

**Medina County Family First Council  
Meeting Minutes  
May 22, 2007**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Anderson, Jeff ..... Ohio Department of Youth Services
2. Andregg, Carol ..... Family Representative
3. Ball, Gloria ..... Wadsworth City Schools
4. Castele, Lynne ..... Family Representative, Chair Elect, Family First Council
5. Dell'Anno, Amy ..... Family Representative
6. DePasquale-Hagerty, Dianne ..... Medina Creative Housing
7. Dockrill, Diane ..... Solutions Behavioral Healthcare
8. Giles, Joyce ..... Medina General Hospital
9. Gordon, Jan ..... OSU Extension
10. Grace, Debbra ..... Wadsworth Salvation Army
11. Hambley, Steve ..... Medina County Commissioner
12. Hardin, Beverly ..... Society for Handicapped Citizens
13. Jenks, Michael ..... ADAMH Board
14. King, Julie ..... United Way
15. Koran, William ..... Medina County Schools
16. Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie ..... Metro Housing Authority, Chair, Family First Council
17. Larrick, Stephanie ..... Medina Salvation Army
18. LeSure, Suzanne ..... Cornerstone Wellness
19. Lohn, John ..... Judge, Juvenile Court
20. McDaniels, Pat ..... Head Start
21. McGuire, Beth ..... Hospice of Medina County
22. Meador, Barbara ..... Community Action Wayne/Medina County
23. Nowak, Brian ..... Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC)
24. Putka, Tim ..... Catholic Charities
25. Quallich, Kristine ..... Medina City Schools
26. Radecky, Debra ..... Office for Older Adults
27. Ray, Billy ..... Family Representative
28. Robertson, Patricia ..... Family Representative
29. Shema, Tim ..... Domestic Relations Court
30. Simon, Elizabeth ..... Family Representative
31. Solar, Nick ..... City of Brunswick
32. Strebler, Lisa ..... Medina County Health Department
33. Stultz-Costello, Cara ..... Spencer United Methodist Church
34. Tahajod, Sharon ..... Family Representative
35. Titterington, Phillip ..... Juvenile Court
36. Williams, Bradford ..... Solutions Behavioral Healthcare

**GUESTS PRESENT**

1. Hamer, Lucy ..... Medina County Job and Family Services
2. Kercher, Lindsey ..... Wadsworth Salvation Army
3. Mixell, Shari ..... Medina County Job and Family Services

**STAFF PRESENT**

1. DeGeorge, Vincent ..... Family First Council Executive Director
2. McCourt, Jayme ..... Family First Council Administrative Assistant
3. Ruf, Chris ..... Help Me Grow Project Director

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Debbie Kubena-Yatsko called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Introductions were made.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Vince DeGeorge distributed and discussed his written report for ICAT and State/Other Issues. (Copy attached to original minutes.) An ICAT retreat is being planned for September 2007. Family First Council is hosting a legislative breakfast on Friday, June 15, 2007. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Jayme McCourt.

Mike Jenks stated that Sandy Stephenson, (a former Agency Director) was appointed to the position of Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health, and William Harper (Mental Health Board Director for Lorain County) was appointed by Gov. Strickland to the position of Deputy Director.

Mike Jenks stated that there would be some ABC funds left over from the transformation plan initiative. He pointed out that the funds came in to the ADAMH Board somewhat late and given normal start-up issues this is not an uncommon phenomenon. He went on to say that he had been discussing with Vince DeGeorge, Mead Wilkins, Phillip Titterington, and Suzanne LeSure what to do with the remaining funds that met the general parameters of the grant. Mike is planning to transfer remaining funds from the ABC initiative to the ICAT Pooled Fund/ADAMH sub account. In this way these monies could be used to support at risk, ICAT kids.

**4. PRESENTATION – THE LEARNING CENTER AT THE SALVATION ARMY OF WADSWORTH**

Lindsay Kercher provided a brochure (copy attached to original minutes) and spoke on the free after-school tutoring center. The Wadsworth schools refer children to the center for assistance. Parents need to contact the Salvation Army for availability as the slots fill up quickly. Grace Lutheran Church of Wadsworth provides use of their facilities for the Learning Center. Ages kindergarten through sixth grade are served. No transportation is provided. A seven week summer camp is offered for up to 20 children. There is no charge for any of their services or camp.

**5. APPROVAL OF APRIL 2007 MINUTES**

Julie King made a motion to approve the March 27, 2007 minutes with two spelling corrections: Julie Sabol and Chad Allan. Joyce Giles seconded. The motion passed.

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**A.** Diane Dockrill made a motion to approve Chris Ruf's contract for 2007-2008. A 3.5% increase is proposed for a total of 40 hours per week at 48 weeks per year not to exceed \$56,477. All of Chris' contract is funded through the Help Me Grow grant. Debra Grace seconded. Discussion on the motion included the state incentive package that we met and exceeded, independent contractor status, title and responsibilities. The motion passed. Judge Lohn abstained. Betsy Simon left the meeting prior to the vote.

**B.** Pat Robertson made a motion to approve Amy Perrine's contract for 2007-2008. A 3.5% increase is proposed for a total of 52 weeks per year not to exceed \$30,000. Discussion on the motion included funding sources of Amy's contract. Amy tracks 10 different streams of ICAT funds. Juvenile Court and FAST\$07 contribute to her salary. Beth McGuire seconded. The motion passed. Judge Lohn abstained.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

A copy of the minutes from April 17, 2007 Administrative meeting was available for review. A copy of the budget was available for review. (Copies attached to original minutes).

**B. FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Sharon Tahajod reported that the Family Advisory Committee is working on Back to School Rallies. All of the Rallies are within a two week time frame. The April 24, 2007 minutes were available for distribution. (Copy attached to original minutes.)

**C. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Beth McGuire stated the next meeting is July 11, 2007. There was no meeting in May.

**D. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Philip Titterington reported that the Public Relations Committee reviewed and compiled the web site survey from Chad Allan. The agenda for the meeting on June 5, 2007 will include review of the two web site designs that Chad Allan provided the committee. Copies of the minutes from May 1, 2007 were available for distribution. (Copy attached to original minutes). The meeting on July 3, 2007 may be canceled due to the holiday.

**E. PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported the Planning Committee will meet on June 20, 2007. The Planning Committee will be discussing PfS training and the Strategic Plan. A workshop on training for PfS is in the planning stages for October 19, 2007. Discussion will ensue on whom to invite to this workshop and how many people to invite. The April 18, 2007 minutes were available for review. (Copy attached to original minutes).

**F. PROGRAM COMMITTEES**

**i. EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chris Ruf reported that Help Me Grow will be adding two new staff members.

**ii. WELLNESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Diane Dockrill distributed the Wellness Committee report for May 4, 2007. (Copy attached to the original minutes.) Request for Proposals for the Ohio Children's Trust Fund and the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program were reviewed on May 8, 2007. Thank you to the individuals who took the time to review the grant proposals. On the behalf of Family First Council, Vince DeGeorge applied for a grant from Job and Family Services for Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Programs targeting the after school time frame. Family First requested \$290,000, and \$200,000 was allotted. It will be a challenge to work with this budget. The Wellness Committee will be re-reviewing some of the funding requests. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko gave praise to the Wellness Grant reviewers. It is a well run, well thought-out process. Fourteen individuals worked on the grant proposals, dedicating a great deal of their own time to the review.

Diane Dockrill and Vince DeGeorge spoke about the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. The "units of service" is not uniform amongst the proposed grants. At the meeting on June 1, 2007 Family First Council will reopen the proposal process for this grant.

**iii. PfS CORE TEAM REPORT**

Chris Ruf stated the Wadsworth Care Team has exceeded its expectations with the number of children served. The Wadsworth Care Team and the Family Engagement Specialist have served over 30 children. These children have been linked to over 100 services since February 1, 2007. The Care Team will be wrapping up on June 1, 2007 with a presentation to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who were in the program.

Vince DeGeorge spoke on sustainability of the program and the funding. This will be a challenge in the coming year to keep this program. Dr. Dennis Embry was here on May 11, 2007 wrapping up the Wadsworth Care Team. Medina County will be obtaining free technical assistance and training on the PfS process. June 8, 2007 is the implementation and sustainability meeting.

Kris Quallich stated that the Medina schools started their Care Team. Medina school children that need access to services are identified through teacher recommendation. The Middle School principals are in agreement with establishing the Care Team. Medina Schools has CFIT staff, Shannon Swanson, as their Family Engagement Specialist. Four children have been identified in the middle schools.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**a. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko** – Medina Metro Housing Authority is closing its Section 8 list on June 30, 2007. It is unknown when the list will reopen. Short-term rental assistance, emergency housing programs, crisis situations, homeless and disabled services will still be available.

**b. Julie King** –Please check your link on the 211 web site.

**c. Mike Jenks** – Good job on the PfS process.

**d. Philip Titterington** – Congratulations to Chris Ruf and Amy Perrine on the contract renewal and their increase in salary.

**e. Lisa Strebler** – The Health Department's budget was reduced by 72%. Child and adolescent care reduction will take place in about 6 weeks. An obesity study of over 900 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the Medina County

schools showed that 40% are at risk or are now obese through BMI screenings. Parents had to agree to the screening and will receive the results.

**f. Diane DePasquale-Hagerty** – The summer life skills camp will be a 4 week program from July 16-August 6, 2007. A copy of the flyer is attached to the original minutes.

**g. Sharon Tahajod** – Coats for Kids is raffling off 4 theme Longaberger baskets to help raise money for this coming winter's coats. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Contact Sharon at 330-722-1103 if you would like to purchase tickets.

**i. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko** – The June 26, 2007 Family First Council Meeting will be held at the Lodi Resource Center. 119 Bank Street, Lodi.

**11. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Nick Solar made a motion to adjourn. Carol Andregg seconded. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Jayne McCourt