

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE
September 23, 2008

Present:

Amanda Reeves – Guardian ad Litem
Amanda Vernon – Rock. Co. MHC/C&F
Ann Brady – Rock. Co. Schools
Brian Matlock – Eckerd Youth Alternatives
Charles Key – Therapeutic Community Resources
Cheri Chieffo – Visions Adolescence (for Greg Hopkins)
Connie Windham – SOC Coordinator/LME
Ervin Best – Juvenile Justice
Felissa Ferrell – DSS
Heather Kilpatrick – Partnership for Children
Jack Moore – Juvenile Justice
Katrine Banaghan – Youth Services (for Tee Price)
Linda McMahan – Rock. Co. MHC
Lori Wright – Partnership for Children
Marshand Hager – NC Mentor
Melvin Hamilton – Guardian ad Litem (new intern)
Toni Troxler – Rock. Co. Schools
Zara Blackwell – Life Turn

(Prior notice given by: Tee Price, Betty Wray, Dawn Johnson, Terry Aiken; Becky Nance – will no longer attend)

Guest: Lynn Inman – Housing Specialist, LME

Jack opened his first meeting as this year's chairperson.

Lynn Inman gave a presentation about housing. He had two handouts to share and talk about. Lynn went over some of the programs available to help with housing opportunities.

The Key Program is a rental assistance program and helps persons with extremely low incomes and who have any disability (doesn't have to be a mental health disability, can be a physical disability). The person must be referred by an agency approved to refer to the Key Program. Any agency can become a "referring agency" by going through the approval process. Charles Key has just been approved to refer to the Key Program and said the process took about an hour. Lynn is the contact person for any interested in becoming a referring agency for the Key Program.

The Shelter Plus Care Program provides housing vouchers for the homeless. The HUD definition is used to define “homeless.” The person must also have a disabling condition and in need of care or supportive services that equal the amount of rental assistance provided by the voucher. The contact person for this program is Robert Broome at 336/613-8065 or robert.broome@shabazzcenter.org

The programs are for adults, not children, so a family can be referred but the head of household/adult has to have the disability. If a person is denied, it can be appealed if the reason for denial can be related back to the disability; e.g., if something in background such as behavior, credit problems, criminal record can be shown to be a result of the disability and not a current/future problem.

In response to a question about foster care children aging out as adults, Lynn indicated they have to be homeless, per definition, for at least one day, to be eligible for Shelter Plus.

Lynn also shared a handout that is a flow chart to help with identifying the type of housing assistance people are eligible for.

Contact information for Lynn Inman at the LME is 513-4226 or linman@asmhdds.org

The minutes for the 7/22/08 meeting were approved with no corrections. Motion made by Ervin to approve; Amanda seconded; all in favor.

Parent Support Group: Katrine said that Youth Services will have a Parent Support Group begin sometime in October. This is open to anyone in the community with any age children. Katrine will get more details and inform Chris, who will pass on to the collaborative members via email.

Provider Association: In July, Tee had appointed an ad hoc committee to look into interest for a local provider association. Charles reported that they had actually had a meeting with other providers and were again having one September 24 at 10 a.m. at the Reidsville library. They will start looking at by-laws and already have a temporary website set up! It was suggested that Chris include these meeting dates on the monthly calendar she sends out to collaborative members.

Subcommittees:

CFT/Care Review: Chris reported about the reviews held since July meeting. There have been 2 reviews, one for a 14-year-old male, the other a 15-year-old female. Both were referred for out-of-home placement and one also due to the CFT feeling “stuck.” For both cases, the review team suggested more local services and supports be tried (e.g., Intensive In-Home), some

supports for family members also suggested. Team was to be updated in 30 days for one case, and the family of other case is returning in November for a 60-day update.

There is one care review scheduled for October 1 at 9 a.m. and another on October 15. Reviews are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Funding: Connie reported they have met once. Regarding the 2007-08 expenditures, \$36,800 was allocated and the actual spent was \$34,968 or 95%. The 2008-09 information was presented and approved at July meeting. Connie said that the LME got approval and the MOA's have gone out. There is one flex fund request they will look at during their next meeting, which is September 30 at 3 p.m. at Youth Services.

Membership/Nominating: Need to pick a co-chairperson and have chosen Felissa as one nominee. No one today had any other nominations or expressed interest to co-chair, and all present today were in favor of Felissa as co-chairperson, none opposed.

Resource: Connie reported the committee is identifying Rockingham County resources and working on a list of gaps that need to be addressed. Some of their focus will be on services for youth-to-adulthood transitioning, increasing intensive in-home service providers, decreasing group home placement, increasing parent involvement, increasing substance abuse and mental health treated prevalence rates, and increasing licensed substance abuse professionals. Annie Penn Foundation has a report coming out that should be of help in some of these areas.

Connie went over some of the therapeutic foster care homes located in Rockingham County. Presently 11 homes and 20 beds. She will be getting information on these regularly and will share with Chris to send out to collaborative members.

Since Alamance-Caswell-Rockingham have, per Division report, the highest group home placement in state, the therapeutic foster home openings should also be looked at when any placement is needed. Connie was asked how the state gets the "numbers" for placements. Connie stated that the count is supposed to be based on the person's county of Medicaid eligibility. Thus a Guilford County person placed in Rockingham County would still count as a "Guilford County" placement.

Resource subcommittee is meeting on September 30 at 2 p.m. at Youth Services.

Training: Has not met. Connie handed out information for the upcoming SOC Overview training to be held in Alamance County on October 13. Sue Ward is the contact person to register at 513-4225 or at sward@acmhdds.org (Chris sent an email with information earlier in the month.)

Non-UCR Funds: This was reported on with the Funding subcommittee information.

New Business/Other:

Connie had information on the Central Facilitator Forum to be held October 21 in Burlington for trained staff. (Chris sent an email with this information earlier in the month.)

Connie asked for members to give feedback on how the CFT meetings are going. Zara said she feels it will take several times of meeting to transition to the CFT approach. Connie said that she is available to co-facilitate meetings, just call her to set up. Also she will be coming to view some of the meetings. She will not be “grading” anyone on the meetings but it is a requirement of her position to view some of the meetings to see how the CFTs are working. It was suggested that the CFT/Care Review Committee consider ways to help ensure CFT model fidelity as CFTs are implemented in the community.

Future Child Family Team (CFT) Facilitator training was asked about, and this is something the Training subcommittee needs to meet on. Connie said that sometimes nearby counties will have some space left open for the CFT Facilitator training. Jack said he will mention this to Stokes County, and Connie will also let members know of any trainings for this.

Amanda inquired about the LME contact person for care coordination, associated with the new signature page for the Person-Centered Plans for those involved with Juvenile Justice. Connie said the LME person is Fran Harvey.

Jack reported the Resource subcommittee is preparing a form to use as a checklist for CFT meetings to use as a guiding tool. Felissa said that DSS also uses a form like this for their meetings, though it has additional parts to it that pertains to DSS alone. Felissa will share this information with the subcommittee.

Brian reminded everyone of the Open House that will be held at Camp E-Mun-Talee in Low Gap, NC, on Friday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Good chance for staff to come and see the camp and get a free lunch. You can contact him for directions or call 1-800-237-0310. He said the directions from the internet aren't reliable for their location in Low Gap. (Chris sent an email to members with some information on 9/11/08.)

The next meeting will be November 25 at 2:00 in the Children & Family Services building of Mental Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Castle
Scribe