence of Pat Robertson, who is in Florida for a baby shower for twin grandchildren, Lynne Castele announced the annual Eleemosynary Project. The Family Advisory Committee has four families being adopted this year. The Medina City Schools adopted one family so we now have three families' wish lists to circulate. Please bring the gifts to the November meeting.

3. COORDINATOR'S REPORT – CHRISTINE RUF

September and October's reports are attached to the original minutes. Christine Ruf has been working with the Youth ICAT teams and the service coordination plan. Kathe Shook, Senior ICAT Coordinator from Catholic Charities, could no longer be funded through the ADAMH Board. Chris has been negotiating the contract for the Senior ICAT Coordinator. Council approved funding \$15,336 for the position from October 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Christine Ruf announced

that the United Way Early Childhood Intervention Program for four year olds is underway. This is a well-designed evidence-based program. Chris has also participated in Webinars for Help Me Grow. Mid-ICAT has one family and is moving forward.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 2009 and September 2009 meetings. Lynne Castele seconded. Julie King noted a correction from the August 2009 Council minutes: Section 6-B: \$10 million was used in Canton, Ohio to build the program. The motion passed.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

Christine Ruf announced that the Auditor of State recently completed the examination of Council's financial records and they had no findings. The committee discussed the contract for the Senior ICAT Coordinator. They also discussed the extension of the contract for the Council Coordinator. Chris Jakab is reviewing the need for a new contract.

B. FAMILY ADVISORY

In the absence of Sharon Tahajod, Lynne Castele announced the cancellation of the Family Advisory Committee meeting today. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting the Christmas project. Christine Ruf reported that the Resource Council lunch meeting on October 14, 2009 was well attended. Kellie Reed, Pat Robertson and Sharon Tahajod spoke about family engagement and advocacy. Kellie Reed, prospective Family Representative, did a wonderful job as one of the presenters. Jayme McCourt noted that there are copies of family and agency "family friendly" checklists at the sign-in table. Jayme has more copies if anyone is interested.

C. MEMBERSHIP

In the absence of Judy Leuthaeuser, Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported that the Membership Committee has the election slate for the November ballot. This year we have more candidates than open slots. Jayme McCourt read the e-mail that will be forthcoming when the ballot is forwarded. Debbie also noted that at this point we are still investigating a Chair Elect. Nick Solar added that anyone that has been Chair in the past can be Chair Elect and Chair again. Once the candidate is determined, then the ballot will be sent out. Beth McGuire stated to please be sure to look at the attendance records before making your selection.

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Phillip Titterington canceled the upcoming Public Relations meeting on November 5, 2009. At our last meeting we decided to meet quarterly. After looking at the Strategic Planning draft, we will have to recruit new members and then coordinate a schedule of meetings amongst us. A half-hour informational television show featuring Commissioner Pat Geissman, Sandy Calvert and Christine Ruf was aired over public and government access television in September. We have a copy of the show on DVD if anyone is interested in viewing it. Julie King announced that anyone can be on this committee, not just Council members. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko added that committee selections will be in January and to please consider joining the Public Relations Committee.

E. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Nick Solar distributed the draft of the Strategic Plan to Council. The document was printed for each member of Council so the information in red could be identified. The first task of the retreat was changing the Mission Statement.

The Family First Council is dedicated to strengthening the Medina County community by coordinating and supporting health, human, and social services.

The Planning Committee met this morning and discussed how to work with the document. Christine Ruf read an e-mail from Dale Fortner:

*I have taken the chart sheets and put them into a word document. The next step is to fill in the boxes on the Strategies and Action Step pages. Most committees did some work in this area. I think before the plan is finalized, details are needed. I made several comments and suggestions in **RED**. Please review and let me know how you suggest we 'complete' the rest of the strategic plan. I think the group did a FABULOUS job of coming together, refining the mission, selecting four goals, and then editing those goals after hearing input from others. Their work with the strategies and action steps is a great start. We are close to the finish. Please give me a call to discuss. I think we can wrap this up soon if we have the proper input.*

Nick Solar asked Council members to read over the draft, suggest changes and submit comments, deletions, or additions in writing via e-mail to Christine Ruf by November 10, 2009. Anything received after November 10, 2009 will not be accepted or considered for submission. Some of the members from the Planning Committee will meet to discuss the

comments. Then the full Planning Committee will meet to finalize the document on November 24, 2009. The document will then go back to Dale Fortner for input. The goal is to have the document finalized by 12-31-09 in order to proceed with our goals for 2010 and beyond.

Strategic Plan Goals 2010-2013

Goal 1: Family First Council will increase, by 5 % during each year of the plan, the participation of families accessing FFC initiatives. Members at the table:

- Barlow, Betty
- Castele, Lynne
- Gordon, Jan
- Pendlebury, Dee
- Perrine, Amy
- Ray, Billy
- Simon, Betsy

Goal 2: Increase the knowledge of the Family First Council Mission to referral sources, potential members, and partners on an ongoing basis. Members at the table:

- Andregg, Carol
- Dell'Anno, Amy
- DePasquale-Hagerty, Dianne
- Geissman, Patricia
- Leuthaeuser, Judy
- McCourt, Jayme
- McGuire, Beth

Goal 3: By January of 2012, establish a more effective structure and operating procedures for Family First Council as measured by our organizational chart, meeting agendas, and other supporting documents. Members at the table:

- Dockrill, Diane
- Goebel, Gene
- Jenks, Mike
- LeSure, Suzanne
- Nowak, Brian
- Putka, Tim
- Robertson, Pat
- Titterington, Phillip

Goal 4: During each year of the plan, increase active participation of council members and engage community members in order to leverage resources to meet identified needs and strengthen existing collaboratives. Members at the table:

- Carmon, Gail
- Grace, Debra
- King, Julie
- Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie
- Shook, Kathe

Nick Solar and Christine Ruf circulated amongst the four tables.

i. SUBCOMMITTEES

a. WELLNESS

Diane Dockrill reported that the Wellness Committee met on October 2, 2009. All programs are in compliance. Our next meeting is December 4, 2009.

(i.) CARETEAMS

Medina: Kris Quallich thanked Judge Lohn, Phillip Titterington and the Juvenile Court for funding the CareTeams this year. There are over 30 children in Medina at the after school programs. There are major crises going on in the lives of some of the children. There are many grandparents raising the children. Cornerstone is providing support groups. The Sustainability Committee will continue to meet and talk about sustaining the program. We are working on measurements and sustaining the program long term. We are honing the data gathering.

Wadsworth: Debra Grace announced that the Wadsworth CareTeams opened two weeks ago. She has received referrals and is working on getting the children to attend.

b. SENIOR FOCUS

Sandy Calvert reported on Senior Focus events:

- Sandy attended the recent Resource Council meeting where she learned about Family Engagement.

- Sandy introduced Fay Mutch, a student intern, who is coordinating a survey for the Senior Resource Directory. The Senior Network and Senior Focus PASO group are working together to publish the directory in 2010. The directory will be mailed to 16,000 older adult households. Idea Creative Group (formerly ADS) is promoting advertisements for the book. Fay will stay with the HANDS Foundation through next semester.
- Staff from 211 did a presentation to some members of the PASO group. PASO is trying to find out what they can do for the seniors in Medina County. The group wants to know what kind of answers older adults receive when someone calls asking about services in Medina County.
- The Safety and Security recommendation group wants to coordinate a project surrounding information gathering for seniors. Christine Fazio is chairing that committee and will be working on the Vial of Life program. Sandy wrote a grant and received \$2,000 for the program; The Women's Endowment Fund gave \$1,000 and the Senior Services Network gave \$1,000.
- Sandy participated in the informational program with Commissioner Pat Geissman and Christine Ruf that aired on cable TV in Brunswick and Medina.
- Sandy also is working on the Medina County Food Bank which will be the first in Medina County. The Food Bank will be located at the Armory on Lafayette Road. Sandridge Food Corporation is donating refrigerated units. The Committee is working on logistics, staff and applying for 501(c)3 status. They are meeting with the Akron Food Bank on how we can work together.
- Sandy is meeting next week for the second recommendation, Housing.
- Mead Wilkins and Dave Williams have started the cable show for the third recommendation, Finance.
- Sandy thanked all of the chairs for taking charge of the six identified needs.

c. YOUTH ADVISORY CONSORTIUM

Christine Ruf announced that the Youth Advisory Consortium continues to meet. This is an advisory group that meets the requirement for grant writing purposes. We receive reports from Head Start, WIC, HMG, Mental Health, and MCBDD on all the work that is being accomplished. The Consortium is developing a matrix on what a healthy child looks like by identifying what services are needed. The Consortium is working on a brochure and a needs assessment for grant writing. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at Medina Hospital.

ii. AD HOC COMMITTEES

b. MID-ICAT

Christine Ruf noted that Mid-ICAT is up and running. They have their first family which is quite a challenging case. The group meets monthly. Please make referrals to Chris.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nick Solar reminded Council members to keep in mind that the Membership Committee is looking for a Chair Elect. If anyone is interested, please contact one of the members of that committee. Brad Williams will be Chair next year. The election will be next month.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Christine Ruf received a letter from the Department of Education (copy attached to original minutes). The DOE's goal is for Family and Civic Engagement in Schools Initiative. Twenty-five counties are eligible for funding. There is a bidder's conference that Nancy Nimmo and Chris will participate in via an online conference. The Council has to have at least one successful project and have the support of the ESC Superintendent. We will see what it is involved as this is a grant process.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Nick Solar extended a welcome to Nancy Hudson who will be replacing Jan Gordon for the OSU Extension position on Council.

B. Nick Solar stressed the importance of having working smoke detectors in your home. If you do not have one, you can go to your local Fire Department and they have some to distribute.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Carol Andregg made a motion to adjourn. Sandy Calvert seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jayme McCourt