



MEDINA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

1.	Baggs, Mark	Salvation Army
2.	Bluebond, Jon	Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities
3.	Felton, Jeffery	Job and Family Services
4.	Kasten-Krause, Melanie	SHC / The ARC
5.	Kipfstuhl, Michelle	Catholic Charities
6.	Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie	Medina Metro Housing
7.	Miller, Tony	Juvenile Court
8.	Parzych, Cheryl	United Way of Medina County
9.	Quallich, Kristine	Medina City Schools
10.	Robinson, Karla	Project: LEARN of Medina
11.	Shema, Timothy	Domestic Relations Court
12.	Simon, Betsy	Family Representative
13.	Tahajod, Sharon	Family Representative
14.	Titterington, Phillip	Medina County ADAMH Board
15.	Toth, Laura	Office for Older Adults, Chair-Elect
16.	Wasowski, Krista	Medina County Health Department
17.	Wurgler, Rhonda	Children's Center of Medina County

GUESTS PRESENT

1.	Allen, Jeff	Alternative Paths, Inc.
2.	Bedel, Julianne	Medina County District Library
3.	Croftcheck, Kim	Community Action Wayne/Medina County
4.	Dunleavy, Kristen	Rape Crisis Center

STAFF PRESENT

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Laura Toth

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Council Minutes – September 25, 2018

Jon Bluebond made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Melanie Kasten-Krause and it passed unanimously with no discussion, no objections, and no abstentions.

3. Action Item(s)

Laura Toth reported that the updated bylaws had been sent to Council members in advance of the meeting. Kristine Quallich made a motion to approve the bylaws. Jeff Felton seconded the motion. Krista Wasowski reported changes from last month are:

- 7.2.6.2 f. Notify Council of any concerns with the Youth or EI Service Coordination Process
- 7.2.6.2 g. Provide a forum for Youth Service Coordination case review
- Cleaned-up sizing, spacing, punctuation, and capitalization. There were no other content changes since last month.

Discussion included:

- Tim Shema advised that in 4.2 the letter 'm' is repeated.
- Tim Shema stated that in 5.8.3 the language states one quarter but numerically it is written as 1/3.

- Tim Shema brought forth for discussion that the bylaws state elections will be in November and questioned whether there should be a provision included in the event the Council meeting must be cancelled in November. It was decided that the change would not be part of this revision but would be up for discussion during the next bylaw revision.
- Jon Bluebond requested clarification on 7.2.6.1. He asked if the Help Me Grow Project Director is Jane Barnett? Melanie Kasten Krause stated that in the paragraph above it states “Help Me’ Grow” and it should be “Early Intervention”.

Laura Toth tabled the action item for this month. The bylaws will be sent out with changes. Members were encouraged to read the bylaws and submit changes in advance of the meeting so that the action item can be voted on in November.

4. **STATE MANDATES**

a) **Early Intervention**

Jon Bluebond provided summarized totals for review. Information was included in the packet sent the prior week. Six (6) cases were discharged and moved on to the schools. Case load and referrals are increasing. The central coordinator referral process is working better. Michelle Kipfstuhl reported that referrals are also growing for Help Me Grow home visits. Michelle reported that they have a position posted and the new hire will start with a full case load. Kristine Quallich reported that pre-schools are expanding as the population is growing. Kim Croftcheck reported that Community Action has openings in Head Start. They are expanding to 6 ½ hours per day.

b) **Youth Service Coordination**

Laura Toth reported that a report was sent in the packet that went out the prior week. They were six (6) new referrals. FCSS funds have not yet been received for FY19. There have been expenditures and there are vendors waiting for payment. The hope is to have the funds by end of October.

c) **Shared Plan**

Laura Toth reported that the Shared Plan will need to be re-done in 2019. Cheryl Parzych mentioned that in the notes it indicated a wait time for child psychiatrists. Krista Wasowski questioned whether families are just calling Akron Children’s Hospital or if they are also calling other places? Kristine Quallich reported that the schools are getting people in quickly including those with immediate needs. Cheryl Parzych suggested Council try and get information from Akron Children’s Hospital. Rhonda Wurgler reported that overall there is a wait list at Akron Children’s Hospital however they will get someone in if there is a crisis. Phillip Titterington suggested continuing education about how we can use our systems to help navigate.

5. **Cross Cutting Topic –**

Jeff Felton discussed the Prevention Services Act which is federal legislation passed earlier this year as an amendment to the Social Security Act. It will help off-set the cost of placement for foster care. To be eligible for preventative service the child must be a candidate for foster care. There is no income criteria. Services include substance abuse, mental health and parenting services. All services must be evidence based. The biggest concern is that the other change is to decrease the number of children in congregate care. The federal government created a distinction for qualified residential treatment programs (certified, accredited, 24-hour nursing). It will apply to group homes and psychiatric facilities. If a child enters one of these programs there must be an evaluation completed at two (2) weeks to determine if this level of care is still needed. It has not been determined who will complete the evaluation. After one (1) year Job and Family Services will have to sign-off.

6. **LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Administrative**

Phillip Titterington shared that the committee met the week prior. Bylaws were reviewed. Service coordination dollars had not been received yet. In the interim, activities totaling around \$8,000.00 in invoices have been occurring. Agency contributions were reviewed. Discussion occurred regarding service coordination and how it can be utilized with other programs in the County.

b) **Adult Advisory Consortium**

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported there was no meeting in October. The next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2018 at 8:30am at the Office for Older Adults.

d) **Bylaws**

Laura Toth shared that discussion had occurred earlier in the meeting.

e) **Family Advisory**

Sharon Tahajod shared that the committee met last month, and the next meeting will be immediately after November's Family First Council meeting.

f) **Membership**

Sharon Tahajod advised that the membership election will be held in November. She asked that Council members bring their ballot to the next meeting in an envelop with your name so that they know they have one (1) ballot per person. Since July 2017 six (6) members have resigned. Ohio State University Extension has asked to become inactive as they cannot spare a staff person to attend meetings. One member has chosen not to renew. The Children's Center is now a mandated member as per the State, so they have gone from elected to mandated. There are now 11 elected and 18 mandated members. Tony Miller will be on the ballot as Chair Elect. To be elected he will need 50% plus 1 vote so please do not skip this item on the ballot or there will not be enough votes. If you wish to turn your ballot in early, it can be sent to either Sharon or Jane Barnett.

g) **Planning**

Laura Toth shared that the committee met and reviewed the three (3) year goals. The committee will also look at one (1) year goals. Laura reviewed the goals being looked at. The first is to review and update technology. The Public Relations committee would be reactivated. The second goal proposed would be around Youth Service Coordination and how it can be better defined, coordinated or combined to maximize available resources and serve Medina County families. The third goal would be the Shared Plan. A subcommittee would be put together. Also discussed were upcoming cross cutting topics.

h) **Public Relations**

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported the committee has not needed to be active.

i) **Youth Advisory Consortium**

Michelle Kipfstuhl shared that the consortium met this month. The work on the bylaws is appreciated. The consortium will meet every other month in 2019.

j) **Trauma Informed Care**

Rhonda Wurgler reported that they met this month. The next meeting is November 19, 2018. There is a Trauma Informed Care page on the website. Let Rhonda know if changes are needed. There was a meeting with Mary Jane Brewer of Cleveland.com about doing an article.

7. **Public Comments**

Jeff Felton shared they continue to send job seekers to Employing Medina.

Julianne Bedel shared that there are openings on the Library Board of Trustees. You must live in Medina County.

Phillip Titterington shared that on November 27, 2018 at the Medina County Health Department there will be a presentation on peer support.

Laura Toth shared that the ADAMH Board approved funding to the Functional Needs Committee for two (2) more trainings on emergency services for mental health first aid.

8. **Adjournment**

Karla Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Melanie Kasten-Krause and it passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions.

Meeting minutes submitted by:
Debbie Kubena-Yatsko