

Full Collaborative Meeting
Wednesday, January 14th, 2009; 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building; Willmar, MN

Present: Alex Espinoza, PACT 4 Guía Intervention Specialist/Coordinator
Anber Mitchell, Renville County student
Amy Wilde, Meeker County Commissioner
Ann Orren, PACT 4 Yellow Medicine Co. Coalition Coord.
Ann Stehn, Kandiyohi Co Public Health Director
Anna Tensen, Shelter House Youth Advocate
Annie Tepfer, PACT 4 Renville Co. Coalition Coord.
Brian Skogen, Canby/PACT 4 School Social Worker
Char Erickson, PACT 4 Wraparound Coordinator
Cheryl Loge, Litchfield School Social Worker
Chris Sullivan, Renville County young adult
Christine Hilbert, Willmar School District Child Guide Program
David Schmidt, Renville County parent
Dean Shuck, Kandiyohi County Commissioner
Debb Sheehan, PACT 4 Director
Debi Brandt, Heartland Community Relations Director
Diane Winter, Meeker Co. Public Health Director
Donna Henning, Heartland Community Partnership Resource Spec.
Elaine Bolland, Harmony Visitation Center Coordinator
Elizabeth Adamski, Lutheran Social Services
George Dubie, Greater MN Family Services Director
Greg Schmidt, MACCRA Y School Superintendent
Gwenn Garcia, WCIC/PACT 4 Guía Intervention Spec/Coord.
Irene Schwartz, Dassel/Cokato School Early Childhood Programs
Janice Madden, Project SHARE Director
Jill Bruns, Renville County Public Health Director
Jon Marchand, Greater MN Family Svcs Programs Coord.
Julie Slaughter, Renville County parent
June Kahlstorf, EV/W IMPACT Coordinator
Kathi Franzen, Woodland Centers Y.D.T.
Kathy Willing, Renville County parent
Kayla Reyerson, Western MH/Canby School Counselor
Kelly Roschild, Kandiyohi County parent
Kim Hanson, Woodland Centers Unit Director
Linda Norland, Countryside Public Health Deputy Administrator
Lori Clasemann, MentorWorks Too Kinship Coordinator
Lynette Braun, Rice Hospital PET Program Coordinator
Marci Robertson, Western Mental Health Program Supervisor
Mary Kay Sinner, Renville Co. Public Health Nurse
Maureen Mitchell, Renville County parent
Mindy Blommer, EV/W After School Programs
Nancy Van Hauen, Willmar Schools Nurse
Pat Thomas, Meeker Co. Social Svcs. Supervisor
Pete Van Der Puy, Central MN Christian School Superintendent
Polly Ann Peters, PACT 4 Family Liaison
Renee Brandt, Project Turnabout ATOD Prevention Coord
Rick Loseth, PACT 4 Families Supervisor
Robin Henderson, YME School Intergenerational Prog.
Roger Rueckert, ACGC School Superintendent
Rosa Eddy, Guía Family Liaison
Sarah Wennerberg, PACT 4 Evaluation Specialist
Shannon Abel, GFW School District
Tammie Knick, GFW School Social Worker
Tammy Thompson, Meeker Co. Probation Director
Tricia Buggs, PACT 4 Restorative Justice Coordinator
Virginia Sullivan, Renville County parent
Wendell Veurink, Greater MN Family Svcs Counselor
Wendy Walz, Litchfield School Early Childhood Prog.

1. Approval of Minutes

Julie Slaughter offered a motion to approve the December minutes as presented; Kathy Willing seconded. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Agenda

After two agenda additions (Celebrating Excellence and Creating Lasting Family Connections), Tricia Buggs offered a motion to approve the agenda; Lori Clasemann seconded. Motion carried.

3. LCTS Grants Update

About 40 Letters of Intent have been received and a list will be compiled and sent out to those who submitted them. There are a few changes in the review process this cycle. There is one pot of money for all four counties, instead of being split by county, but at least one grant will be funded in each county. Because reviewers will not be reviewing grants in their own county, all applicants have the potential to be a reviewer in another county, as long as there is no conflict of interest. PACT 4 will need 35-40 reviewers. Each would be sent a packet of grants to review and score, and will travel to the county for which they're reviewing, to hear short presentations from the applicants and ask questions if needed. Scores can be adjusted after the presentations if deemed necessary. There will not be a need for group funding recommendations this time. All score sheets will go to the evaluation department to tally. Final scores will be sent to the Executive Board for their recommendations. Those interested in reviewing can contact either Rick Loseth or Sarah Wennerberg at the PACT 4 office.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Board – officers were elected. George Dubie was elected Chair and Arliss Stenger was re-elected Vice Chair. Bills were approved, committee reports were reviewed, and a personnel update was given. There is still one position open with the Guía grant, and the policy committee is working on the 10-month school social work positions. Time was spent on mission and sustainability. A conflict of interest policy was discussed, and an update was given about the annual meeting on April 7th. Greg Aamot will be the keynote speaker. Greg is the author of a book called *The New Minnesotans*.
- b. Adolescent Services Committee – continued to work on resource lists for Meeker, Renville, and Yellow Medicine counties to put on the PACT 4 website; discussed the next printing of the crisis cards, in Spanish and Somali.
- c. Early Childhood Committee – discussed the grant from the MN Department of Human Services on mental health services for children birth to five, which is due February 6th.

- d. Elementary/Middle School-Age Committee – discussed school connectedness themes to highlight in February and March. Three school representatives volunteered to present at the school connectedness conference to be held in August. Members also worked on the conference brochure.
- e. Mentors Committee – worked on the presentation for the meeting.
- f. Wraparound Committee – discussed how to form a youth panel for youth involvement in Wraparound, which is a national focus this year. Ideal panel candidates would be fifteen to sixteen years old. Four to five candidates have been identified.
- g. Parent Advisory Committee – January's meeting was cancelled due to the weather. The next meeting will be February 9th.

5. Celebrating Excellence Award

The award was given to Polly Peters, Family Liaison at PACT 4. Polly has demonstrated excellence in carrying out the philosophies of the Wraparound process, being: family-driven, strength-based, collaborative, community-based, culturally competent, individualized, team-based, utilizing natural supports, persistent, and outcome-based. Polly was nominated by a parent that she works with.

6. Creating Lasting Family Connections Input

Elizabeth Adamski from Lutheran Social Services participated in the Creating Lasting Family Connections training offered through the Guía grant. The training was a week long, and all Guía staff employed at the time attended, as well as a few other partner agency staff that had signed up. At a future Full Collaborative meeting, a role-play using the curriculum will be done. Families that go through this curriculum need to commit to fifteen to eighteen modules or sessions, which would be about three full weekend days. Lutheran Social Services would like to use this curriculum in ways other than for those involved with alcohol and drugs, perhaps in a parenting class. Elizabeth was present to gauge interest, in both the possibility of referrals or using as a valuable resource. She and Tim Johnson, Director, are working through the details. If interested or to give feedback for the potential of the program, Elizabeth can be contacted at the Willmar LSS office.

7. Mentor Program Presentation

Excerpts from a DVD titled *Journeyman*, which is about mentors/mentees and was produced in Minnesota, were shown. Lori Clasemann and June Kahlstorf presented information about the four mentor programs in our area. Eden Valley/Watkins' IMPACT program has 27 active matches, with 36 youth on the waiting list. The program in Litchfield is very new – local community members identified this as a need and a local judge spearheaded the project. Non-profit status for the program was achieved, a coordinator (Robert Finneseth) was hired, and they now have four active matches and one pending. The MentorWorks Too-Kinship program in Renville County began in 1997. They have 65 current matches. Kandiyohi County's program is run through the YMCA. Bryan Thiery, program coordinator, reports that they have 59 active matches, with 29 youth on the waiting list – eighteen boys and nine girls.

8. Grant Reports

- a. Restorative Justice/Circle Sentencing – starting this month, there will be five Circles running in Kandiyohi County – four in Willmar and one in New London. Potentially, one will begin soon in Raymond. Tricia Buggs will present to the Willmar Lions Club at the end of January to help generate more volunteers. The steering committee is discussing sustainability of the program.
- b. SHARE – Advisors and Liaisons met this morning, and the focus was on sustaining programs. Although those positions will probably be cut after September 30th due to school budgets, Second Step, Steps to Prevention, and the Olweus Bullying Prevention program will continue since they are already imbedded in the schools and will not cost a lot to continue. Also discussed was how to use some social marketing dollars and how to share all the resources that have been accumulated by the schools. Sarah Wennerberg discussed with Advisors the upcoming SHARE survey. The next meeting of Advisors and Liaisons will be on March 11 at 9:00 am at West Central Industries in Willmar. The Coordinating Council will meet on February 4th at The Oaks at Eagle Creek (formerly called the Blue Heron).
- c. 21st Century Learning Community Center – sites are beginning to plan summer programs. Each of the eight districts has a local advisory group that meets approximately three times each year and is looking for members to help give feedback and suggestions on improving the programs. Local site coordinators should be contacted if interested.
- d. Guía – referrals are coming in steadily. Renville and Kandiyohi County are more actively involved in submitting referrals, but staff are looking for more from Meeker and Yellow Medicine counties. Parents have shown appreciation and support for the program. The steering committee is still seeking members from Renville, Meeker and Yellow Medicine counties. Grant staff will begin using the Creating Lasting Family Connections curriculum in March. Steering committee members will get a feel for the curriculum by doing a role-play exercise at a future meeting.

e. Chemical Health Coalitions – both counties are working on radio ads and having local law enforcement run compliance checks at establishments serving or selling alcohol – neither county has ever done it before. Each county will host a Responsible Beverage Server training in the near future. New prevention posters are being put up in the schools, stickers will be put on boxes at local pizza restaurants, bookmarks will be distributed to students, postcards are being sent to parents reflecting the same messages that are on the posters hung in schools, and presentations are being given to local school boards. Statistics for these media materials are taken from the Most of Us® survey that Renville and Yellow Medicine County schools participated in. The Renville County coalition was featured in an article in the West Central Tribune, December 29 edition. The story was picked up by the AP and published in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Star Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

9. Other

a. A circle of support parenting group will begin meeting every Thursday night from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the Learning Funhouse in Bird Island, a light supper will be provided.

b. Next Meeting – February 11th at the Renville County Office Building in Olivia.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Shawna Steffen, PACT 4.