



*Putting All Communities
Together in Kandiyohi,
Meeker, Renville &
Yellow Medicine Counties*

PACT 4 Bulletin

February 2006

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BOLD Community will be making a presentation on the OLWEUS Bullying Program at the Full Collaborative Meeting In Renville County.

The presentation will last about
5 minutes and then a 15 minute video
that was done by the BOLD Community to
educate others about bullying.

FULL COLLABORATIVE MEETING NOTICE

PLEASE RSVP to Shawna at (320)235-8938 or email shawna.steffen@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

**Wednesday, February 8th 2006
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
RCOB in Olivia**

(see page 11 or the Calendar of Events on pages 9 & 10 for committee dates and announcements)

2006 Executive Board

Loren Hacker, Canby School District
Serves through 07—2nd Term
(507) 223-7226 / lhacker@canby.mntm.org

Mary Potter, YMC Family Services
Serves through 06—3rd term
(320) 564-2211 / maryp@co.yellow-medicine.mn.us

Carmen Clementson, KC Family Services
Serves through 08—2nd term
(320) 231-6232 / carmen_s@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

Jill Bruns, RC Public Health
Serves through 08—2nd term
(320) 523-2570 / jill_bruns@co.renville.mn.us

Deb West, KC Probation
Serves through 08—1st term
(320) 231-6218
d_west@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

Gerald Brustuen, Renville County Human Services
Serves through 06— 2nd term
(320) 523-2202 / jerry_b@co.renville.mn.us

Arliss Stenger, Parent (MC Resident), (Vice - Chair)
Serves through 07—2nd term
(320) 453-8153 / astenger@meltel.net

Eugene Bonyng, Woodland Centers
Serves through 07—2nd term
(320) 235-4613 / wcenters@tds.net

Becky Romosz, Parent (KC Resident), (Chair)
Serves through 06—2nd term
(320) 235-2204 / becro-mosz@yahoo.com

Val Mersch, Fiscal Agent (non-voting)
val_m@co.renville.mn.us

Toni Braness, Collaborative Director (non-voting)
(320) 231-7030 /

PACT 4 Families Mission

“As a collaborative we will work together to reduce duplication and provide a family driven continuum of quality, innovative, and cost effective services for children and their families. These services will be culturally sensitive and strength based.”

Director's Corner

by Toni Braness, PACT 4 Director

Is it winter or spring? Hard to tell from day to day. According to the meteorologists this is the warmest January on record, which is great news for me and tough on the people who really like the cold and snow.

We are down to the final months in our no cost extension of the SAMHSA children's mental health grant. Many changes over the past 6 1/2 years are now imbedded in the system. Relationships between agencies are very different than they were 10 years ago. Cross training and working together are a way of life now. Parent involvement has increased significantly. Clinical knowledge of case managers has increased and working together to keep our kids in the community is the norm rather than the exception. More evaluation results will be coming over the next few months as we finalize the paperwork for the grant.

December 2004 was the end of our federal early intervention (SUCCEED) grant. Though federal dollars have ended, the process is ongoing. Dollars were set aside to continue the early identification and intervention activities. Another group of nurses and early childhood educators have been trained-bringing to over thirty public health nurses and early childhood educators trained in working with mental health and behavioral issues with our youngest ones.

PACT 4 was recently notified by the Chemical Health Division of the Department of Human Services that we should be receiving an award for the grant we applied for. We had hoped to cover all four counties but will need to negotiate with grant staff on the scope of the grant. Yellow Medicine and Renville counties have been identified as 2 counties with the highest need. More information will be at the Full Collaborative and in the March newsletter. Thanks to all of you who provided much needed information for this application through committees and focus group.

Priority data continues to be pulled together for 2005-2007. Due to the uncertainty of future Local Collaborative Time Study dollars this process is being backed up. Close and deliberate consideration will need to be applied to all programs and service funded through our integrated fund.

Evaluation of current programs becomes more important than ever. We will most likely not have the same amount of dollars to disperse.

The SAFE Schools/Healthy Students (SHARE) grant is off to a great start. The Coordinating Council continues to meet monthly to finalize work plans for the first year. Preschool tuition dollars have been dispersed to schools to aid in scholarships for children who might not be able to attend preschool. Parent -school liaisons are being contracted by schools to increase parents' involvement and knowledge, and trainings are in the process of being planned and scheduled. Hope to see you all at the February 8th at the Full Collaborative meeting.



LCTS 2005/2007 Funded Grants

M05-01 ACGC School District - Cash for Kids in Meeker County - Preschool children enrolled in two School Readiness programs, namely Hop, Skip and Jump and Kindergarten Connection. Both preschool programs are integrated with Early Childhood Special Education. Contact Peggy Starz at (320)974-8841 or email pstarz@acgc.k12.mn.us

M05-04 Dassel/Cokato School District - JUMPSTART for At-Risk Students - JUMPSTART is a program that provides at-risk children with social, emotional, and behavioral support before they start their school day. Contact Carmen Tschida at (320)286-4100 ext. 1507 or email carmen.tschida@dc.k12.mn.us

M05-03 Dassel/Cokato School District - Parent Liaison - This program is to secure the services of a Parent Liaison who would act as translator and interpreter for families in need of that service in District 466. Contact Rebecca Warpula at (320)286-5120 or email Rebecca.warpula@tc.k12.mn.us

M05-04 Dassel/Cokato School District - Preschool Tuition - This program supports what is currently being offered for at-risk children from the Dassel-Cokato Community who are in need of preschool experience before entering kindergarten. Contact Rebecca Warpula at (320)286-5120 or email Rebecca.warpula@tc.k12.mn.us

M05-05 EV/W School District - IMPACT - This program creates opportunities for our children to improve a sense of self and community by providing opportunities for them to build and strengthen relationships with adults and peers within our communities, through community service, intergenerational activities, and through our mentoring program. Contact Sherri Zieglmeier at (320) 453-2908 or email sherrie.zieglmeier@mail.ev.w.k12.mn.us

M05-06 Greater MN Family Services - Equine Assisted Counseling Program - The mental health professional and equine specialist will work together to design a session involving horses that will require the client to use new skills that help address their specific developmental and mental health needs. Contact George Dubie at (320)214-9692 ext. 115 or email gdubie@greaterminnesota.org

M05-07 Heartland Community Action Agency - Circles of Support - Circles of Support, an innovative approach to ending poverty, fosters relationships across class and race lines to move families out of poverty to self-reliance. Contact Lori Raiber at (320) 235-0850 ext. 1123 or email lorir@heartlandcaa.org

M05-08 Litchfield School District - Jump Start to Thumbs Up - This program is a combined program which provides consistent intervention services to students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade who lack age-appropriate academic, behavioral and task management skills. Contact Sue Fenton at (320)693-2436 or email sue_fenton@litchfield.k12.mn.us

M05-09 Litchfield School District - Middle School A/S Study Time - Our program is open to all 6th through 8th grade students, with the goal being to assist students with homework and organizational skills in order to improve their academic performance. Contact Dee Hagen at (320)693-2441 ext. 159 or email dee_hagen@litchfield.k12.mn.us

M05-10 Litchfield School District - Scholarships for Preschoolers - Through this involvement at the preschool level, research has shown that parent involvement usually continues as the child enters his/her school career (K-12). Contact Wendy Walz at (320)593-0072 or email wendy_walz@litchfield.k12.mn.us

M05-11 Litchfield School District - Truancy Prevention Program - The Litchfield School District will continue to collaborate with the Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City, Dassel-Cokato, and Eden Valley-Watkins school districts to reduce truancy and unexcused absenteeism, which can lead to school failure and problematic behavior within the community. Contact Mike Sundin at (320)693-2424 or email mike_sundin@litchfield.k12.mn.us

M05-12 Meeker County Public Health - Meeker County Healthy Families - Program goals are to prevent child abuse and neglect by reducing child maltreatment risk factors and by promoting healthy and positive parenting in a safe, nurturing environment. Contact Diane Winter at (320)693-5370 or email diane.winter@co.meeker.mn.us

M05-13 Meeker County Social Services - Child/Family Support Program - This project is directed toward providing preventive services to children and their families who are identified as being at risk of developing problems that will interfere with their success in the school, family, and community. Contact Pat Thomas at (320)693-5300 or email pat.thomas@co.meeker.mn.us

PLEASE LOOK FOR OTHER FUNDED GRANTS IN UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS

LCTS Grants Are Impacting Our Communities....

Woodland Center's non-county based program provides an opportunity for families and children to receive mental health services in their home without involvement with a Kandiyohi County Social Worker. For the past four years non-county home based services has served 68 families and their children, ages ranging from 0-18 years. Many times the stigma of accessing services from "the County", keeps families from requesting and receiving necessary services. If not for this project families' needs go unmet resulting in out of home placement, child protection investigations and family discord. Referral sources include self referred families, pediatricians, psychiatrists, therapists, school social workers, Guardian Ad Litem, Corrections, and Youth Day Treatment staff. Currently, we have collaborated with the Heartland Community Action Agency to provide skill based parenting and home management skills. Heartland Family Based school staff focus on parenting skills, nurturing skills, appropriate discipline methods and child growth and development. They also teach household, time and money management techniques including health, safety and nutritional information.

Family involvement is the cornerstone of both Woodland Center's Home Based Services and Heartland Family Based Services. Staff will work with families to identify their strengths and needs and utilize their existing support system to resolve issues that place the child/children at risk. Staff will link the child and family with appropriate community resources in order to create an ongoing community support system. As a result of this project, family's can access Non-County Home Based Services at no cost to them.

For further questions or to make a referral, please contact Kim Hanson at Woodland Centers, 320-235-4613 ext. 423

Greater Minnesota Family Services Home and Community Based Services Project

The HCBS project top priority is the preservation of the family unit, especially for those youth who are at risk of out of home placement. We work in all of the four counties in the PACT 4 Collaborative. Most of our kids are on probation and have a number of academic and mental health concerns. The typical age range is 13 to 17 and is co-ed. The HCBS staff are able to bill a number of insurances which brings back revenue to PACT 4 for their investment in the project.

Staff work closely with the youth, family, schools, social services, probation, guardian ad litem, mental health professionals, etc. We know this has to be a: "It Takes A Village" approach to help our most at risk youth. We have five very dedicated professionals working in the four counties. They maintain non-traditional hours in order to meet the needs and schedules of busy families and kids. The HCBS staff have embraced a 'Circle of Courage' approach to youth which means the staff are constantly asking the questions: Does the youth feel a deep sense of belonging...A sense of mastery....some independence in giving voice to their concerns and needs....and are they learning the value of generosity? Generosity is the value that creates a truly mature and caring human being.

Staff work individually with the child, the entire family system, weekly group sessions and monthly service learning experiences. We believe it is the intensity of hours of service each week that is making the difference for the multiple issues the youth are trying to manage. The youth are in the program for six months. Fortunately, we've been able to help 60 to 70% of our youth remain with their families. A number of youth who were failing in school, using alcohol or drugs, or ignoring parental needs have become successful in all of these areas. Most youth who were on probation do not become repeat offenders and return to the probation system. The youth become invested in the program, in fact, on snowy days, it's not uncommon for youth to call our staff and say, "we're not going to cancel group tonight, are we?" The HCBS project becomes a safe place where youth feel like they belong and can work out the challenges they face.

For further questions, please contact George Dubie at gdubie@tds.net or call 320-214-9692

The January Full Collaborative Meeting had 97 in attendance.

Updates:

Early Risers is a early intervention drug and alcohol program started by the University of Minnesota. It's currently running in three schools: BL/H, YME, and Kennedy in Willmar. There are small and large group activities, family nights, lunch time programs and summer camps.

Other: Chemical Health Grant - have not heard results.

Ad currently running for four family liaisons, under Woodland Centers, one in each county.

PRIDE-4 grant is currently going into it's 4th and final year, ending 9/30/06. It looks like we'll be granted a no-cost extension for one additional year to merge with other existing programs and help to keep the best of the program going.

LCTS - there are major changes because of the federal Deficit Reduction bill, and the at-risk language and qualifications are much stricter. We've met with school social workers and recorders, and will have continued meetings with school administrators and county personnel. Our goal is to get as many kids that fit the federal criteria as possible. We hope not to lose more than 50-60% of our LCTS funding, that's a conservative estimate. Our long-range plan is to look for more federal dollars for prevention services and keep the LCTS for early intervention activities. Also included in the federal bill are changes that will cause counties to lose thousands to millions of dollars. We need to work closely together to minimize this loss of money and services to our kids and families.

Committee Reports:

A. Early Childhood

HALO: is an acronym for Health Alternatives for Little Ones and is a program developed by another Head Start program. Heartland Head Start currently has 5 trained trainers, and has presentations planned for the mega conference in Brainerd and spring Early Childhood Conferences. The HALO program promotes health and wellness in the context of a ten-week curriculum. Heartland Head Start has pilot programs currently operating in five Head Start centers in coordination with the Second Step curriculum and hope to have all of Head Start locations utilizing

the program by the end of 2006. Costs: \$400.00/kit plus annual update costs. Informational folders were shared. Diane Winter reported that the subcommittee has narrowed the list of priorities related to Drug Abuse, specifically the implementation of HALO in other programs into Early Childhood and Public Health programs. The committee supports a coordinated effort to tie the HALO program into the Meth Task Force with the purpose to implement Parent Education components into this area of concern. Wendy Walz recommended that we bring this to the Service Delivery Committee. Cathy Nelson-Messer may be able to go to the meeting and Wendy Walz is committed to attending the program - an invitation will be extended to Kenny Turck to attend our next meeting. The Subcommittee also addressed the need for extended access to Dental Health. A recommendation (via a dentist) is that all people involved with children need to make a conscious effort to observe children's teeth - "Lift the Lip", and introduce families to healthy early childhood dental practices. The subcommittee also addressed the building of transition committees (EC to K) in our communities. The committee discussion supported the effort to concentrate our efforts on these priorities. This committee voted to move forward with the following priorities: support of dental health education and preventative measures via Universal Contact and as identified by needs assessment, early childhood drug abuse prevention and related programs, and support of ongoing transition (EC to K) efforts. Three books were presented that may be appropriate for giving out for the PECFAS screeners. Book decision was tabled until a future need is identified. Jodi Wambeke shared an updated of the Willmar Early Childhood Coalition's future plans, including the EC to K Transition Committee, the Early Childhood EXPO, Born Learning (bornlearning.org), United Way, Mini Grants Committee, and the February 9th Early Childhood Conference (Southwest Minnesota Foundation website).

B. Community Education/Training & Technical Assistance Committee

Janice visited to inform committee about the SHARE grant. An overview of the grant was distributed, along with an update of activities the Coordinating Council has been involved with. Instead of meeting next month, this committee's members will attend the partner orientation that is planned for prior to the Full Collaborative meeting.

C. Mentors Committee

Discussed the universal parent brochure. Everyone agreed that it should be kept simple. It was decided to go with the "Who is it?", "What is it?" & "Why is it?". The brochure should include quotes, pictures, and testimonials from students. The group will continue to work collectively and individually on this project. It was suggested that when the brochure is finished it should be proofed by youth and parents before it goes to print. Each mentor coordinator shared what they were doing for national Mentor Month in January. Bryan Thiery came up with the following ideas!!!

*Put the "Men in Mentor" will be discussed at further meetings with the possibility of applying to SW MN Foundation on how to attract more male mentors.

*Hanging out at Cash Wise in Willmar until a quota of mentors sign up. This would give awareness to the program and get people thinking about becoming a mentor. Bryan received lots of support from the others and was encouraged to check this out.

Continued on page 11



EVALUATION REPORT

By Sarah Wennerberg, Evaluation Specialist



Supervisor Updates

By Rick Loseth, Clinical Supervisor/Grants Manager

In this month's PACT 4 Bulletin are dates and locations listed for a "PACT 4 Partner Orientation". In the beginning years of the collaborative, there was considerable time spent discussing what PACT 4 was all about, getting to know what other organizations were doing to meet the needs of kids and families, and talking about just what is "collaboration". As funding was received from both State and Federal grants, energy shifted to programming and implementing projects. New agencies joined PACT 4, and many new staff regularly attended both committees and the full collaborative. LCTS funding was able to put many new projects in place. Over the last few months, the Collaborative has spend time looking at programs and services as part of a priority setting process. In those conversations, questions raised as to "why" we were involved in a particular service area; or "what is that?" were heard in the discussions.

As we look at funding sources being impacted by State and Federal cuts, the purpose of collaboration takes on an even greater significance. Understanding who we are and what PACT 4 can do, is a key to making collaboration really work. At the Partner Orientation time will be spent understanding the purpose of PACT 4, the current committee structure and focus, expectations of members, and the funding resources that are currently available through the collaborative. I would like to invite you to attend one of the four Partner Orientations taking place over the next few months. There will be one in each county, taking place before the full Collaborative meeting. Information will be provided on the "basics" of PACT 4 - most importantly, there will be time for questions and discussion to help you better understand PACT 4 Families and ways we might better meet the needs of our kids and families in the years ahead.



Early Risers

Early Risers works to help kids be successful at many levels - in school, with their peers and in the community. Staff make use of evidence based curriculum in classrooms and small group settings to introduce key concepts (and help kids practice new skills that are used in real life.) Here is a story from an Early Risers Social Worker: "During snack time after school last week, I had to leave the room while the kids were drinking cocoa and eating popcorn. Although my activity assistant was present, the kids started to throw popcorn at each other. When I returned after just a few minutes, they had made a remarkable mess. Popcorn was littered from one corner of the room to another and had been stepped on and broken into small pieces. I told the kids I was very disappointed in their behavior and that I expected each one who had thrown popcorn to help vacuum the room. Kids began to point fingers at each other and to blame each other for the mess. I stopped that discussion and simply said, "Each of you knows inside yourself if you threw popcorn. Each of you is responsible for correcting a mistake you made. I want the kids who threw popcorn to stay here and help vacuum and the others to go into the other room with Ed (my assistant) for activities." At first everyone except one boy left the room and my heart sank. Slowly, the kids came back in and lined up to take a turn vacuuming. I had each one work just a short time and thanked them for cleaning things up. Some didn't want to quit vacuuming once they had started! I considered their debt paid...the slate wiped clean. I made no more mention of the poor choice and moved on to the next activity." This is a great illustration on how kids learn through positive interactions with adults and can be helped to apply important life skills.

By Rick Loseth, Clinical Supervisor/Grants Manager

Family Needs

We have a family in need of 2 dressers, 2 single beds, couch and a table with chairs. If you can help out with any of these needs, please email Carol at Carol.Clausen@co.meeker.mn.us

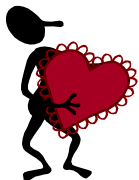
There is also another family in need of a high chair for a 1 year old. Please contact Marilyn Kempainen at Kandiyohi County Public Health, 320-231-7863. Her email in marilyn_k@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

I have a client in who is need of a used crib. You would be able to contact me at 231-7874 if you can help.

Tracy Knudsen
Kandiyohi County Public Health
tracy_k@co.kandiyohi.mn.u

TRAININGS AND CURRENT EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FEBRUARY 2006



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Share Coordinating Council; 11:30-1:30 Blue Heron	2	3 Executive Functioning Disorder; 10:00-12:00 Blue Heron (Holly Clausen, presenter)
6	7 Executive Board; 11:30am Room 2055 KCHHSB PRIDE 4 Youth Council; 5:30pm Room 1010 KCHHSB May is Mental Health Month Planning Committee; 9:30-10:30	8 Early Childhood: 10:00 Mentors, 10:30 School Age 10:30, Wraparound 10:30, Full Collaborative RCOB Must RSVP Partner Orientation RCOB Room 116/117 10:00-12:00	9	10
13 Parent Advisory Committee; 6:00pm YMCA - Must RSVP	14 Restorative Justice YMC advisory committee; Noon Jimmy's Granite Falls	15	16 PRIDE 4 Sustainability mtg; 4:30-7:00pm Room 2045 Must RSVP	17
20 President's Day Office Closed	21 PRIDE-4 Youth Council; 5:30pm Room 1010 KCHHSB	22 9:00am - 11:00am 4 County Meth Advisory Committee KCHHSB Room 2057	23	24
27	28	*KCHHSB = The Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building is located just North of Willmar on Hwy's 71 & 23 next to the Willmar Regional Treatment Center. *RCOB = Renville County Human Services Building. The RCOB is located off Hwy 212 on DePue Ave in Olivia. **COMMITTEES = Early Childhood Committee 10:00, Community Ed/T&TA 10:30, Mentors 10:30, School Age 10:30 and Wraparound Committee 10:30. All in Willmar.		

Happy Valentine's Day





CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MARCH 2006



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Share Coordinating Council; 11:30-1:30; Blue Heron	2	3
6 Service Delivery Committee; 1:00-2:00pm; Room 1010	7 Executive Board; 11:30-2:00; Room 2055 PRIDE 4 Youth Council; 5:30; Room 1010	8 Early Childhood: 10:00 - 2055, Mentors: 10:30 - 1010, School Age: 10:30 - MPR, Comm Ed/T&TA: 10:30 - MPR, Full Collaborative 12:00-2:00 MPR MUST RSVP Partner Orientation - MPR	9 Restorative Justice; KC Advisory Committee; Noon, Blue Heron, Willmar	10
13 Parent Advisory Committee; 6:00 pm YMCA - Must RSVP	14 Restorative Justice YMC Advisory Committee; Noon; Jimmy's Pizza, Granite Falls	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day 
20 	21 PRIDE 4 Youth Council; 5:30pm Room 1010	22 Meth Advisory Committee; 9:00-11:00 Room 2057	23	24
27 Evaluation Committee; 10:30-1:00; Room 1010 Must RSVP	28	29	30	31

*KCHHSB = The Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building is located just North of Willmar on Hwy's 71 & 23 next to the Willmar Regional Treatment Center.

*RCOB = Renville County Human Services Building. The RCOB is located off Hwy 212 on DePue Ave in Olivia.

**COMMITTEES = Early Childhood Committee 10:00, Community Ed/T&TA 10:30, Mentors 10:30, School Age 10:30 and Wraparound Committee 10:30. All in Willmar.

Happy Spring and Hello Sunshine!!!!

D. School Age Committee

Most of our discussion today centered on the topic of children's mental health and the need to provide early intervention in the schools and communities. They survey that schools had to administer before the SHARE grant was submitted was discussed. There was great concern expressed for the number of students who said they were depressed and/or tried to commit suicide. BOLD school district had the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program out of Mankato come to their school and do several presentations to students, staff, parents and community members. The presentations were quite powerful and were given by people who had lost a loved one to suicide or who attempted suicide. After the presentations the students completed an evaluation and several students who were depressed or suicidal reached out for help. A Yellow Ribbon card is given to every student that tells students how to get help. Our group decided we would like to try and get this presentation in every school participating in the SHARE grant. We will invite Janice to our next meeting next month and ask for her help. Discussion then led to other mental health concerns such as the choking game, cutting, weapons in school and internet bullying. Several members shared their concerns about the prevalence of these activities in their schools and communities. Our group agreed that more education for staff and parents is needed. There's a god brochure for parents from the School Safety Conference about internet bullying and will be brought to the next meeting. After having conversation about mental health concerns we talked about who are the kids we consider to be "at-risk" and how do we identify them. Some students are identified by labels such as EBD, ODD or their outward behaviors (ie. naughty kids). Other kids are harder to identify because risk factors are contained in the home. We talked about how minorities more with admitting and seeking out help for mental health issues. Most often they seek help among peers. In all, the resounding voice among all members was loud and clear that we need school social workers. Their presence in schools is much needed. Even schools who already have one said they could use another. The focus of social work practice has shifted from prevention focus to reactive focus. Several members said they wish social workers had more time to do classroom presentations for students. Most social workers are so busy putting out fires every day they don't have time. The last thing we talked about was "one time shot" programs such as Climb Theater or Youth Frontiers. These programs are ineffective unless you have some type of follow-up activities done throughout the rest of the school year. Highly recommended was Youth Frontiers, who offers schools lessons that can be used after their presentation. Suggestion: we might to take a look at meeting every other month (especially over the summer since many members work in schools.) Janice will be contacted about attending next month, and if she can't make it to the next meeting we may wait a month until we meet next.

E. Service Delivery Committee

Until a better idea of how much LCTS funding will go down is received, committee has decided not to meet until March 6th from 1:00pm to 2:00pm and hopefully more will be known then.

F. Wraparound Committee

We began revising the Wraparound Expenditure Form. Char and Janae will meet with Shawna to finalize and then give the form to the Executive

Board for approval. Changes on the form will reflect the need for trying other resources before accessing wraparound dollars, and thus build on the concept that "Wraparound Is Not All About Money". A question on the form will be: What resources have been tried? Will include a checklist to get people thinking "outside the box". The new form is meant to provide clarity and will include instructions for facilitators. WE are considering doing the form in triplicate, with a copy for designated county person, PACT 4, and facilitator's file. Next wraparound training will likely be mid-spring.

G. Evaluation Committee

Did not meet in December, will be meeting January 23rd.

H. Parent Advisory Committee

Family Liaison Positions-being advertised in the newspapers. Interviews will take place last week of January. The Federation of Families Conference is in St. Louis this year - still looking at sending families and youth. Checking on dates and the cost of hiring a tour bus. Mental Health Day on the Hill is on March 28th, in the morning we will meet at the Kelly Inn for a Legislative briefing, then attend the rally at the Capital. Discussed NAMI presentations and having Sue Abderholden come to do a training on Advocating for Your Child - we need to call Sue and set up dates. Also mentioned a training that NAMI is presenting on "Exploring Criminal Justice Responses to Mental Illness". We brainstormed on the retreat as it is coming up quickly. These meetings are now held at the YMCA take advantage of the daycare here rather than at the Kandiyohi County Building.

I. Restorative Justice/Circle Sentencing

Three circles are currently operating: Canby, Granite Falls and Willmar. There have been five new referrals in the last quarter. Probation has indicated more referrals will be coming, so we anticipate starting a second circle in Willmar.

J. Meth Advisory Committee

Billboards are up, radio ads are being heavily played. Goals is to get the word about the hotline out as much as possible to schools, churches and the community. Discussed other ways to promote the number, such as book jackets for students, business cards, and posters.

K. SHARE Coordinating Council

Discussed trainings: 3 Minute Walk-Through, a two-day training primarily towards principals. Needs to be held at a school building. Total cost for a limit of 20 participants would be \$7,000 plus \$60 per person for materials. Rick Clark, BL/H volunteered to host the training. A training date of between the middle of March to the middle of April was suggested. The first day could consist of an introduction, instruction on purpose of evaluation and class walk-throughs with discussion on each of the following. The second day could consist of refresh and review and a comparing the review with the profiles. Janice will set up the walk-through training. Flippen Group Training, Dr. Malone-GFW, reviewed the training he attended and felt it was a positive program. There was discussion on teachers and/or administrators attending a "Capturing Kids Hearts" training, which has developed by the Flippen Group. For \$12,000 the Flippen Group would present a three day Capturing Kids Hearts workshop here. There are trainings currently being held and Janice suggested the possibility of a couple of superintendents attending one of those to

determine if it is a program they would want to pursue. Rather than doing that a suggestion was for Janice to see if someone from the Flippen Group would come here for an overview for possibly less money. Teacher and Support Staff Training: information presented on agencies that will train teachers to recognize signs of suicide and depression, strategies, and action the teachers can take. Discussion was on concerns of teachers making calls (diagnosis) regarding children and suicide and/or depression. Other trainings mentioned, such as Discipline with Dignity - heard that it was excellent and felt that if a couple people attended they could bring the information back and present to teachers. There was further discussion on other possible programs and that a comparison should be made before making a commitment to one. Support Staff - Counselors/Social Workers: speakers from Reclaiming Kids, which does Discipline with Dignity - plus others. Sending school social workers to the annual Children's Mental Health conference was discussed and it was decided that although it's good, it's costly and would be available to only a few social workers. It would be better to have a training locally. A copy of each school building's Safety Walk Through needs to be given by Janice. Safety Modification contracts will be sent to each school within a couple of weeks. First year allocation needs to be spent by September 30th, 2006, as it does not roll over into the next year. Also discussed local steering committees, SHARE Advisors, parent/school liaisons, and LCTS.

L. Executive Board

Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair were held. Becky and Arliss were both unanimously reelected as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Spent most of the meeting time talking about LCTS funding changes. Also received updates on the new computer software system and fiscal changes. The Annual Meeting will be held April 6th at the Blue Heron. The Executive Board will meet at 3:00pm and the Chief Elected Officials Board will meet at 3:30. There will be no Full Collaborative meeting in April, as the Annual Meeting replaces it.

Other

-May is Mental Health Month Awareness Committee has begun meeting to plan activities and marketing. Will meet February 7th at 9:30 in Willmar
-Orientation meetings for all partners will be held in February, March, June and October, prior to each month's Full Collaborative meeting. Look for more information in the next Bulletin.
-The Equine Assisted Therapy program in Yellow Medicine County needs referrals. Contact Chad Harlander at Greater MN Family Services.



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If you have any questions regarding the content of this newsletter or would like to be included on the mailing list, please contact Cynthia at (320) 231-7030 or e-mail to cynthia_c@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

