

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2007, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – **Room B**
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Susan Broman, Tony Campbell, Candace Cowling, Sandra Davis (for Tom Czerwinski), Bev Drake, Lynne Ferrell, Jack Greenfield, Judge Patrick Hillary, Lynn Heemstra, Jackie Klinestecker (for Paul Ippel), Kevin Konarksa, Sharon Loughridge, David Murkowski, Carol Paine-McGovern, Diana Sieger, Patti Warmington, Andy Zylstra

Members Absent: Tom Czerwinski, Lynn Heemstra, Debra Holmes-Garrison, Paul Ippel, William Forsyth, Arlen-Dean Gaddy, Cathy Raevsky

Guests: Wayman Britt, Kathy Freberg, Denise Herbert, Mark Witte

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Carol Paine-McGovern welcomed everyone to the meeting. Carol noted that Lynn Heemstra, Paul Ippel, and Cathy Raevsky notified Matthew VanZetten that they were not able to attend today's meeting.

A motion was made by Patti Warmington to accept the meeting agenda and the February 6, 2007 minutes. Lynne Ferrell supported. **UNANIMOUS**

2. Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition Presentation

Mark Witte & Denise Herbert from network180 provided an overview of the Substance Abuse Leadership Coalition Strategic Plan for Kent County.

Witte and Herbert explained the planning process utilized by the Coalition members – an intensive data and resource driven process called Applied Pathways. Over the past year, the Coalition members have utilized this process and based on available data, the following three goal areas were selected for areas of impact:

- Reduction of youth alcohol and its related consequences
- Reduction of adult heavy drinking and its related consequences
- Reduction of youth marijuana use and its related consequences

Other key points of interest included the following:

- **Available Data** – While the Coalition utilized available data to determine its three goal areas, during this process it became clear that the data available in our community regarding

substance use and perceptions around its use are not complete. Moreover, much of the data is not geographically specific making it difficult to concentrate efforts in certain portions of the County. Discussing a strategic warehouse is one of the 'other' goals of the Leadership Coalition.

- **Funding** – Historically, substance abuse prevention funding has not been coordinated strategically for impact. One of the goals of the Coalition is to strategically coordinate funding decisions to ensure a deeper impact.

Witte and Herbert distributed the Coalitions' Strategic Plan and asked for an endorsement of the Plan by the KCFCCC.

It was agreed upon that the KCFCCC would discuss an endorsement at its June meeting.

3. **Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition MOU**

The KCFCCC membership was presented an MOU related to its participation in the Coalition. Passage of the MOU would allow the Coordinator to become a voting member.

A motion was made by Diana Sieger to permit the KCFCCC to become a signatory of the MOU. Sharon Loughride supported. **UNANIMOUS**

4. **Michigan Infant Health Program**

Wayman Britt explained that the County recently laid off several MIHP staff due to an audit of the program. At dispute is whether cost based reimbursement is an eligible expenditure since the State moved to a HMO model with capitation rates. The State and County have letters stating that it is eligible, however there is not a contract and according to the auditor it therefore is not an eligible expenditure. Currently, the County's exposure could be up to \$4 million which necessitated the cuts.

Many individuals expressed frustration with the State and Federal government regarding the continued erosion of funds for services such as MIHP. Many asked the question, when is 'enough is enough?'

The KCFCCC directed the Executive Committee to draft a letter on behalf of the Council and send it to the Kent County delegation as well as the Governor expressing concern over the current budget impasse.

5. **Kent School Services Network MOU**

Matthew VanZetten shared that when the Kent School Services Network was created it was noted that the Network would work with the KCFCCC School Age Services Committee. In essence, the Network Leadership Team has become the School Age Services Committee. One challenge to that is there is no outside membership to the Leadership Team.

The Executive Committee has agreed that a Community Member outside the Network should be appointed to the Leadership Team. Lynn Heemstra volunteered. By consensus, the KCFCCC appointed Lynn to the Leadership Team.

6. **Kent County Permanency Planning Committee**

Carol Paine-McGovern shared a letter from the Kent County Permanency Committee requesting funds for its annual meeting. The Executive Committee reviewed the request and is seeking guidance

from the KCFCCC regarding it since historically, the KCFCCC has never distributed funds in such a manner.

It was the recommendation of the KCFCCC to direct the Executive Committee to establish a policy regarding such requests, if it were to be funded, to ensure that the KCFCCC did not continually receive such requests.

7. Early Childhood Update

Lynne Ferrell & Susan Broman noted that small groups continue to meet surrounding the Early Childhood plan.

8. Ongoing Family Support Committee Update

Jack Greenfield shared that the Ongoing Family Support Committee is meeting over the emergency needs collaboration.

9. Executive Committee Update

Carol Paine-McGovern noted that the revised Executive Committee will have its first meeting on Thursday.

10. Public Comment

There was none.

11. Miscellaneous

There was none.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.