

SW AC Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2010 10:40

Jerry Pouliot, Carol Mermon

Guest: Kristen Hemstock

Meeting was brought to order at 10:40 am.

Introductions

Carol Mermon – Assistant Director – Permanent in July

Supervisor to 5 Managers

Duluth – VA 7 years

Bemidji –

Fergus Falls

Kris Hemstock – Parent Guide for Hands and Voices

Brenda – CSD Southern

Roberta – Placement Specialist Vocational Rehab

Job Placement Services w/ region 9

Nancy – TED program

Jerry – MN Relay

Sharon

Curt

Howard – SMILES – Tech Person 5 years

Laurie – Teacher DHH St Peter area

Carol Mermon

MCDHH – legislation component with change or issue – how they get info from AC

Roberta will represent the southern area

Meet 4 times a year

Will make report

Report and work closely with Tracie

Help chairperson this meeting.

Pam Belknap – VRS

Responding employment – we get calls from employers for referrals - ?????? Have legal, employment,

MN Analysis Division – based in St. Paul

Help group figure out system ??? ?????

State and Feds - DHH – State funded

100 – State 400-fed – More money – more improve

Services – were????? – Need to be in compliance with fed money – Roberta and Tracy will work together

Carol – Staffing/Budget

Need to cut with budget – DHS

\$17.5 million DHS deductions

Central office – 117 positions illuminated

DHHS last 2 years we absorber \$500,000

Direct services, grants

Bruce has fought hard to keep direct services

July \$350,000 Reduction

- 1) Examination of state cars
- 2) Statewide 6 resignations/retirements – positions have not been filled.
- 3) Southern – Jeff retired – DB/Tracy resigned; pressure from legislators to reduce the number of offices

Closed Willmar – moved to St. Cloud

Rochester closed due to high lease

Announcement that – Mankato would stay open – regional manager position – Tracy – WOC

Dual role – RM/Consultant and Rochester area to hire temp consultant; how it will be divided/region

Union contact forbids is to fill behind pe??

WOC – in house training – outside temp without benefits

Mike Thumps – design

End of November – OASI front/office

Conference room – 2 offices – VP room

Roberta will check into meeting room for AC in the Building

Howard – SMILES has a conference room across from the LEC

BN-How is it going with Rochester Clients – Responded to on need by need basis – Tracy – 29 counties/on need basis – call me via VP – keeps busy

Liz Smith Rehab – concerned about what is happening with CHS.

Curt – Community in Rochester – accepted the close

Carol – Difficult and level of service

Medical report to ER

Access issue-contact DHHS

Do have VP for access?

Vulnerable @ risk – need to pick and choose

Who we work with –

Brenda – Deaf community here are the interpreting service – worried about the Deaf community – how to advocate for themselves – Rochester closing is a real concern

Roberta – placement person on that area/Rochester – count is down with deaf consumers

Carol – with or without situation in Rochester

Thanks for the feedback – happens now – will be put in the minutes – this sit he kind of concerns we need from the AC – how to commutate with the community. Didn't know what to tell them/Town meeting – jerry suggests Brenda attend a Deaf club meeting.

TB – quality of interpreters in that area – follow model from Duluth – different topics monthly – interpreter issues could be discussed

CM – focus on reactive work

Tracy – keep in touch with clients – make sure basic needs are met

D/B – one consumer direct services, grant to enhance independence, SSPs hired – or purchase equipment, CCTV, or simple equipment for living independently

Have 3 clients now

Work with Deaf Mentor program – 3 families – deaf mentor program - to teach sign language

MH hands and voices picnic – Mankato – Many families in July and Rochester in August

ASL storytelling – six sessions by different deaf people will start this year – grant money was cut

Crista Brown – Socrates – will do 4 sessions – Bob westerhouse will do 4 sessions

Concepts of ASL and Audience involve – 1st session about 30 – ASL students/expression facial practice – storytelling – audience older no kids – next November - 1st sat of the month. April – website flyer.

Ice skating Party January

Laurie – Does SSP get special training?

Intervenor training?? John Fleck DBSM

Do have PDS – consultants work closely with DB and families.

Interpreters

Split position – Paula – wed, Thurs and Friday

Training with D-B explo – MRID conference

Workshop august 30 with Brenda Faribo for Educational interpreting

Paula/Brenda – coffee talk other workshops

Hr ½ - 2 mini workshops – No charge

Nancy – serving all southern MN – 29 counties – technically paperless – communicating with ??? – Get a lot of walk-ins in the Rochester office – agencies with contact

Floods in the area – contact people – 70 letters sent to individuals – from database – 4 major counties that were hit – Rochester paper files will be scanned.

Sertoma Club – suggestions from curt

Terry – been busy with clients – Mental health issues – basic needs need to be met work

Jerry – Relay – concern in the area with relay calls

TTYs are going down

Internet/VP –

Some people still use TTY – deaf seniors
State dept. of commerce till June 2011
Emergency place here with dispatchers – Minneapolis area
TVs around – pull up TTYs – let them know I'm deaf
Contact the dispatcher if you want them to know you are deaf.
TED people worked with us during state fair – handed out 500 – that would benefit from
program.

Tracy referred two people SW – regarding relay services
Nancy found people still want TTY has a background.

Next meeting Jan/fib

Adjourn 12:05 pm