



BAYFIELD COUNTY
Department of Human Services

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**BAYFIELD COUNTY FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Courthouse Conference Room B
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 4:30 pm

Committee Members Present: Ann Green, Mary Skerik. Dale and Nancy Johnson

Committee Members Absent: Jim Crandall, Lona Schmidt, Susan Davis, Maxine Babineau

Staff Present: Anita Haukaas and Pat Bruno

Call to order and introductions: Anita called the meeting to order at 4:37 PM and introductions were made. A. Haukaas reported that Maxine Babineau has requested to be removed from this committee and invited committee members to suggest others who may be interested in serving.

Adoption of the agenda: The agenda was reviewed and a motion to approve made by A. Green and seconded by M. Skerik.

Review of 6/16/2009 minutes: Minutes were reviewed and no changes made. A. Green made a motion to approve that was seconded by M. Skerik.

Family Services presentation: A. Haukaas presented information on the five year Community Response Program (CRP) grant from the Children's Trust Fund. Amanda Smith, of ABC Family Resource Center, is the project coordinator. The program serves families who are referred to Ashland or Bayfield County for a child abuse or neglect concerns and are subsequently "screened out" or the referral is determined to be unsubstantiated. In some cases, a referral might also be made on a family who has been in need of child protective services, has received services and is closed by the Department but still determined to be at high risk. CRP accepts referrals, follows up with the family and then, with consent from the family, will provide information to DHS. Funds are available through the grant to assist families with barriers such as financial, physical or medical issues. This provides stability in the household by funding one-time expenditures, providing car repair, for example, to the family, decreasing their risk for stability and reducing the chance of future referrals. The program serves Bad River, Red Cliff, Ashland, and Bayfield Counties. Approximately 12 families can be served at a time. To date, no referrals have been received from Red Cliff. However, Amanda is aware that there is new staff in the Red Cliff Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Department and will make contact with ICW Director Susie Crazythunder.

Staffing update: Samantha Wagner was hired to fill the vacant position left by Karla Hasart. Samantha's duties include Juvenile Justice cases, ongoing supervision, foster care placement, foster care coordinating, back up for day care certification, and back up for CPS duties.

One worker is on family medical leave but will return Monday.

Cheryl Hanson successfully completed her one year probationary period. Three social workers are studying for the social work certification test.

Service review: A. Haukaas reported there were three emergency detentions in August; two were alcohol and one mental health related. Also, there were two 3-party petitions. Due to out of home placements and mental health high costs these line items are over budget for 2009.

A meeting was held with MMC to discuss a situation where a Bayfield County resident was denied her request to be admitted to Northland Counseling after being brought to MMC. MMC agreed to provide more information to their emergency room personnel and they will review each situation individually, but reported that ultimately, the decision is the doctor's.

As of June 1, a law was enacted requiring law enforcement to contact Human Services for authorization prior to admittance for an Emergency Detention. Each county is responsible for determining the process for this authorization prior to November 1, 2009. Because the Department contracts with Family Services NEW for a 24 hour crisis line and they are certified to provide mental health crisis services, they may be the "on-call" contact for emergency detentions, rather than the department's on-call worker. In the meantime, Dianne Heapy is developing a checklist to assist on-call workers to determine whether or not a emergency detention is warranted. Funding for services continues to be an issue.

One person applied for the regional mental health crisis grant project coordinator position.

Out of home placement update: A. Haukaas reported that out of home placement costs were \$73,651 in May \$72,655 in June and \$88,000 in July. There is one family on the Kinship waiting list at this time.

Although the number of out of home placements has declined, there is a concern for children who are returning to homes and communities that have not changed or improved.

Juvenile Justice referrals: Juvenile Justice referrals declined during the summer but historically, they increase at the beginning of the school year. Anita reported that from 2004-2008, youth had an average number of eight law enforcement referrals prior to an out of home placement.

Red Cliff's AODA committee presented each youth graduating from high school in 2009 a certificate signed by local officials congratulating them on having no underage citations issued at graduation time.

Juvenile Justice grant information: The Department received an award letter for a grant of \$441,000 to be distributed over a three year period. The grant will be used to hire a juvenile justice coordinator who will recruit mentors and contract for parent aids, counseling, and assessments, as well as work with youth to create positive alternate activities to prevent out of home placements.

Red Cliff Indian Child Welfare update: Susie Crazythunder is the new ICW Director and Steve Bouley is the new ICW worker. A. Haukaas reported that communication has improved between the two agencies. Red Cliff has agreed to serve delinquent tribal youth who are members of other tribes that live on the Red Cliff reservation.

Two Red Cliff tribal member youth, placed by Red Cliff Courts, are in high cost facility placements. Red Cliff and Bayfield County have jointly applied to the state for high cost tribal funds for the January through June 2009 placement costs of these youth. Anita will report on the outcome of this request at the next meeting.

CST grant: The CST program provides funding for teaming approach model. It is only one of a number of models used by social services departments. Because the CST grant is coming to an end March 2010,

the coordinating committee will disband; however, the Department will continue to use this model to work with youth and families.

Budget update: Federal IV E funds, monies that have been provided by the federal government and passed on to counties have been eliminated as of 2010. However, we will be allowed to carry forward some remaining funds from 2009 that can be used until depleted. Because IV E funds are used to provide in-home therapy, in order to provide the services for as long as possible, the Department must use the service conservatively. In the future, Department staff will require consumers with MA and third party insurance to use those resources to fund their services, conserving and prioritizing the remaining in-home therapy funds for those without resources.

Informational items:

None

Future Meeting: Future meetings will be held the third Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm on December 15, 2009 and March 16, 2010.

Adjournment: At 5:58 p.m., N. Johnson made a motion to adjourn and A. Green seconded.

Minutes submitted by,

Pat Bruno, Clerk III