

Advisory Board –East Central

MINUTES

MAY 13, 2009

4:30 – 6:00 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM –MIDTOWN SQ

MEETING CALLED BY	Beth Schultz
MEMBER PRESENT	Jody Gertken-Teter, Jolynn Larson, Beth Schultz, Ernie Watson, Brenda Hommerding, Michele Isham (MCDHH Representative), Emily Smith-Lundberg
MEMBERS ABSENT	Linda Hendrickson and Rebecca Crowell
STAFF PRESENT	Rich Diedrichsen, Diane Leonard, Jenny Robinson (interpreter), Lisa Hennen (consultant –West Central region), Alison Aubrecht (Mental Health specialist) and Deb Rasmussen (note taker).
GUEST SPEAKERS	Curt Micka, (Assistant Director –DHHS), and Joyce Atchison, (therapist -DHH IMPACT)
GUEST	Jerry Pouliot, (Consumer Relations Manager –MN Relay)
NOTE TAKER	Deb Rasmussen

Agenda topics

BETH SCHULTZ

DISCUSSION	Beth Schultz, the chairperson, began the meeting with the reading of the minutes. A motion was submitted to accept the minutes as written, a second was made, the minutes stay as written. The agenda, Beth asked if there were any additions, none presented and the meeting began with introductions of the members for the benefit of the two new advisory board members, Jolynn Larson and Emily Smith-Lundberg.
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REGIONAL UPDATES

DIANE LEONARD

DISCUSSION	<p>Diane reported the ASL movie, <i>Legend of a Mountain Man</i> that was shown at the Monticello school. The group Socialization Networking Advocacy and Parent Support (SNAPS) was part of the sponsors and has begun to network with the school districts. The SNAPS group is hopeful this fall that there will be another ASL movie shown here in St. Cloud. In March the SNAPS group had a family social event in Monticello, which had a great turn out. The Deaf Mentor workshop was held here in St. Cloud for both new and seasoned trainees. Cindy Otto, Bonnie Eldred, and Diane Leonard were co-presenters. Bonnie Eldred from Wisconsin did a wonderful training, which left each of the trainees with enthusiasm for the program. A question was asked on how many families are waiting to get into the Deaf Mentor program. Diane shared that in the East there are 3 families being served and 4 families on the waiting list. Diane also reported on the disability task force, celebration of ability event and movie this fall. June 18 – 20th MADC will be here in St. Cloud at the Holiday Inn. Holiday Inn management asked if Diane would be willing to do a training for their staff on how to accommodating and interacting with the deaf and hard of hearing.</p> <p>Rich reported on the HLAA (Hearing Loss Association of America) Conference. There was a great turn out and the local chapter made a profit which its proceeds were donated to the Statewide training for parents and teachers related to teaching Hard of Hearing Students held at Cragan’s in Brainerd, MN. There will be a second weekend at Camp Confidence; the first weekend was not attended by all that had signed up because of the snow storm. Some families had made it through the storm but for the others who didn’t, they wanted the opportunity to still attend, so another weekend was scheduled. Rich will present at the Charting the C’s conference and the Age & Disability Odyssey conference. He also noted that Barnes/Noble stores will display items on disabilities. You can also contact our office for resources on deaf and hard of hearing issues. Both consultants, Diane –East Central and Lisa –West Central regions have been doing many presentations and workshops in their regions.</p> <p>Diane thanked Rich for his update and also thanked Jerry Pouliot for providing the treats from MRS (Minnesota Relay Service). MRS is celebrating their 20th anniversary. MADC (Minnesota Association of Deaf Citizens) will be hosting their conference in St. Cloud this year and will be at the Holiday Inn. Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS) will be donating interpreting services for the conference.</p>
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CONCLUSIONS	N/A

MCDHH REPPORT

MICHELLE ISHAM

DISCUSSION	<p>Our new advisory board member and MNCDDH (MN Commission of Deaf, DeafBlind, & Hard of Hearing) representative, Michele Isham, presented the report on the meeting and plan for the upcoming new fiscal year. The next meeting will be on a Friday. The meeting was good but intense, a lot of items on the agenda. Vote -5 year plan, there is a lot of focus on education this year, Deaf lobby day –spent time talking with the senators. MCDHH & MDE (MN Dept of Education) co-sponsored the Deaf Education Leader’s Summit via internet with captioning. The conference was on how to do data collection for educational results to help deaf/hard of hearing students improve in school. EDHI, data collection on newborns -a sub-committee needed? Who has been to the airport lately? There was a survey taken on communication access, also talked about the videophones at the airport. A discussion followed regarding the airports and communication access for deaf/hard of hearing.</p>
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DIVISION REPORT

CURT MICKA

DISCUSSION	<p>Guest speaker; Curt Micka –Assistant Director of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Dept. shared handouts on the divisions programs and services overview.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Grant contracts –with the state of Minnesota facing a \$4.57 billion deficit; DHHS has already experienced a 6% reduction for fiscal year '09. The Governor has proposed a 2.58% cut to state grants, which will affect our programs such as People Inc, CSD-MN, DBSM, TV stations, VoA, etc. For fiscal year '10 there will be another 2.58% cut and the following fiscal year other 2.58% cut. 2.) Direct Services - meaning regional offices –if there is a need for large cuts, the only place for reduction is personnel, staff travels and regional office closes. This would impact our ability to deliver services statewide. 3.) TED Program, we are not federal funded but fully funded by state. The program is federally mandated but not funded. 4.) MH (Mental Health), DHHS also oversees this program. The program is funded by money from the former SPRTC programs. John Gournarius is the director and does a fantastic job. Under the program, there are MH specialists housed in the Metro office, the Rochester office, the St. Cloud office and soon to be in the Duluth office. 5.) Administration, the Dept. of Human Services, this budget has been cut 6% - this does not affect program funds. With the possibilities of 10% in the next 2 years, where monies are concern, we might need to lay off staff or close regions. We may need to call on your support to contact legislators to minimize cuts to DHHS and to avoid Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Minnesotans from becoming second class citizens. Rich will contact you for help. There is a possibility of a collaboration effort with Dept. of Rehab. Services. We are exploring ways that DHHS and DRS can work more closely together to help more Deaf and Hard of Haring people get and keep jobs. If this plan is a “go,” we would be able to tap into federal monies as a match for work. If this develops it would be a win–win situation.
HANDOUT	<p>The Metro DHHS office, the TED Program, the DHHS Mental Health Program and the MCDHH Commission has moved to a new location at the Golden Rule Building, 85 East 7th Place, Suite 105 in St. Paul. It actually just across the road from the other location, so they are still on the corners of Robert St. and 7th Place –but across the road. The phone numbers have changed for each program, if you need the updated phone numbers, please contact our office and either Deb or any of the other staff can get those phone numbers to you.</p>

VOA (VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA)

JOYCE ATCHISON

DISCUSSION	<p>Joyce explained their service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHH Intensive Mental Health Program for Adolescent and Child Treatment. • DHH Impact serves children with behavioral, emotional and learning problems severe enough to interfere with daily functioning in their home, school, and community environments. • We provide a structured therapeutic range of activities and interventions for individual and family.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal is for the child to develop adaptive behaviors to succeed in home, education and community settings. • All clinical services are provided by VOA Mental Health Clinics • Educational programming is provided by Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf • Programming follows the MSAD school calendar • Programming is 5 days a week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 hours a day of clinical services ○ 3 hours a day of educational services • On-site individual, family and group therapy provided by culturally and linguistically competent therapists • Psychiatric and medication support services • Collaboration and consultation with all relevant members of the child's team • Parent education and support groups • Crisis intervention services and 24/7 on call therapists • Treatment Program consist of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, experiential therapy, psycho-educational group, goals group, personal reflection, and skills building • Admission Criteria/Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ D/HH/DB children between ages 10 to 17 ○ Must have a clinical diagnosis from the DSM-IV (Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) ○ Generally children who qualify for this program are not functioning well in their current school environment and that it puts them at risk of being removed from their schools or homes. • Children typically have problems in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Depression ○ Anxiety ○ Hyperactive/ADHD ○ Aggressive/anger issues ○ Poor peer relations ○ Poor family relations ○ Oppositional or defiant behaviors ○ Have a history of abuse ○ Self harm
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MINNESOTA RELAY SERVICE

JERRY POULIOT

DISCUSSION	<p>Jerry Pouliot, Consumer Relations with MRS (Minnesota Relay Service), shared that MRS began in 1989; this is their 20th year serving communication needs. If you or anyone you know are experiencing any type of concerns please contact him at 1-800-657-3775 voice/TTY or by MnRelayCROjp@tmo.blackberry.net or jpouliot@qwest.net. There has been speculations that MRS is leaving or will become obsolete with all the new technology, like the video phones, etc. but there are a whole other range of people with communication needs. Needs like speech to speech and voice carry over, MRS is still going strong.</p>
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OLD BUSINESS –NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ALL

DISCUSSION	<p>Advisory member Jolynn Larson shared that her daughter, Karielle, is teaching sign language classes, for any age, Monticello Middle School, go online to register through Community Ed.</p> <p>Math Summer Camp –no age limit and there is room available. RIT wants to be involved. A brochure is available for those who are interested.</p> <p>Brenda Hommerding shared that MH&V will have "Minnesota Guide" training in June. If you have any concerns/or???, let me know and I will bring it to the training. Jolynn suggested she could help prepare prior to the meeting. Brenda will contact her.</p> <p>Ernie reported that he will still be writing grants for plays but it will only be one play per year –for interpreters in each building. Instead get together to do socialization, example; winter camp but funding not available for transportation. Other ideas were shared. There was a question about SNAPS helping. Alison made a suggestion regarding the program and discussion followed. Emily Smith-Lundberg said she would like to be involved.</p>
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CONCLUSIONS	Diane will follow up by email to all who are interested in formulating ideas/plans/discussions.
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MEETING CLOSED	Meeting ended at 6:03 PM.
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NEXT MEETING	The next advisory board meeting will be September 22, 2009.
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REQUESTS MADE	Members asked to have Curt Micka's email address included in the minutes. His email address is: curt.micka@state.mn.us
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