

Full Collaborative Meeting
Wednesday, November 10, 2010; 11:45 am to 1:45 pm
Renville County Office Building; Olivia, MN

Present: Amy Wilde, Meeker County Commissioner
Ann Orren, PACT 4 YM Co. Chemical Health Coalition Coord
Annie Tepfer, PACT 4 Renville Co. Coalition Coord.
Bob Fox, Renville Co. Commissioner
Chery Johnson, Kandiyohi Co. Public Health Asst Director
Chris Sullivan, Renville County
Cindy Louwagie, Countryside Public Health Nurse
Debb Sheehan, PACT 4 Director
Diane Winter, Meeker Co. Public Health Director
Dick Larson, Kandiyohi County Commissioner
Emily McGonigle, Yellow Medicine Co. Family Svcs Case Mgr
George Dubie, Greater MN Family Services Director
Greg Schmidt, MACCRAY School Superintendent
Ian Graue, PACT 4 21st Century Grant Coordinator
Jamin Johnson, The Resource Ctr Program Mgr
Jane Remiger, Yellow Medicine Co. Commissioner
Janine Kramer, Renville Co. Outreach (Shelter House)
Jerry Brustuen, Renville Co. Human Services Director
Jill Bruns, Renville County Public Health Director
Jolene Borka, PACT 4 Accounting/Human Resources
Julie Marthaler, Yellow Medicine Co. Restorative Justice Coord.
Kim Hanson, Woodland Centers Unit Director
Laurie Bliss, Yellow Medicine County parent
Linda Mathiasen, PACT 4 Birth to 5 Grant Coord.
Linda Norland, Countryside Public Health Deputy Administrator
Linda Senst, McLeod County Public Health PHN
Loren Hacker, Canby School Superintendent
Lori Clasemann, CIRCLE/MentorWorks Too-Kinship Director
Lynette Braun, Rice Hospital PET Program Coordinator
Lynn Kuehn, ECHO Charter School
Marc Robertson, Western Mental Health Program Supervisor
Mary Kay Sinner, Renville Co. Public Health Family Health Sprvsr
Mary Potter, Yellow Medicine Co. Family Svcs. Supervisor
Pam Lukens, Lester Prairie Schools
Pat Thomas, Meeker Co. Social Svcs. Supervisor
Pete Van Der Puy, Central MN Christian School Superintendent
Rick Loseth, PACT 4 Families Supervisor
Rob Anderson, Willmar Senior High School Principal
Ron Kutzke, Meeker Co. Commissioner
Sandy Pederson, Renville Co. Public Health Nurse
Sarah Jansky, Kandiyohi Co. Public Health Student Intern
Susan Arvidson, Yellow Medicine Co. Family Svcs Social Worker
Tammy Thompson, Meeker Co. Probation Director
Tom Farfell, BOLD School Superintendent
Tom Kroes, PACT 4 Social Worker at BOLD School
Tricia Buggs, PACT 4 Kandiyohi Co. Community Circles Coord.
Trisha Hegreberg, Harmony Visitation Center
Virginia Sullivan, Renville County parent
Wendy Walz, Litchfield School Early Childhood Prog.

1. Approval of Agenda

After adding "Election of Executive Board Members" to the agenda, Pete Van Der Puy offered a motion to approve the agenda; Greg Schmidt seconded. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

Lori Clasemann offered a motion to approve the October minutes as presented; Susan Arvidson seconded. Motion carried.

3. Elections of Executive Board Members

There were three people running for three open positions. There were no nominations from the floor. Collaborative members typically vote and the results are sent as a recommendation to the Chief Elected Officials Board to ratify. Since there were no additional nominations, a motion was made by Jill Bruns to accept those nominees running for the Executive Board. The motion was seconded by Loren Hacker. Board members elected were: George Dubie (mental health position); Karen Norell (school position); and Laurie Bliss (parent position).

4. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Board – Renville County will continue as the fiscal host for PACT 4. The board approved the 2011 budget and spent a lot of time on a new joint powers agreement and by-laws.

Chief Elected Officials Board – met this morning and received an update of grants in existence and their sunset dates, gave approval for another year to apply for grants, and ratified a new joint powers agreement. This will need to be sent to each county board for chairperson signatures. Looked at the proposal from McLeod County and moved to approve it pending receipt of their formal application to join PACT 4. The CEO Board also examined and approved the 2011 budget which included all five counties. There will be two new CEO Board members beginning in January, so following December's collaborative meeting, a "send off" party will be held for Jane Remiger (Yellow Medicine County) and Amy Wilde (Meeker County).

- b. Adolescent Services Committee – made plans to meet jointly with the Elementary/Middle School-Age committee in December in order to combine efforts. Both committees will examine SHARE data to find a future focus.
- c. Early Childhood Committee – discussed 2011 goals, sustainability of the birth to five mental health grant efforts and the DC-Zero to Three overview that will be held in place of next month's committee meeting.

- d. Elementary/Middle School-Age Committee – discussed recruitment and how to get people to the table. The committee has learned that if there is no active project, fewer people show up. School connectedness was the last project and the committee thought that they could perhaps keep the concept of that going and work further on promoting it.
- e. Wraparound Committee – discussed the possibility of developing a half-hour overview of Wraparound to bring to agencies and schools to help them learn about it. The committee also discussed how to develop more neutral facilitators, the upcoming orientation training on December 3rd, and the skills training in January.
- f. Parent Advisory Committee – debriefed the October 11 guardianship training conducted by Greta Smolnisky. Included in the goals for 2011 is hosting another free training for parents, as this one was quite successful. The committee also discussed how to assimilate McLeod County parents into the collaborative and the PAC.
- g. Rewards/Success Committee – hasn't met for a few months. The intent of the committee is to identify and nominate at least one award to collaborative participants serving children, within the scope of the mission of PACT 4, to recognize those at agencies that are doing good things for kids and families. If interested in participating in setting the framework for this process, let Debb know. We'd like to provide at least one award to give out at the annual meeting in April.

5. Child and Community Safety Through a Restorative Philosophy

Presenting from Yellow Medicine County were Mary Potter, Jane Remiger, Julie Marthaler, Susan Arvidson, and Emily McGonigle. They shared their journey of changing practices in order to help families and promote community connections. The unexpected result of this change was a reduction in out-of-home placements and healthy community relationships. In 2002, their out-of-home placement budget was out of control, they were seeing the same correctional kids coming in again and again, going into placement, coming home, going back into placement, coming home and not feeling a part of the family or feeling that nothing had changed. Expensive formal services were brought in, but something was missing, and the failure and guilt of plans not working was a burden for county workers. Then Signs of Safety was begun. This approach is a change in practice in how families and coworkers are talked with. One practice under Signs of Safety is Appreciative Inquiry, a study of exploring what work looks like when workers function at their best. Questions are asked about what is going well, what could go better, what brings the most pride to the work, and what can move cases forward to the next step. After using Signs of Safety with a couple of families, a positive impact was felt by everyone. Lessons learned were: the importance of inviting everyone to the table and being open and honest; participation in all areas of the family's life; equality, sitting in a circle and using a talking piece to allow everyone to be heard equally; curiosity and openness to creativity; and using one or two neutral facilitators.

In 1999, Yellow Medicine County's out-of-home placement costs were \$402,285. In 2004, they hit a high of \$583,984. In 2009, after trying this new approach to "doing business", costs dropped to \$70,107. In 1999, family-based counseling costs were \$74,474 and in 2009, they were \$42,668.

6. PACT 4 Grant Reports:

- a. Renville County Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) – Annie Tepfer, Grant Coordinator

For the past four and a half years, Renville County has had a state grant funding prevention efforts on drug and alcohol use among adolescents. Recently, the county received a Drug-Free Communities grant to continue those efforts, as well as add tobacco prevention efforts into the mix. The RAPAD Coalition was established to focus on preventing underage drinking in Renville County and includes active participation from 12 sectors of the community: youth, parents, law enforcement, schools, businesses, media, youth-serving organizations, religious organizations, civic and volunteer groups, health care professionals, state, local, and tribal agencies, and other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse. "Underage alcohol use poses important public health and public safety risks. This should be of concern to professionals, policy makers, parents and others who are attempting to reduce the negative consequences of underage alcohol use. Knowing the locations where this behavior is most likely to occur can help alert parents to times when they need to exercise greater monitoring and supervision, and support the adoption of effective policies to protect children," said Annie. The goal of the coalition is to reduce underage access to alcohol and underage alcohol consumption. The coalition activities consist mainly of environmental strategies, which aim at creating an environment that makes it easier for people to act in healthy ways. There are three types of environmental strategies:

- Limiting access-compliance checks and Beverage Server Training
- Changing social norms that are accepting and permissive of underage alcohol use-MOST of Us® Social Norms

- campaign, community presentations, youth groups, articles and other media, and parent/community education
- Changing public laws, policies, or practices-includes raising alcohol taxes, stepping up enforcement and zero-tolerance laws, such as social host ordinances.

A social host ordinance makes it unlawful to provide an environment where underage drinking takes place. It is different from the state laws that prohibit adults from providing alcohol to minors. A county ordinance is only enforceable within the unincorporated areas of the county, not within individual city limits (unless the city adopts the same ordinance). It sends a clear message that it is not acceptable to condone underage drinking and acts as a deterrent to social hosts as well as hold them responsible. A social host ordinance does NOT change any other state laws, doesn't include landlords and property owners while they are away from the property, provided they were unaware that illegal alcohol consumption was going to occur on their property, and parents cannot be charged under a social host ordinance if **in their presence** they allow **their own child** to consume alcohol in their residence. In 2006, there were NO social host ordinances in the State of Minnesota. Today, there are 57 cities and 10 counties in Minnesota that have passed the ordinance, including the city of Fairfax in Renville County. Why are prevention efforts necessary? Compared to youth who wait until they are 21, youth who drink at the age of 15 are four times more likely to become dependent on substances. Also, the adolescent brain is still developing - research indicates that our brain development isn't complete until our mid 20's. The last part to develop is the prefrontal cortex, which effects impulsivity, self-control, risk-taking, and the ability to predict consequences. In addition, underage drinking costs the State of Minnesota **\$340 million** each year.

6. Other:

- Community Conference on the Brain – registration closes today, a few spots are available.
- Next Meeting – December 8th at the Kandiyohi Co. Health and Human Services Building in Willmar.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Shawna Steffen, PACT 4