

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE**  
**July 22, 2008**

**Present:**

Amy Whitsett – Tri-Care Professional Services  
Aubrey Powell – Youth Haven Services  
Becky Nance – Rock Co MHC  
Charles Key – Therapeutic Community Resources  
Connie Windham – SOC/LME  
Dawn Johnson – Youth Haven Services  
Ervin Best – Juvenile Justice  
Felissa Ferrell – DSS  
Gregory Hopkins – Visions Adolescence  
Heather Kilpatrick – Rock Co Partnership for Children  
Laquista Knox – Vocational Rehabilitation  
Linda McMahan – Rock Co MHC  
Lori Wright – Rock Co Partnership for Children  
Lynn Wilkins – DSS  
Suzanne Bellian – DMH/DD/SAS  
Tara Hodge – Youth Haven Services  
Tee Price – Rock Co Youth Services  
Toni Troxler – Rock Co Schools  
Zara Blackwell – Life Turn

(Prior notice was given by: Amanda Vernon, Amanda Reeves, Betty Wray, Terry Aiken)

Tee called the meeting to order. Suggested we each introduce ourselves since there were some attending for the first time today:

Amy Whitsett – Case Manager, Tri-Care Professional Services  
Laquista Knox - Vocational Rehabilitation  
Heather Kilpatrick – Executive Director, Rock. Co. Partnership for Children  
Lori Wright – Parent Counselor, Rock. Co. Partnership for Children  
Suzanne Bellian - DMH/DD/SAS Consumer Empowerment Team

Also Dawn brought two of her new employees to the meeting: Tara Hodge and Aubrey Powell.

For those new to the meeting, Connie explained about community collaboratives and System of Care.

The minutes for 6/24/08 were approved with no corrections. Motion made by Ervin to approve; Gregory seconded; all in favor.

Linda referred to the 6/24/08 minutes about this year's CTSP funding, where it stated that the LME can contract for 50% of the expected CTSP allocation before the LME actually gets the funds. Linda asked if RFPs had to be submitted. Connie told her that the funding committee would be making a recommendation later in the meeting.

**Parent Support Group:** Linda reported that there is no activity with the group right now, but they are not yet giving up. Terry has had more notices about the group distributed.

**Provider Association:** Betty usually reports on this but was absent today. There was discussion that Burlington is further away to meet, and Tee wondered if perhaps the providers in Rockingham County would be interested in starting an Association here. Some of the members showed interest, and Tee appointed an Ad Hoc committee to look into this possibility for the providers. Charles Key (chairperson) and Gregory Hopkins and Amy Whitsett were appointed.

Felissa mentioned that there is a monthly Stakeholders meeting that is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. Some of the providers may be interested in attending this meeting. If any are interested, they can call Felissa at DSS. It was suggested that if a local Provider Association is started, they may want to send a representative to the Stakeholders meeting. The next Stakeholders meeting will be held at REMMSCO Annex in Reidsville (108 Main Street) on August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. (lasts about an hour). Chris will send an email to remind everyone about this meeting.

#### **Subcommittees:**

***By-laws:*** No report, have not met. However, Chris had made changes to the By-laws recommended at the last meeting and handed out copies. The By-laws were approved by members at the last meeting with these changes made.

***Care Review:*** Connie reported that they have not met since earlier in the year when they finished setting up for Care Reviews, completed the SOC handbook, etc. They probably should meet soon since Care Reviews have started. Connie said that there were two Care Reviews last week. She also commented on how impressed she has been since Care Reviews began last April with the Rockingham County providers and the families and how they work together, and also how prepared they are for the Reviews and how well stakeholders are involved.

***Funding:*** Zara reported and passed out information for 2008-2009. She gave a brief explanation about what Flex Funds are and examples of how some funds have been spent: helped two consumers obtain eyeglasses and helped one with being able to participate in a school activity. They put more money into Flex Funds this year. We had a "late start" last year on funding so hope to get an early start this year and be able to spend the money throughout the year when needed/approved. Connie pointed out that Flex Funds are a "last resort" after seeking out other funding sources. Zara said that agencies need to remember that the agency pays for the

need first and then the Flex Funds will reimburse the agency. Recommendation for funding this year, based on \$32,000:

Flex Funds	\$ 7,000
Family/youth participation	\$ 1,000
SOC Training	\$ 4,000
SOC Supports	\$ 8,000
After-school prevention/ enrichment	\$12,000

Discussion about the categories: The \$1,000 for family/youth participation helps pay for a family/parent or youth participation on the collaborative, and in other SOC activities, and can reimburse for transportation costs for example. The after-school prevention/enrichment helps fund the Ladybugs program and summer enrichment programs. Ervin asked about the training funds, can they be used to help members to attend SOC related trainings if agency funds weren't available, e.g., the December state conference. Suzanne said that other collaboratives use these funds to go to SOC trainings. Funding will look at this in their next meeting. Linda asked if \$4,000 is enough money for training purposes since the funds were all used this past year and training events began later in the year. It was decided to approve the funds stated now, and they can be looked at again and revised later, as needed. Linda made a motion to accept Funding's recommendation but we can bring this back up later, as needed; Toni seconded; all in favor.

**Membership/Nominating:** Tee said that Jack Moore had agreed to chair. Still need to find a co-chair. No one emailed Chris stating an interest from the June meeting. No one at meeting today volunteered. Discussion about possible co-chairs. Rusty may be willing to be co-chair and attend when Jack can't. However, since both work for DJJDP and have demanding positions and sometimes short-notice meetings to attend, questions as to whether it would be better to have co-chair from a different stakeholder. When asked, Connie is willing to chair a meeting if both co-chairs are not present. Felissa suggested that we vote for Jack today and let Ann Brady continue to fill in as a co-chair until we find a new one for this year. Felissa made a motion for this; Dawn seconded; all in favor. We will continue to look for a co-chair.

**Resources:** Connie reported that this subcommittee identified priority areas for funding and recommended to the Funding subcommittee. Also to focus on youth transition to adulthood and substance abuse issues in the county. The LME has a housing specialist that can come talk to RC3, perhaps the September meeting. Connie will check into this and set up.

**Training:** Need to meet. Connie had recently emailed Dawn about someone who is available to train on evidence-based practices and subcommittee will need to follow up on this and other trainings/events. Connie handed out a notice about the July 31 SOC Overview training that is being held in Burlington if anyone wants to attend. This is the same training that we held April 28 in Rockingham County.

**Non-UCR Funds:** Connie said they are still waiting on information for the final report.

**New Business/Other:** Chris still needs signatures for the MOA: Abundant Living Group Home, Daystar Youth Services, Juvenile Justice and the LME. Juvenile Justice (Jack) is getting approval to sign. Chris talked with Daystar Youth Services and was hoping they would be at meeting today; will follow up. Chris left a message with someone at Abundant Living Group Home and has not heard from them; will follow up.

Dawn mentioned the recent changes regarding Community Support Services (CSS). Effective August 1 the maximum number of hours is 8 hours per week. Another change waiting for CMS approval will be that not less than 50% of CSS is to be delivered by a QP (qualified professional). This greatly affects providers and also the consumers, also the schools. Can mean hiring more QPs, some workers losing jobs with CSS hours cut and the consumers getting less hours. There are not enough Intensive In-Home Services providers, more are needed. Connie suggested looking at EPSDT to see if any benefit for some consumers.

Connie said that the new Central Regional Hospital opened this week and began transferring patients there. Suzanne mentioned that JUH will still have children remaining there, they are remodeling one section of JUH for children.

Tee said that JCPC (Juvenile Crime Prevention Council) funds are back in the Juvenile Justice budget with an additional \$500,000.

**Next meeting will be September 23 at 2:00 in the Children & Family Services building of Mental Health.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Castle  
Scribe