

Decategorization Governance Board

O R A N G E C I T Y C L U S T E R
CHEROKEE , LYON , PLYMOUTH and SIOUX Counties

Shane Walter - Chairperson

Nola Aalberts - Decat Coordinator

Minutes

May 23, 2006 • 10:00 a.m.

Board Room-Downstairs

Iowa State Bank - Orange City, IA

I. Welcome/Call to Order

David called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were: David Van Ningen, Pat Penning, Randy Bosch, Larry Weede, and Dan Watson. Staff present: Nola Aalberts and Joy Poppema

II. Review & Approve Minutes 4-25/06

Minutes were reviewed. Pat made a motion to approve, Randy seconded, motion carried.

III. Old Business

- A. Al's Pal's – Joyce reported on this program. Cherokee School system is piloting the Al's Pal's curriculum which has 46 lessons/activities 15-20 minute segments, promoting self esteem, talking kindly, everything involved with social skills. This curriculum promotes healthy social choices and behavior. Empowerment will not fund the second kit because the program deals with older children. Cherokee is also doing the Olweus (anti-bullying program pre K-12) which has required funding. Al's Pal's would fit in quite nicely. Questions regarding the program were discussed. It was noted that it fits in with comp strategies-child care and parenting skills. Data will be collected regarding this program. A proposal would include number of children, outcomes and projections. PBI could be used to collect results. It was noted they should submit a proposal and will be voted on next month. Joy will send to them.
- B. Love and Logic Program report was distributed for information. 72 parents have completed this program within the last six months. The school system will be implementing in the lower grades. There are 15 parents interested in the fall session. Cherokee Planning Council has looked at in combination with parenting and Healthy Families.

IV. Decat/JJ Reports

A. DHS Update/Financial

Pat note there is a surplus overall in the service area for child welfare. Pat will be sending a letter asking for acceptance of funds. This will need to be voted on by June 30th to accept the funds. Possibly some designation of funds. Overall group care through out the service area has gone through the roof. There are 134 children in group care and waiting list of 10-15. There has not been a change in services that are available. Children are younger; schools have done a better job in identifying problems which would increase the numbers. Need to be looking at answers other than group care. Prevention is lowly funded and lacking, better education for parents is needed, responsibility as parents for children should also be stressed. Substance abuse/alcohol abuse is a big factor in parenting.

Pat suggested having this discussion with the Planning Councils regarding prevention. Hubbing events were used to help promote this information with parents and agencies. It was noted the need to be using the same voice: you are responsible for your child, we will help when possible but you are responsible for your child.

Facs plus was distributed. Family Team meetings is not being expended. This could be a tool to help families be more responsible. Family Specific funds are being used, a request for approval to amend the contract for this year to increase by \$1500, and next year's contract for \$20,000.00. Larry made a motion to amend this years contract with an additional \$1500.00, Dan seconded. Motion carried. Randy made a motion to develop a new contract for Family Specific Wrap Around for \$20,000, Dan seconded, motion carried.

DHS is replacing all computer monitors; Nola's will not be replaced. If there are funds available in service coordination the monitor should be purchased.

Tracker reports for Plymouth/Cherokee and Sioux were distributed for information.

B. DEC Grant

Going very well in Cherokee. Drug Endangered Children will have an educational event in Cherokee and invite other counties to attend. Meconium testing has begun with one positive test result.

C. QSR (Quality Service Review)

A draft matrix of scheduling was distributed. 15 reviewers reviewing 12 cases, 4 in Sioux, 3 in Plymouth, 2 in Cherokee, 2 in Lyon and one in Ida. A focus group is needed with participation from the Decat and Empowerment boards. JCS and JCO will also have a focus group, Dan will check on this. Pat suggested possibly have our Decat meeting at the same meeting.

V. FY 07 Allocation

A. JCS/Decat Funds

1. CJPJ Waiver

There will be less funds coming from CJPJ \$43,000. Our service area is asked to waive all funds to Woodbury County in exchange for tracker services. Pat made a motion to waive \$43,000 to Woodbury County. Larry seconded. Motion carried.

2. FTM-RFP

Family Team Meeting RFP – opted out of joining this RFP, because our system works well with the agencies we already have. Plains Area Mental Health regarding Cherokee and Plymouth Counties still have some issues to work out. Overall things are well. The one piece would be quality assurance - \$5,000.00 would be needed. Dan made a motion to approve \$5,000 for quality assurance, Randy seconded, discussion regarding the need of this occurred. Motion carried.

VI. FY07 Contract

A. Plains Area Mental Health

Mom's Off Meth – contract has been sluggish. Struggling with who and who should not be paid as facilitators, have not received breakdown of budget and measures. Randy made a motion for Nola to have permission to move forward and work with the contract and Pat, Larry seconded, motion carried.

VII. Community Partnerships

A. Prevent Child Abuse Iowa –Neighborhood Network Hubbing grant/3rd Community

1. Sioux- Sioux Center- Family Fair

Things are being worked on.

2. Plymouth - LeMars Com School-Love & Logic Off and running.

VIII. Comprehensive Strategies

A. Childcare Advisory Board (Information)

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C H E R O K E E , L Y O N , P L Y M O U T H a n d S I O U X C o u n t i e s

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Joyce gave a report regarding the Child Care Advisory Board – noted a knowledgeable board regarding early childhood. Quality Rating System is a big piece right now which is used to help bring up the standards of child care. It was decided to award full scholarships instead of half scholarships for preschool program. Various options: brain development workshop, Al's Pal's, need for Terrific Kindergarten Transitions, an area conference to meet requirement for licensing certificate,

B. Parent Support Advisory Board

This board is engaged and ready to do work. A Fathers program, brain research, grandparents raising grandchildren. Programs are being researched to start up.

It was noted that new people are being tapped and every county is being represented.

IX. Northwest Iowa Council for Families & Children

Still waiting- 26th of May is deadline for Compassion Iowa. This grant would help build the infrastructure of NW IA Council for Families & Children, and start up with family circles in Cherokee. There is opposition from Mid Sioux regarding FADS duplication.

X. New Business

A. Opportunities for board & public to bring up new items for discussion

New members – Stu Dekkinga has resigned from the Decat Board and need a new representative from Law Enforcement and Plymouth County. Possibly Todd Wendt from Plymouth County. Could check with Stu on the possibility of an officer from Plymouth County as a rep. Sharla Boone from Sioux County, or Stu Vander Stoep from Lyon County, Plymouth PC has Domestic Violence, Plains Area, DHS, Hospital, Public Health, JCO, school liaison, and childcare is represented. It was stressed to have someone from each county. It was suggested to talk with Plymouth PC and have them make a commitment – should be a non provider. Dan suggested Nola drafting a thank you to Stu for his input and his valued information in the past.

Will there be funds available for Planning Council's for 07 and how to handle this. Nola will work up a document showing dollars and what is encumbered.

XI. Next Meeting: June 27, 2006.

XII. Adjourn: Pat made a motion to adjourn, Dan seconded, motion carried.