

DHHS - West Central Advisory Board Meeting
MINUTES
November 13th, 2008
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Willmar Health & Human Services Bldg. Conference Room 1010

Meeting Called By: Lisa Hennen
Type of Meeting: West Central Advisory Board Meeting
Facilitator: Lisa Hennen
Note Taker: Jennifer Robinson
Attendees: Rosanne Kath, Dodie Johnsrud,
Adrienne Haugen
Absentees: Ed Van Der Heiden , Deb Bruflat
Staff Members Present: Lisa Hennen, West Central Consultant; Jennifer
Robinson, Interpreter Coordinator.

Agenda Topics

Topic: Welcome & Introductions
(Membership Updates & Approval of Minutes)
Time Allotted: 10 Minutes
Facilitator: Advisory Council Members
Discussion: Meeting started at 4:00 P.M. Minutes from the August meeting were approved by Deb Bruflat and Dodie Johnsrud seconded the acceptance.

Conclusion: N/A

Topic: MCDHH REPORT
Time Allotted: 15 Minutes
Facilitator: Ade Haugen
Discussion: Ade reported that the last meeting was in September. The main discussions at the commission revolved around educational interpreters & court interpreter services. Ade & Lisa explained that if anyone has concerns about educational interpreter services and uncertified interpreters working in the school districts to inform DHHS or MCDHH, the same for consumers who have troubles obtaining services in the legal realm. Ade shared that Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI), is continuously being monitored for reports from the hospitals and showing improvement.

Conclusion: Consumers will report any concerns to MCDHH or DHHS related to educational interpreters & difficulties with accessing the justice system.

Topic: Technology Demonstration - Lisa
Time Allotted: 30 Minutes
Facilitator: Lisa Hennen
Discussion: Lisa gave a brief demonstration on assistive technology. Covering signaling systems and some assistive listening devices etc., so that all advisory members were aware of the technology that comes up in many of the discussions at the advisory council.

Conclusion: N/A

Topic: DHHS Update
Time Allotted: 20 Minutes
Facilitator: Lisa Hennen
Discussion: Lisa shared with people that the Parent Empowerment & Networking Support (PENS) meeting are going well and that 5 families came to the first meeting. The next parent night is coming up December. Lisa also mentioned about the Deaf Mentor program being very successful in the West Central area.

Conclusion: N/A

Topic: West Central Area Concerns & Issues
Time Allotted: 20 Minute
Facilitator: Lisa Hennen
Discussion: Advisory Council members had a few concerns regarding captioning. Rosanne Kath raised the concerns about captioning blocking the emergency school & weather information that is scrolled during weather emergencies. Other members agreed that this can be a problem. Some television shows also in particular such as the Ellen show always seem to come up garbled. Some questions regarding hearing aid insurance coverage for adults were also raised, and wondering about the proposed federal legislation regarding the hearing aid tax credit.

Conclusion: Advisory Members who have concerns regarding captioning will fill out the caption surveys that were distributed at the prior meeting and can either give them to DHHS - St. Cloud or fax them to Marie Koehler as listed on the survey, or with particular shows contact the station manager. Lisa Hennen will forward the website containing information on the proposed federal hearing aid tax credit to advisory members.

Next Meeting: Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th (2:00 – 4:00 p.m.). Location - Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building, Room TBA.

Adjournment: Adj. 3:30 p.m.

Special notes: None.