

**Medina County Family First Council
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 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. Gordon, Jan..... OSU Extension, Medina County
7. Grace, Debbra Wadsworth Salvation Army
8. Hardin, Beverly Society for Handicapped Citizens
9. Jenks, Mike..... ADAMH Board
10. King, Julie United Way of Medina County
11. Koran, Will Medina County Schools
12. Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie Metro Housing Authority, Chair, Family First Council
13. LaForme, Greg Medina County Achievement Center
14. LeSure, Suzanne..... Cornerstone Wellness
15. Leuthaeuser, Judy Medina County District Library
16. Lohn, John..... Medina County Juvenile Court Judge
17. Manes, Jan Medina County Board of MR/DD
18. McDaniels, Pat Community Action
19. McGuire, Beth..... Hospice of Medina County
20. Meador, Barb..... Community Action
21. Nowak, Brian Medina County Drug Abuse Commission
22. Putka, Tim Catholic Charities
23. Quallich, Kris Medina City Schools
24. Radecky, Debra..... Office for Older Adults
25. Ray, Billy..... Family Representative
26. Robertson, Patricia Family Representative
27. Shema, Tim Domestic Relations Court
28. Solar, Nick City of Brunswick
29. Stepp, Randy..... Medina City Schools
30. Strebler, Lisa Medina County Health Department
31. Tahajod, Sharon Family Representative
32. Titterington, Phillip..... Juvenile Court
33. Williams, Bradford Solutions Behavioral Healthcare

GUESTS PRESENT

1. Barlow, Betty Oaks Family Care
2. Foley, Tracy..... Job and Family Services
3. Kinchy, Janice Alternative Paths
4. Nimmo, Nancy Medina County Schools ESC
5. Skirmann, Amy ADAMH Board

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

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

2. PRESENTATION – MEDINA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Lisa Strebler gave handouts and spoke about the Medina County Health Department and its five divisions. The Health Department is a Combined General Health District and serves all residents of Medina County. (Copies of handouts attached to original minutes.) Lisa requested that members of council please generate a letter supporting the Health Department. Information will be forthcoming via e-mail from Jayme McCourt.

October 2007 presentation will be the Medina City Schools.

3. 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.) Vince passed around the Ohio Family and Children First 2007 Outcome Directory. If anyone knows of a person to fill an Americorps job, please send information to Jayme McCourt.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lynne Castele made a motion to approve the minutes. Pat Robertson seconded. The motion passed. Judge John Lohn was present but did not vote.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Greg LaForme made a motion to approve the contract for Ken Bender at \$30 per hour not to exceed \$21,600 for the Care Teams. Will Koran seconded. The motion passed. Kris Quallich and Randy Stepp abstained. Judge John Lohn was present but did not vote.

B. Greg LaForme made a motion to approve the funds previously allocated to the Wellness Committee and approved for the after school Care Teams that if those are not available we will utilize the administrative cash balance account, not to exceed \$45,000. Debra Grace seconded. The motion passed. Kris Quallich and Randy Stepp abstained. Judge John Lohn was present but did not vote.

C. Beth McGuire made a motion to approve a \$500 stipend for Dr. Mark Redding for the October 19, 2007 seminar – Planning for Success: A Process to Enhance Community Wellness. Lynne Castele seconded. The motion passed. Judge John Lohn was present but did not vote.

D. Will Koran made a motion to approve a contract with the Care Team Hinson Group for survey analysis and consultation not to exceed \$3,000. Carol Andregg seconded. The motion passed. Judge John Lohn was present but did not vote.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vince DeGeorge reported that there was no August Meeting. A copy of the July 2007 minutes is attached to the original minutes. Vince discussed revising Jayme McCourt's job description. He is looking at changing her to a different level at the county scale of compensation. This will be discussed in the next administrative meeting. Jayme is doing a tremendous job and her responsibilities have increased than what she was hired to do. Jayme is no longer in Vince's office, but in the Observation Room next door.

B. FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Sharon Tahajod provided the last two months of minutes of the Family Advisory Committee. The next Family Network Meeting which is part of Northeast Ohio is scheduled for October 2, 2007. There is a greater emphasis on family engagement.

Pat Robertson stated that it is time again for the Christmas project. She will send around sheets next month for the two families we are sponsoring. Please come in a giving mood!

C. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Beth McGuire stated that the Membership Committee met and had a very productive meeting. The current applications were reviewed. The Chair-elect position was discussed. The deadline for applications is September 30, 2007. The committee reviewed attendance records. Chairs need to get their information on attendance to Jayme McCourt for tracking purposes. The committee discussed bylaws with family representative vacancies and sent questions to the Bylaws Committee. The Planning Committee would like a new business representative. Please contact any of the Membership Committee members if you know of anyone. We will also be recruiting family reps to fulfill the lifespan approach. Renewals are not automatic. 20 elected members are on council; some are up for

renewal, some are not. Six family representatives are separate. Beth spoke about orientation and will continue this at her next meeting. Jayme will be e-mailing and US mailing out the slate. The election will be at the beginning of the meeting in November.

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Phillip Titterington reported that the Public Relations Committee will meet again on October 2, 2007. Website populating is currently being undertaken. Our goal is at the November meeting to show the website and maybe have logo. At the latest we hope to have it all completed by the end of the year. Some of this is contingent on the logo. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko contacted Career Center concerning the creation of the logo and if they are still interested in designing this. Matt Cole has resigned from ADS but wants to be part of this committee.

E. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko stated that there is no report because we meet every other month. At the meeting on October 17, 2007 the committee will be preparing for training for "Planning for Success: A Process to Enhance Community Wellness" on October 19, 2007 at Williams on the Lake.

F. BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Lynne Castele reported that the Bylaws Committee met on Friday, September 21, 2007. The Committee is looking at how the bylaws interface with HB289. The hope is for the first quarter of 2008 to present recommendations to Family First Council. The next Bylaws Committee meeting is November 9, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. at Medina Hospital. Anyone welcome to attend.

G. AD HOC COMMITTEES

i. EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMITTEE

Jan Manes reported that the Early Childhood Committee is being revamped. On August 31, 2007, representatives from the agencies providing behavioral health care to children under the age of five met to discuss:

1. The continuum of service available in our county,
2. Gaps in services, specific roles that agencies plan or are limited to, and
3. Training needs and methods for measuring gains.

Agencies included: Child and Family Intervention Team, Help Me Grow, Catholic Charities, Cornerstone Wellness Center and Medina County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

The Plan and Goals for 2007/2008 are:

1. To increase the number of Medina County children screened for social, emotional, and/or behavioral difficulties.
2. To provide a continuum of services from prevention, education and consultation in behavioral health to intensive intervention, with a clearly identified referral path.
3. To develop a data collection plan that will help us monitor our progress as a community and assess the outcome of specific interventions.

The above agencies will continue meet periodically as a Consortium on Early Intervention in Mental Health to monitor progress on goals and to identify necessary changes. The Early Childhood Committee will be meeting more frequently in the coming months.

Chris Ruf provided information on Help Me Grow and funding allocations. Incentives are earned because of target numbers. The data shows all of the counties in Ohio. Medina had the 4th largest percentage increase in the state. This is pertinent because of incentive-based funding from the state. (Copies attached to original minutes.)

Chris also noted that a kindergarten readiness group has met over the last 18 months. A major point is increasing pre-kindergarten experience. The SPARK program is something simple that Medina County can do with less money than Stark County did. Home visitation for school readiness is an extension of HMG services. Look at possibly doing this in Medina County.

ii. WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The Wellness Committee met on September 7, 2007 with the grantees. Challenges with the wellness dollars from TANF were discussed. Funds are not being cut, but being taking out of administrative funds.

iii. **PFS IMPLEMENTATION TEAM REPORT**

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko spoke about PFS throughout the meeting.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

a. **Julie King** – The United Way is looking for help for its resource library. A summer enrichment program for kindergarten assessments was completed. Parent educators involved with school were involved. Julie is looking for information on collaboration and funding sources. The United Way is a partner agency for mobile meals that accepts Medicaid and Medicare. They also accept the midCAT range of ages 18-59. Meals provided are pureed, flash frozen or therapeutic.

b. **Debbie Kubena-Yatsko** – Family Affair is gearing up for its 2008 event. There are two open board positions if you know of anyone who might be interested.

c. **Brian Nowak** – Red Ribbon week is October 21 – 31st. There is more information on the MCDAC website

d. **Amy Dell'Anno** – Amy is a parent mentor for Brunswick City Schools. 90 projects in the state are grant-funded positions. They are opening 8 grants, and Medina County and Brunswick Schools are the only ones applying for these grants. If there are any other schools interested, please contact Amy Dell'Anno.

e. **Philip Titterington** – Thank you to Brian Nowak for putting together the web page for MCDAC and the Drug Court.

f. **Suzanne LeSure** – Cornerstone is excited to be a part of this great energy for early childhood discussion.

g. **William Koran** – Medina County College Career Fair will be on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 at the community center from 6:30 to 8:00. 115-125 different schools being represented at this fair. Bring your kids to see what is out there. Student loan companies will be there, too.

h. **Debra Grace** – The Salvation Army of Wadsworth has an after school tutorial program opening on Monday. The program was full before opening! Debra requested if anyone knows of any funding for after school tutorial programs to please let her know. Teen Scene needs a 25 hour per week person.

i. **Judy Leuthaeuser** – The Seville Library opened last Saturday and the Brunswick Library is opening this Saturday. There are now toy elements in our libraries. All toys were chosen to develop reading skills. Story times are more interesting and fun to get parents to come with their children.. The Library is working with basic skills for kindergarten readiness. There is an operating levy on the ballot on November 6th. Please vote for it.

j. **Tracy Foley** – The Children's Advocacy Center has "Shop For A Cause" at Macy's on October 13, 2007. For \$5 you receive 10-20% off purchases at Macy's that day and all of the proceeds from ticket sales go to the Advocacy Center.

k. **Jayme McCourt** – Coats for Kids of Medina County has its distribution on October 11, 2007. To populate the website accurately, please send me your website information for Public Relations.

l. **Betty Barlow** – Thank you to Judge Lohn and the Juvenile Court for funding "The Parent Project." (Brochure attached to original minutes.)

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Nick Solar made a motion to adjourn. Sharon Tahajod second. The motion passed.

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

Respectfully submitted by

Jayme McCourt