

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 17, 2010

The Family Support Program Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. in the U.W. Extension, Room #2 in the U.S.D.A. Building in Medford by Acting Chairperson, Sally Toepfer. Members present included Joseph Greget, Michelle Armbrust, Sally Toepfer, Lori Willner, Kim Lewandowski, Shola Adedokun, and Donna Kalmon.

A motion was made by Kim Lewandowski to dispense with the reading of the March 8, 2010 minutes and approve them as printed. Donna Kalmon seconded the motion, motion carried.

A motion to approve the agenda as printed was made by Donna Kalmon and seconded by Michelle Armbrust. The motion carried.

The selection of a chairperson and secretary was discussed. Lori Willner volunteered to continue as the secretary and Kim Lewandowski volunteered to be the chairperson. The committee agreed to appoint Kim Lewandowski as the chairperson and Lori Willner as the secretary.

Ms. Toepfer then presented the Family Support Program Update. Currently, there are 15 children being served through this program with two children on the wait list. It was noted that respite care continues to be the most widely used service component of the program. To date, \$1,672.09 has been expended for services. Crisis dollars have not been utilized as of yet.

The Birth to Three Program update was then distributed to the committee. Currently, there are 16 children participating in the program with one child being evaluated and one child in the family service planning process. Therapies Plus continues to provide the contracted therapy services for the program. The Birth to Three Team attended the Rush and Sheldon Institute on Relationship Based Early Intervention and Natural Environments - Using Evidence Based Practices in April and will continue to work on the coaching approach.

Next, the committee watched the video - Introduction to Aging and Disability Resource Centers. Ms. Toepfer explained that Taylor County is slotted to develop an ADRC in the next biennium (2011-2013) as funding is not available until this time. However, planning is occurring, through an Ad Hoc Committee. The committee is considering joining one of three possibilities: Chippewa County ADRC; Oneida, Vilas, Forrest, and Florence (or the Northwood's ADRC Consortium); or Clark, Buffalo, and Pepin ADRC. The Ad Hoc Committee will be making a recommendation to the Taylor County Human Services Board and the Commission on Aging Board in June of 2010. Managed Care organizations were also explained and discussed.

Under other business, Mr. Greget explained the summer school services that were going to be offered in the district. Also, a new elevator will be constructed in the high school during the summer months to better accommodate students.

The next meeting will be scheduled in September.

Kim Lewandowski made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Michelle Armbrust. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Toepfer, for Lori Willner, Secretary

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 8, 2010

The Family Support Program Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. in the U.W. Extension, Room #2 in the U.S.D.A. Building in Medford by Acting Chairperson Sally Toepfer. Members present included Joseph Greget, Michelle Armbrust, Sally Toepfer, Lori Willner, Kim Lewandowski, and Donna Kalmon. Julie Nofsinger, Anne Brost, and Doreen Fierke have resigned as committee members.

A motion was made by Donna Kalmon to dispense with the reading of the May 18, 2009, September 14, 2009 and February 1, 2010 meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Michelle Armbrust seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the agenda as printed was made by Donna Kalmon and seconded by Michelle Armbrust. The motion carried.

Ms. Toepfer presented the update on the Family Support Program. Currently, 14 families have updated their service plans and will be receiving service funding. To date, \$252.59 has been expended for services. There are three children on the wait list. However, it is anticipated at least one more family will be served in 2010.

The Birth to Three Program update was then distributed to the committee. Referrals continue to be received from a variety of resources. Therapies Plus continues to provide all therapy services under contract. ARRA and Consortium grants have been received from the State. The ARRA grant is to be used for equipment and technology to enhance the Birth to Three Program. The Consortium funds are to be used for training purposes. Ms. Toepfer applied to the State to have the Taylor County Birth to Three team attend the Institute on Relation-Based Intervention in Natural Environment Using Evidence Based Practices which is to be held on April 26th and 27th in Wisconsin Dells. The presenters, Dathan Rush and M'Lisa Shelden will provide an in-depth overview on Evidence Based Early Intervention. Additional ARRA funds will be available to support travel and lodging to the institute to the teams that are chosen. The State will notify counties of their selection by the end of March.

The Family Support Program Annual Plan Update and data information were then reviewed by the committee. Essentially, the program will continue to be administered without change. Donna Kalmon made a motion to approve the 2010 Family Support Program Annual Plan Update as printed. Michelle Armbrust seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the future of the Family Support Program Advisory Committee in lieu of member resignations and difficulty in recruitment of new members. Ms. Toepfer reported success in recruiting one family member who indicated interest in becoming involved. After discussion, the committee felt it was important to maintain the Family Support Advisory Committee but to reduce the members to the minimum necessary to meet State requirements.

Under Other Business, Mr. Greget requested brochures for the Family Support Program, the Children's Waiver Program, and the Birth to Three Program for distribution to teachers, students, and families.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 17, 2010 at 12:00 noon. Ms. Toepfer will attempt to coordinate a speaker. A new chair and secretary will also need to be appointed.

Michelle Armbrust made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Joe Greget. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Toepfer for
Lori Willner, Secretary

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 1, 2010

The Family Support Program Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. in the U.W. Extension, Room #2 in the U.S.D.A. Building in Medford. Members present included Joseph Greget, Michelle Armbrust, Sally Toepfer, Lori Willner, and Kim Lewandowski. Members absent included Donna Kalmon. Julie Nofsinger, Anne Brost, and Doreen Fierke have resigned as committee members. Recruitment for replacements continues, but at this time remains unsuccessful. Since there was not a quorum, no official business was held during this meeting. Information was only shared with the members attending.

The Family Support Program Summary was distributed amongst the committee members. It outlined various expenditures of allowable services. In 2009, the total allocation of \$18,646.00 was expended. Fifteen children were served in 2009 with no one on the wait list.

The Birth to Three Program update was then discussed. Taylor County received 48 referrals in 2009: Five children were referred for screening and 43 for evaluations. In addition, 28 children were screened at the Birth to Three Development Days held this fall at Sandbox. A total of 39 children were eligible and participated in the program in 2009. Final budget amounts for 2009 were not yet available, but will be shared at the next meeting. Currently, there are 16 children receiving Birth to Three services with three children in the process of evaluation or planning. The 2010 Birth to Three allocation has been reduced from \$35,313.00 in 2009 to \$32,308.00. Taylor County will be receiving Birth to Three ARRA and Consortium Funds to assist with purchasing equipment and technology as well as staff training and development.

The Family Support Program Annual Plan Update and Data Information were then reviewed by the committee. Essentially, the program will continue to be administered without change. Since there was not a quorum, the committee could not approve the plan.

The future of the Family Support Program Advisory Committee was then discussed. Ms. Toepfer reported briefly on potential changes in Long-Term Support services and upcoming staff changes. En lieu of this, as well as the difficulty in recruiting committee members, options to meet State requirements were discussed. Ms. Toepfer suggested that the Early Childhood Subcommittee of the Prevention Council could act as the Birth to Three Interagency Collaborating Council and the COP/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee could meet the requirements for the Family Support Program. Members of the existing committee would need to be added to the COP/LTS Committee. The State requires members that include consumer family members and representatives from a medical field, school, and human services. After discussion, the committee recommended that Ms. Toepfer continue her attempts to recruit family members to join the committee and report the results at the next meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for March 8, 2010 at 12:00 p.m., at which time the 2010 Annual Plan Update will need to be approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Toepfer, Acting Secretary

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