

Gallia County Family and Children First Council Monthly Minutes for September 4, 2009

Members Present: Ron Adkins, GJM BADAMHS
Melissa Conkle, Health Department
Rosalie Durbin, Gallia County Board of DD
Dana Glassburn, Dept. of Job and Family Services
Russ Moore, Children's Services
Lynn Pauley, GJV RSVP
Jack Payton, Gallipolis City Schools
Denise Shockley, Gallia-Vinton ESC
Greg Shrader, Juvenile Court
Jackie Sheets, FACTS/New Alternatives
Larry Simpson, Dept. of Youth Services
Kimberly Thomas, Parent Representative
Kelly Velazquez, Parent Representative
Sarah Wamsley, Gallia Board of DD & ECCC
Dena Warren, FACTS/New Alternatives

Members Absent: Terri Brown, HMC Maternity Family Services
Joe Browning, Gallia County Sheriff
Tina Cotterill, Heart of the Valley Head Start
Charla Evans, Gallia County Local Schools
Joe Foster, Gallia County Commissioner
Mary Jo Frank, Woodland Centers
Melissa Kimmel, Serenity House
Jon Lynch, Gallipolis City Commissioner
Dennis Johnson, TASC of Southeast Ohio
Truman Noe, Gallia-Jackson-Vinton JVSD
Jill Simpkins, NAMI/EMA
Teresa Varian, Gallia-Meigs Community Action

Staff Present: Chris Love, FCFC Secretary
Cara Luce, Intersystem Coordinator

Visitor: Kim Rose

1. **Welcome & Introductions** – Rosalie Durbin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Introductions were made.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Cara Luce requested the addition of August meeting minutes to number 3. Under “New Business” are the additions of Parent Representative Resignation, FCFC Audit, HMG Part C Stimulus Fund RFP, and Kim Rose to talk about the Point of Grace Youth Ranch. Ms. Durbin requested approval of the revised agenda.

MOTION G10:101 Kimberly Thomas made a motion to accept the agenda. Denise Shockley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. **Presentation & Approval of Minutes** – Ms. Durbin requested approval of the minutes from the June 5, 2009 Business meeting and Executive Committee meetings on June 22, July 23, and August 11, 2009.

MOTION G10:102 Ron Adkins moved to approve the June 5, 2009 Business meeting minutes as well as the June 22, July 23, and August 11, 2009 Executive Committee meeting minutes as presented. Kelly Velazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. **Budget/Finance Committee Report** – Ron Adkins reported that the Fiscal Committee met prior to the Council meeting this morning. They reviewed the monthly finance reports and approved the final FY'09 fiscal reports. They also approved the FY'10 Administrative Budget and the FY'10 fiscal reports. Ms. Luce distributed copies of the fiscal reports. Mr. Adkins requested approval of the standard monthly reports.

MOTION G10:103 Melissa Conkle moved to accept the fiscal reports for FY'09 and FY'10 as presented. Denise Shockley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Old Business**

a. **Implementation Reports**

1. **Help Me Grow** – Sarah Wamsley reported that HMG now has four employees. There are two Service Coordinators at 32 hours per week. One girl is working as Service Coordinator and filling in for Project Director and she's also doing some nursing Newborn Home Visits. They have the Family Support Specialist, who works 8 hours a week. Help Me Grow is currently serving 26 Part C families and 4 families have been referred, 66 at risk families are being served and 5 families have been referred. The Service Coordinators are in the process of contacting and scheduling visits. Ms. Wamsley reported that the HMG numbers are slightly low with all the changes in the eligibility. She reported that the changes are: children with a suspected delay or disability now have to be referred for an evaluation from a developmental specialist and those are now standardized assessments with stricter guidelines. Also, only first time parents whose babies are less than 6 months old, are in the 200% poverty level, and also have to have 2 additional risk factors to be eligible for HMG. Risk factors include: adolescent mother, single parent, lack of stable residence, homelessness or in dangerous living conditions, maternal prenatal substance abuse, parent or primary caregiver with drug or alcohol dependence or acute/chronic medical illness or developmental disability and a history of abuse or neglect. Also, children referred through Child Protective Services are no longer automatically eligible for Part C

services. They also have to have an evaluation to determine if there is enough of a delay. Ms. Wamsley reported that HMG did have a booth at the Gallia County Fair and they gave away a car seat and they are planning a Halloween Party or a Playgroup in October. The ECCC meeting is scheduled for September 9th at 1:30 p.m. at the Early Childhood Center.

Cara Luce reported that Ms. Wamsley is here today as the Chairperson of the ECCC. Ms. Luce explained that the ECCC has upcoming elections and depending upon who gets elected as the Chair, they may or may not be available on Fridays. Vickie Mulholand, the Project Director for HMG, has another job on Fridays and is unavailable to be here on Fridays. So, this will be discussed and determined at the next ECCC meeting. Ms. Luce also reported that the Self Assessment for 2008 came back and HMG was in compliance.

2. ***Children's Trust Fund*** – Dena Warren reported that FACTS began Positive Parenting sessions on July 13th and just completed the first sessions on August 31st. As of last Monday, they completed 18 units and they are getting ready for the second session. She distributed some flyers to the Council. Since she and Tammy are back in the schools, they had to change the time back in order that parents could get children on the bus. Ms. Warren feels it is going very well. After four years, it seems to be catching on and they are getting referrals.
 3. ***Alternative School Update*** – Jack Payton said that they did not have an official report to distribute at this time since school has just begun and Mr. Perry is now also a middle school principal. The Alternative School is doing well and is still stationed in Gallipolis at the former high school, which is now the middle school.
 4. ***Community Coalition*** – Ms. Warren announced that they had their informational booth at the Gallia County Junior Fair. The Coalition has talked with Mr. Perry and they will be back in the Alternative School again this year. They will also be helping out with the LEADS Program. She stated that October is Red Ribbon month and messages and announcements will be done at schools. She is working with SADD to get the Red Ribbon distributed at all the ballgames. She asked for donations of pencils or ribbons or anything to help get awareness about alcohol to the kids during the month of October at the after school programs.
 5. ***IHBT/Other Children's Programming*** – Ms. Luce stated that Dr. Mary Jo Frank is unavailable but she did send a report to her and she will share that report under “Agency Updates” in New Business.
- b. **Service Coordination/Non-Behavioral Health GRF/289 Update** – Cara Luce stated that last year in FY'09 we ended up having a total of 39 children in service coordination. Last year, they had a total of 156 meetings scheduled and actually held 104 meetings throughout the year with the families. Over the summer, they sent five kids to Camp Nuhop in Ashland and they also helped with the Summer Resiliency Program at Woodland Centers. For all the service coordination kids in that program, she helped purchase the supplies

needed for that group. Ms. Luce finished the 289 Update and submitted it by the deadline. As of yet, she hasn't received feedback from the state. This year, so far, they have 20 families enrolled. She has had two new referrals within the last couple weeks. The court referrals have gone down a little but the mental health referrals have gone up. She reported that Amanda Adams and Wes Crum from Woodland Centers are more involved. Since July, they have had 13 meetings. For 289 data collection in FY'09, data was collected at the time of referral that included involvement in mental health services and involvement in extra curricular activities, and whether being enrolled in service coordination increased their access to these services and activities. Ms. Luce will continue tracking that information and adding the next step, which is to track some of their goals that are set in the team meeting.

Ms. Luce reported that the Non-Behavioral Health funds have been spent out. This is not a separate pot of money this year. Basically, they have just added it in with what used to be called the FAST money, which is more flexible to spend. As long as the family is enrolled in service coordination it doesn't matter if they have a mental health diagnosis or not. This is the big change for service coordination this year.

- c. **ABC/FAST '10** – Mr. Adkins said that for ABC this year we are required to use it as Medicaid match. The Department of Mental Health took about a 34% cut in their allocations. Medicaid has become a significant problem in Ohio. So, we are obligated that if it is general revenue we use it as Medicaid match for the provision of care in community. So, ABC is earmarked for kids that are Medicaid for their mental health services this year. This will be tracked primarily through Woodland Centers.
- d. **FY'09 Year-End Reports** – Ms. Luce stated that we met deadlines on all of our year-end reports and have either been approved or gotten word that they were received and in process of being reviewed. The Children's Trust Fund was approved for this year. The Occupational Capacity Building Fund (the administrative grant for FCFC) was approved but reduced from \$20,000.00 to \$16,257.00. She has not received feedback on the 289 Report yet. Ms. Luce worked with Robin Harris on the FAST Report and it has been submitted. A Non-BH Report is not required this year because they don't have the money anymore.
- e. **Other** – There was nothing to discuss under this topic.

6. **New Business**

- a. **Agency Updates** – Ms. Luce informed the Council that she sent an email and received a few responses concerning the budgets of different agencies. Of the responses she received, she typed them up and distributed them to the Council. She briefly talked about HMG. She stated that the qualifications and eligibility that Ms. Wamsley went over is listed on this sheet. She

encouraged that the information be given to appropriate staff that does HMG referrals. Ms. Luce stated that Dr. Mary Jo Frank sent information. The IHBT (Intensive Home Based Treatment) has been discontinued. They will still be doing the Early Childhood Mental Health Services for Head Start. Woodland Centers will have an after-school program once a week this year. It is an extension of the Summer Group and there will be three groups of kids. There was good news from Greg Shrader/Juvenile Court, Melissa Kimmel/Serenity House, and Terri Brown/Holzer Medical Center. Each of those entities reported not to have received many cuts and are continuing with the same services. Russ Moore/Children's Services wrote a great letter, which she attached.

Mr. Moore stated that in the letter he had said one of the things they had to eliminate was a school outreach worker in the school program. He was pleased to announce that they have worked out a Memorandum of Understanding that the Gallipolis City Schools and Gallia County Local Schools. They put out an RFP for community providers that might be interested in working by contract with Children Services to place social workers within the schools. The deadline is September 18th. Mr. Moore says he anticipates getting submissions for that so that soon thereafter they will put social workers back in the schools. He said the big difference will be the agency that is successful on this bid will be responsible for hiring and placing the people in the school. The school will have input on each person placed. Children's Services will just be providing the oversight. Dana Glassburn/DJFS added that the general concept will be actually one case worker within each school. There should be 4 for the city school district and 4 for the county school district. Mr. Adkins asked if Medicaid will be billed for these services. Mr. Glassburn said not for these services. Mr. Glassburn stated that primarily these two school districts are doing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Children Services Board and from there is a matching federal grant that they can use that money for now. Before, Children's Services had the money to provide the workers but they don't have that extra money now and they cannot afford to do it to meet the need.

Mr. Adkins reported that mental health took a 34% cut this year and alcohol and drug took about a 30% cut. The majority of those reductions will be services to non-Medicaid people. The majority of the agencies will not be accepting new non-Medicaid eligible clients. Woodland Centers lost approximately \$850,000.00 that had been earmarked for non-Medicaid population. So, the majority of public mental health and alcohol and drug system is now Medicaid only for at least this year.

Mr. Glassburn stated that beginning September 14th the Department of Job and Family Services will be operating under new hours. The hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday. He explained that due to the significant budget cuts it was necessary to layoff 21 of their 51 employees. Mr. Glassburn took a few

minutes to update the Council on several changes at the Gallia County DJFS since the cutbacks and layoffs.

Russ Moore of Children's Services added that if agencies need to make a report of abuse or neglect to call Extension 101 for intake. He couldn't promise that someone would always answer but they will return the call promptly.

- b. Next Meeting Dates** – Rosalie Durbin informed the Council that the next Program Meeting is October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. at the GJM ADAMHS Board Office. The next Business Meeting of the Council is November 6, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Service Center.
- c. Parent Representative** – Ms. Luce announced that she received an email from Kim Dennison resigning her position as parent representative on the Council due to her job schedule being a conflict with Council Meetings. Ms. Luce says if anyone knows of a parent whose child received services from any agency within the Council, and is not employed by one of the agencies, to please contact her.
- d. Audit Update** – Ms. Luce reported that she received a copy of the final audit from the State. She distributed a signature sheet for those interested in receiving a copy of the audit. Ron Adkins reported that it was an extremely good audit. There was one oversight. The final report from the last audit was not filed within the deadline to the State. The auditors praised the fiscal work that went into the records for the Council.
- e. HMG Part C RFP**- For Help Me Grow this year, there is the GRF pot of money, the regular part C pot of money, and there is a stimulus pot of money. Ms. Luce announced that we are doing an RFP for the stimulus pot of money, which is due September 21st. There is a webinar on Wednesday that will explain how this money is to be tracked and the new guidelines.

MOTION G10:104 Mr. Adkins made a motion authorizing the Executive Committee based on Cara Luce's recommendation to approve and submit the stimulus proposal for Part C funds for HMG. Larry Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- f. Point of Grace Ranch** – Kim Rose explained that she began ground work approximately a year ago for opening a youth ranch in Gallia County. This ranch would be targeting homeless and runaway teens ages 15 to 18. Her facility will be built to permanently house 8 kids in the first phase. She has blueprints for a lodge/barn that will have a suite in it for a set of residential parents to live there with the kids. Ms. Rose reported that she is targeting the teenagers that are not in the system or receiving any type of government assistance; however, she won't turn anyone away. Ms. Rose is here today to give verbal awareness. It will probably be a year before the facility is complete. She reported that the 501 C3, Board of Directors, blueprints, and

the license of incorporation have all been completed. Ms. Rose reported that she has a counselor that will be at the facility at least twice a week and she is currently in process of hiring someone that could be there on a daily basis. She also has another licensed psychologist that is retired and said she could be available at any time if they brought someone in for evaluation. Besides the home, there will be a full-sized gymnasium where they can have basketball or volleyball tournaments and things of that nature to bring outside, every day kids without issues and problems in to meet and mingle with the kids living on the ranch. They will have horses and hope to teach the kids work ethics that will help them go back into the world and lead a normal life. It will be a faith-based Christian home and that is not something that will be forced on the kids but it is available to them. The farm is located on Ingalls Road. It will be approximately 35 acres of her land. Ms. Rose stated that the research she has done has proven what good therapy animals are for these kinds of situations.

MOTION G10:105 Dana Glassburn made a motion that Family and Children First draft a letter supporting the Point of Grace Ranch. Ron Adkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7. **Announcements/Concerns**

- Rosalie Durbin stated that a press release will be coming out about the official name change of their agency from the MR/DD to the Gallia County Board of Developmental Disability. Obviously, the MR “mental retardation” part of their name has been removed. She stated that this actually started and originated in Athens County. Some of the MR/DD clients in Athens County approached the Athens County MR/DD Board and said they find that is offensive to have “MR” in the title and asked them to consider taking it out. Well, that started a movement around the state and legislation has recently passed to make that change. So, their board officially did change the name to the Gallia County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Durbin added that she feels this is a step in the right direction.
- Kimberly Thomas announced that Lutheran Food Services has started coming into our county twice a month now. They are coming in on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Families need to sign up ahead of time. Contact Grace United Methodist Church at 446-0555 or the Lutheran Church on Jackson Pike for more information. The Episcopal Church is going to start a diaper drive to help families with children.
- Cara Luce announced that the Snack Pack Program is continuing to grow. White Oak Baptist Church sponsors Vinton Elementary and several churches have come together to sponsor Hannan Trace Elementary. Washington Elementary is being sponsored by Holzer. Rio is still being done by the main group. The main group will also now be able to add Southwestern Elementary. September 25th is the first distribution for the year.

- Kelly Velazquez announced that her work will have grants for Youth Obesity Programs. She briefly gave the criteria for the program and she requested those interested in the details to contact her.
- Melissa Conkle announced that the Health Department will have a Flu Clinic on Saturday, September 26th from 8:30 to 12:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

MOTION G10:106 Ron Adkins made a motion to adjourn and Jack Payton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Council President

Council Secretary