

**Medina County Family First Council
Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Anderson, Jeff..... Ohio Department of Youth Services
2. Andregg, Carol Family Representative
3. Ball, Gloria Wadsworth City Schools
4. Barlow, Betty..... Oaks Family Care Center
5. Calvert, Sandy Hands Foundation
6. Castele, Lynne..... Family Representative, Chair
7. Dockrill, Diane..... Solutions Behavioral Healthcare
8. Gordon, Jan OSU Extension
9. Grace, Debbra Wadsworth Salvation Army
10. Hambley, Steven Medina County Commissioner
11. Hardin, Beverly Society for Handicapped Citizens
12. Jackson, Sienna Medina Salvation Army
13. Jenks, Michael ADAMH Board
14. Johnston, Charlie..... CFIT
15. King, Julie United Way of Medina County
16. Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie..... Medina Metro Housing
17. LeSure, Suzanne..... Cornerstone Wellness
18. Leuthaeuser, Judy Medina County Library
19. McDaniels, Pat..... Community Action Wayne/Medina County
20. McGuire, Beth..... Hospice of Medina County
21. Meador, Barbara..... Community Action
22. Nowak, Brian Medina County Drug Abuse Commission
23. Radecky, Debra..... Office for Older Adults
24. Ray, Billy Family Representative
25. Robertson, Pat..... Family Representative
26. Schreiber, Kim Physical Representative
27. Shema, Timothy Domestic Relations Court
28. Simon, Betsy..... Family Representative
29. Solar, Nick City of Brunswick, Chair-Elect
30. Stepp, Randy Medina City Schools
31. Strebler, Lisa..... Medina County Health Department
32. Tahajod, Sharon Family Representative
33. Titterington, Phillip Juvenile Court
34. Wilkins, Mead Medina County Job and Family Services
35. Williams, Bradford Solutions Behavioral Healthcare

GUESTS PRESENT

1. Hartman, Don Office for Older Adults
2. Kinchy, Janice..... Alternative Paths
3. Lewis, Susan Magistrate, Juvenile Court

STAFF PRESENT

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

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Lynne Castele called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

2. PRESENTATION – JUVENILE COURT

Phillip Titterington introduced Magistrate Susan Lewis from the Medina County Juvenile Court. Magistrate Lewis thanked Council for giving her the opportunity to speak to the group. She gave an overview of her credentials and then her appointment to the court as a Magistrate. Magistrates are appointed, not elected to the court. Magistrate Lewis gave examples of cases heard in the juvenile court: delinquency, traffic and unruly cases. Juveniles have the same rights as adults and the same laws apply.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – LYNNE CASTELE

Lynne Castele circulated:

1. Listing of names for correct publication on the web site.
2. Family Focus articles needed.
3. Sign-up sheet for members to select a committee they would like to serve on.

Christine Ruf is a member of the ARC committee at Society of Handicapped Citizens. If anyone is interested in being contacted to talk about MCAT (18-59 year olds), please sign the sheet that is being circulated.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – LYNNE CASTELE

In Vincent DeGeorge's absence, Lynne Castele gave a synopsis of the Executive Director's report. A copy of the report is attached to the original minutes. Family First has two part time AmeriCorps positions available. Thank you to the Commissioners for allocating \$25,000 for the CareTeams and Teen Pregnancy Prevention. Steven Hambley spoke about the budget and wishes it could have been more. Sandy Calvert spoke about the SAMSHA grant application. Lisa Strebler would like to stress the needs at the Lodi Resource Center. The WIC Program of the Health Department is thriving at the Lodi Resource Center. The Health Department is very concerned for the future of the Lodi Resource Center as child immunizations are very delinquent in the Lodi area. Betty Barlow spoke about the services that the Oaks provides to the community. Betty distributed a 2007 year-end summary (copy attached to original minutes). Discussion ensued about the benefits of the Lodi Resource Center.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pat Robertson made a motion to approve the minutes. Carol Andregg seconded. Beth McGuire abstained. The motion passed.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

Mead Wilkins reported that the Committee is still working on Vince DeGeorge's contract. There is a fine line between independent contractor and employee status. The group will meet next week about the contract and then go to the prosecutor's office for review.

B. FAMILY ADVISORY

Sharon Tahajod thanked everyone who brought food for the Coalition of Medina County Food Pantries. Family Advisory Committee is working on back to school rallies. School is starting earlier next year. We may stagger agency representation at the rallies.

C. MEMBERSHIP

Beth McGuire scheduled meeting on April 9, 2008 but is trying to make it the 8th. The Membership Committee would like to get more involved in the following months. Please sit on our committee!

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Phillip Titterington noted that the committee selected a photo for the Data Sharing Page. Every day the web site is being more populated. Possible logos were reviewed from the Career Center as the prior submissions did not meet our needs. We will meet again on April 1, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at Job and Family Services in the second floor conference room. The data sharing page should be live by early next week. Beth McGuire inquired about radio ads. Phillip responded that they are not cost effective.

E. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Lynne Castele announced that the next meeting is on April 16, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. at Medina General Hospital. We will be looking at changing the meeting dates because some chairs cannot attend.

F. AD HOC COMMITTEES

a. EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNTY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

Lisa Strebler stated that a group is getting together to dialog working together to meet various needs for advisory oversight and support, meeting at the Health Dept on April 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. Suzanne LeSure has trained Debbie Devlin from CFIT for Incredible Years. We are looking to train more people in this program. We are also launching a program called Early Success. We have been doing in-service for day care providers for mental health screening.

b. WELLNESS

Diane Dockrill reported that the committee is busy working on the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. Diane thanked Steve Hambley and the County Commissioners for the \$25,000. Wellness meets the first Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Human Services Building.

c. PFS SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

Phillip Titterington reported that the PFS team will be looking at a federal grant on April 18, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. at the Medina City Schools Office (next to Miss Molly's Tea Room). Mike Jenks stated that there may be some ABC monies for support of the CareTeams and he is still investigating the funding sources. Phillip noted that the Medina City Schools are funding the CareTeams in their schools. Debbra Grace noted that the Salvation Army is carrying the expenses for the after school CareTeams. Debbra submitted the invoice to Wadsworth City Schools but has yet to be reimbursed. Programs are being done that are not being reimbursed. Debbra has to be a fiscal agent for her agency and is very concerned about the lack of funds. This issue will be brought up at the next sustainability meeting. Also the same issue will be brought to the attention of the Executive Director for his review and opinion.

d. BYLAWS

Nick Solar and the Bylaws Committee met on March 14, 2008 at Medina General Hospital. We will continue to meet on a monthly basis to complete this process. When the process is complete, we will ask the committee chairs to review the document. The next meeting is April 11, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. at Medina General Hospital.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Pat McDaniels – Family First Council web site is a great web site!
- B. Sienna Jackson – There will be a summer day camp at the Salvation Army in Medina this summer.
- C. Debra Grace – Wadsworth Salvation Army Parenting Center is sponsoring a family carnival on May 3rd. E-mail Debra for more information.
- D. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko – Thank you for the support from the County Commissioners. The Housing Authority has new staff. We also have funds to help with evictions, etc. Thank you to anyone who brought food in for the food drive. Checks can be made payable to the “Coalition of Medina County Food Pantries.”
- E. Judy Leuthaeuser – All of the libraries are open! There is free meeting space to non-profits.
- F. Bev Hardin – There is a canteen on Friday nights from 7-9 for handicapped citizens.
- G. Jeff Anderson – There will be a \$1.7 million deficit over the next year. Two facilities will be closing soon due to monetary restraints.
- H. Phillip Titterington – There have been costly services and intensive kids that need DYS. As a member of the PfS Committee, we understand the predicament that the Wadsworth Salvation Army is in regarding the after school tutoring for the CareTeams.
- I. Sandy Calvert – Train the Trainer workshop for Screening Ohio Seniors will be on April 17, 2008. Call Sandy Calvert to RSVP. Sandy attended the Ohio Department of Aging meeting this month. There are cuts in funding from the state on seniors issues.
- J. Lisa Strebler – The Health Department is in the process of completing a grant for underinsured children in the county. This will be the last year we will see funds for underinsured children. This is a tremendous concern for the health department as these funds may not be available next year.
- K. Mead Wilkins – Statewide, 700 jobs at JFS are being eliminated.
- L. Mike Jenks – Two psychiatric hospitals have closed without any input from agencies.
- M. Don Hartman - Office for Older Adults - Debra Radecky should be back on April 7, 2008.
- N. Betty Barlow - June 22, 2008 is the renewing marriage initiative. A new class for the Parent Project will begin on April 15, 2008 for parents who have difficult children.
- O. Jan Gordon – Two groups are starting up in April: Early Childhood STEP and Active Parenting for Stepfamilies.
- P. Gloria Ball – Special education groups met last week. A 25 hour a week preschool for children with autism will open in the fall in Medina County schools. Chris Ruf was asked to pull some numbers together. Seven were diagnosed. Ten were on the spectrum. Seventeen possibly could use this program. And those are the ones we know about.
- Q. Beth McGuire – Handed out sheet of meetings for the Robertson Bereavement Center.
- R. Randy Stepp – The Medina City Schools lost the last levy 70/30% and are now evaluating the situation. April 28 will be next board meeting and we will have a call-in session. We will be focusing on how to get the funding that the schools need. Kris Quallich had a baby girl, Elle, 6 pounds, 12 ounces. Mom and baby are doing well. Kris will be back to work mid to end of April.
- S. Barb Meador – Community Action is also feeling the effects of cuts. We are providing a program called “Within My Reach” for parents on how to choose the right partner and the decision-making process. Community Action is looking for the right time and place for a weekend retreat. Thank you to the Health Department for working with Community Action. Family Affair will be April 26, 2008 at the Fairgrounds Community Service Center from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- T. Lynne Castele – Thanks to all of you for providing the programs with less to work with.
- U. Nick Solar – Thank you to Jayme for being here while having a fall last night. She will be on her way to the ER when the meeting is done.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Carol Andregg made a motion to adjourn. Pat McDaniels seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jayme McCourt