

**Medina County Family First Council
Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Anderson, JeffOhio Department of Youth Services
2. Castele, Lynne Family Representative, Chair Elect, Family First Council
3. Giles, Joyce.....Medina General Hospital
4. Grace, Debbra.....Wadsworth Salvation Army
5. Hardin, Beverly.....Society for Handicapped Citizens
6. Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie Metro Housing Authority, Chair, Family First Council
7. Manes, Jan.....Medina County Board of MR/DD
8. McDaniels, PatHead Start
9. McGuire, BethHospice of Medina County
10. Putka, TimCatholic Charities
11. Radecky, DebraOffice for Older Adults
12. Ray, BillyFamily Representative
13. Robertson, Patricia.....Family Representative
14. Schreiber, Kim.....Physical Representative
15. Shema, Tim.....Domestic Relations Court
16. Simon, ElizabethFamily Representative
17. Solar, Nick.....City of Brunswick
18. Strebler, Lisa.....Medina County Health Department
19. Stultz-Costello, Cara Spencer United Methodist Church
20. Tahajod, Sharon.....Family Representative
21. Titterington, Phillip.....Juvenile Court
22. Wilkins, Mead.....Medina County Job and Family Services

GUESTS PRESENT

1. Barlow, BettyOaks Family Care Center
2. Bon, Al.....Faith in Action
3. Gramm, ChristineMedina County District Library
4. Kuczynski, Carli.....Medina Creative Housing
5. Rak, Rebecca.....Oaks Family Care Center

STAFF PRESENT

1. DeGeorge, Vincent.....Family First Council Executive Director
2. McCourt, JaymeFamily First Council Administrative Assistant
3. Ruf, ChrisHelp Me Grow Project Director

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Debbie Kubena-Yatsko called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Introductions were made. Our hosts, Rebecca Rak and Betty Barlow of the Lodi Resource Center, were thanked for the use of the facilities.

2. PRESENTATION – THE LODI RESOURCE CENTER

Rebecca Rak welcomed everyone to the Resource Center. The Resource Center serves over 140 children and teens per month. The Resource Center is open 4 days after school and for family programming. The Resource Center is also a summer lunch program site as it is a recipient of a Children’s Hunger Grant. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at noon, lunch is provided and a snack is provided at 4:00 p.m. We are currently feeding 27 for lunch and it has only been in operation for one week.

In the summer months physical fitness activities will be provided. In the winter months, bussing to the center is provided. Behavioral and anger management skills are addressed. Homework help after school

is provided through Project Learn. Project Learn is also helping parents to help their children with study skills.

Dale Willis is the Resource Center Director. The Health Department is on site for immunizations and well care visits. There are two counseling rooms for individual counseling time. The Resource Center can have up to 90 people on the premises any one time. There is foosball, ping pong, board games, air hockey, and group activities. The Resource Center is on the list to receive computers from Job and Family Services. The community is strongly supporting this program. There are three part-time staff members and many volunteers, depending on how many people we have at any given time. Usually there is 1 adult per 6 kids or 1 to 8 kids, if that adult is a professional mental health provider. We strongly encourage parents to stay. Rebecca thanked everyone in attendance and to please look around before you leave.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT- Debbie Kubena-Yatsko

Debbie thanked Vince DeGeorge, Jayme McCourt and Amy Perrine for coordinating the legislative breakfast. Vince's presentation was very professional and he did a wonderful job.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Vincent DeGeorge

Vince DeGeorge distributed and discussed his written report for ICAT and State/Other Issues. (Copy attached to original minutes.)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pat Robertson made a motion to approve the minute. Debra Grace seconded. The motion passed.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. HELP ME GROW

Debra Grace made a motion to approve an amendment of one contract to transfer \$2,000 from Parent Support to Catholic Charities to cover the contract shortfall for one person's salary. Pat Robertson seconded. The motion passed. Tim Putka and Betsy Simon abstained.

B. HELP ME GROW

Beth McGuire made a motion to:

Approve the contract with Catholic Charities for	\$168,860.64
Approve the contract with MR/DD for	\$46,824.96
Approve the contract with Community Action for	\$46,824.96
Approve the contract with Health Department for	\$110,206.00

Sharon Tahajod seconded. The motion passed. Tim Putka, Betsy Simon, Lisa Strebler, Jan Manes and Pat McDaniel abstained.

C. WELLNESS GRANT

Nick Solar made a motion to approve the contract between Job and Family Services and Family First Council for \$200,000. Breakdown is \$152,250 towards Wellness grantees for teen pregnancy prevention, \$45,000 for the development of care teams, and \$2,750 for evaluations. Debra Radecky seconded. The motion passed. Tim Putka, Betsy Simon and Mead Wilkins abstained.

D. WELLNESS GRANT

Lynne Castele made a motion to approve the distribution of \$200,000 received from Job and Family Services to the Wellness Grantees in the amounts of:

Oaks Family Care for	\$79,500.00
Edwards Middle School for	\$15,000.00
Salvation Army Wadsworth for	\$18,500.00
Planned Parenthood for	\$17,500.00
Catholic Charities for	\$21,750.00
TOTAL:	\$152,250.00

Lisa Strebler seconded. The motion passed. Tim Putka, Betsy Simon and Debra Grace abstained.

E. FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

Tim Putka made a motion to approve the Family First Council to apply for a Community Capacity Building Grant and HB 289 plan from the State of Ohio in the amount of \$20,000 with the breakdown of \$18,500 for administrative personnel (Vincent DeGeorge, Jayme McCourt and Amy Perrine) and \$1,500 for parent stipends. Debbra Radecky seconded. The motion passed.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mead Wilkins reported that Job and Family Services is moving forward on the Wellness contracts.

B. FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Sharon Tahajod requested volunteers for back to school rallies. All rallies are from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sharon passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

C. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Beth McGuire announced the next Membership Committee meeting is July 11, 2007 at Hospice, 797 North Court Street.

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Phillip Titterington stated that the Public Relations Committee will not have a meeting on July 3rd, but is continuing to work with the web page design. We are opting for a more interactive site and Chad Allan is making progress on it. We are hoping for a search engine of Family Focus. The Speakers Bureau is being updated. Our next meeting will be on August 7th at 10:00 a.m. at the Housing Authority.

E. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported on the Planning Committee meeting held on June 20th. The focus of the meeting was the training session on October 19th, 2007. The committee addressed issues and wants to bring groups together to do training on PfS process. Who should do what and who should be invited was discussed. We need the right people around the tables so that this training can be a success. The next meeting is scheduled for August 15th, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. at the Human Services Center.

F. AD HOC COMMITTEES

i. EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMITTEE

None.

ii. WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Vince DeGeorge relayed that Diane Dockrill is working with youth-related camps over the summer. It was very challenging to fund the programs that were submitted. Money was cut from JFS so grant funding had to be adjusted. The area of funding that was eliminated was abstinence programming. The Wellness Committee provided the Ohio Children's Trust Fund grantees technical assistance training. The unit rates and how they conduct their business were not consistent. Those grants are being reworked and the resubmission deadline is June 30, 2007. The grants should be firmed up by August 1, 2007.

iii. PFS IMPLEMENTATION TEAM REPORT

Chris Ruf reported that PfS is in its sustainability phase. The key component is Access to Better Care funds. The plan is to put together a report on the beginning and ending surveys. The Wadsworth Care team served 30 children with over 110 linkages made. Discipline rates were reduced as a result of the Care Team and attendance improved. One student threw off the numbers because of truancy issues. A final written report will be forthcoming to share with Family First Council and the community. Most of the kids served also have an affiliation with the Salvation Army in Wadsworth. Medina City Schools are also allocating funds for a Care Team.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A. **Debbie Kubena-Yatsko** – Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority Section 8 Housing list will be closing on June 30, 2007.

B. **Nick Solar** – As you may know, Carol Andregg's husband passed away recently. A scholarship is being established in his name through the Brunswick Education Foundation.

C. **Billy Ray** – Thank you for the cake and he is happy to spend his 80th birthday with us.

D. **Beth McGuire** – Hospice of Medina County Kids Camp was a great success. We had a full house. The fall program is now underway. (Handout attached to the original minutes.)

E. **Phillip Titterton** – The Drug Court has completely moved out of the New Horizons building.

F. **Sharon Tahajod** – Happy Birthday to Billy Ray and thank you for coming to the Family Advisory Committee meetings.

G. **Lisa Strebler** – The grant support for child and adolescent funding has been cut from the state. The Health Department may have to scale back certain components. The Health Department was awarded a continuation of a contract to supply nurses in the Brunswick City Schools. A program targeting overweight and obese children is currently underway.

H. **Jan Manes** – MR/DD hosted an ice cream social recently and over 2,000 people attended.

I. **Betty Barlow** – reported for **Bonnie Sander** of the Medina County Marriage Coalition. The Honorable Judge Lohn officiated at the remarriage ceremony for over 60 couples on June 23rd, 2007. Over 30 clergy and public officials with licenses to perform marriages have signed the Medina Community Marriage Policy.

J. **Betty Barlow** – Oaks Family Care is a recipient of a Father Rebuilding grant. Parenting classes will be available through this grant.

K. **Carli Kuczynski** – Medina Creative Housing has a Summer Life Skills class in Brunswick. It will begin on July 14 and run for 4 weeks. Creative Housing will be modifying a home for a person in a wheelchair.

I. **Al Bon** – Faith In Action is asking if anyone knows of older persons in need. Faith in Action needs volunteers to help with driving.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Nick Solar made a motion to adjourn. Tim Putka second. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jayme McCourt