

Mental Health Partnership Breakfast
September 23, 8:30-11:00
Pottawatomie Park Community Center
8 North Avenue
St. Charles, IL 60174

Minutes

LISTSERVE ADDRESS: mvse-mental-health-partnership@communications.D303.org
(To add/delete, contact Bonnie.Carlson@d303.org)

***Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress;
working together is success.***

-Henry Ford

1. Present: Julia Ankenbruck, Kimberley Boatner, Sandi Borgstrom, Kim Buckheister, Natasha Clark, Liz Eakins, Denise Elsbree, Nina Gallivan, Kelly Hesselbaum, Ctrina Hinkle, Allison Johnsen, Beth Jones, Marty Keifer, Nathan Lanthrum, Bernadette May, Beth Plachetka, Laura Poss, Julie Pouilly, Pat RadkeLynn Myers for Pat Rice, Lisa Palese, and Carla Cumblad.

The group welcomed Lighthouse Services in St. Charles for Drug and Alcohol services (Nate and Marty); Bernadette from Family Services who assist with numerous school-based services in U-46 and are also our SASS provider; Linden Oaks can also do MH 1st Aid training; Julie shared information about the Schools of Hope Conference; Sandi shared 303's efforts with student athletes; Laura shared about Project Self-Compassion and their eating disorders program; Lynne Meyers shared that there are expanded outpatient services at Presence and they have bilingual services; Nina from Renz shared that they have free Narcon education programs for resource officers and school nurses; Julie reported that they are seeking to expand Chick chat into D303. Many others shared updates and news from all of the organizations. Carla announced that she will be retiring at the end of this school year.

2. Results of the Partnership Survey (sent to 84 Partnership members) and various feedback forums both in person and in written format. The group agreed to the following:
 - a. The purpose of the Partnership is for schools and community agencies to work together on behalf of students with mental or behavioral health needs and their families.
 - b. The benefits of the Partnership to date have been networking opportunities and being able to learn both about school issues but community agencies as well.
 - There is a greater understanding of different systems and needs.
 - The relationships that have been established have been very productive.

- The listserv is a great tool for continued conversations, information, and seeking assistance.
 - Several different training opportunities have been provided or shared.
 - We are aware of other networks in the community with similar concerns.
 - There have been distinct changes to post-hospitalization communication and procedures
 - We are more knowledgeable about events, services, and training opportunities in the community
- c. For 2016-17, the focus of the Partnership should be developing practices and services together that will benefit students. It would be helpful to complete the work of the work groups.
 - d. There was a mixed opinion of how often the Partnership should meet. It depends on whether or not work will be accomplished during the meetings or whether or not these meetings will report about work accomplished during other meetings. This issue continues to need further discussion.
 - e. It was suggested that the structure of the meetings be a combination of information sharing/communication and workgroups. Again, this issue will need further discussion. (See the next items.)
 - f. Eight individuals reported that they would be willing to either chair or co-chair a work group.
 - g. Fifteen individuals responded that they would be willing to attend additional meetings outside of the large Partnership meetings presumably to accomplish tasks assigned by workgroups.
 - h. In terms of the length of the meetings, this too has to do with the structure of the meetings. Some thought that the current structure is fine, as long as we spend time in workgroups, accomplishing tasks. Otherwise, the meetings could be shortened in order to report out the work of the various groups.
 - i. Regarding planning special events, we all agreed that it was a good idea. Two suggestions were made:
 - Conducting a resource fair and shared professional development with Shannon Suldo as the speaker on Friday, March 3, 2017. Carla will develop a survey to see what kind of interest there will be and will contact the speaker.
 - Hosting a session, perhaps a breakfast, for physicians in concert with other community agencies and the schools. This may be scheduled for the spring? Much more conversation will be necessary regarding this option.
 - We talked about some sort of a community-based option at Back to School events or Freshman Orientation sessions at the high school. Again, further discussion should occur.
 - Other ideas from the survey included: mental health month events, community awareness events, fund-raising for students in need, community resource fair, wellness fair, advocacy events, family fun events/informational for families.
3. We also made some decisions regarding the work and the status of our current Work Groups
 - a. Resources. Carla shared the work of the Kane County Community Health Improvement Plan (the Health Department). One of their major goals is to address the resource directory issue. Their plans are well under way and we decided that

instead of recreating the wheel, we will rely on them to work on this particularly difficult task. Through the Partnership, we will help wherever we can. In the meantime, with everyone's permission, Carla will publish our membership list on the Mid-Valley website (mvse.org). So, this workgroup is finished.

- b. Training. At many Partnership meetings, we tried to identify organizations or individuals who can provide professional development opportunities as needed in the schools. We have learned that our community partners have lots of areas of expertise, and if asked to do so, they will develop information regarding whatever topic we would like. As a result, we have abandoned our efforts to create such a shared listing. Instead, we will do what we are doing now. If a school has a need for a particular need for training (or service/resource), the school personnel will post a request to the listserve. And, correspondingly, community agencies will share opportunities for parents, students or staff via the listserve. So, this workgroup is also finished.
 - c. Collaborative Services in the Schools is ongoing. We should work with those who are currently providing services in schools to see how these opportunities can be expanded (Lighthouse, Family Service Agency and probably others).
 - d. Hospital-School Communication and Collaboration. The work of this workgroup is nearly finished. At the next meeting, workgroup members should bring copies of the documents and procedures that they have developed to date to share with all of the school personnel and hospital providers.
 - e. Family Guides/Navigators. We will be creating a resource fair with the first wave of knowledgeable navigators to be school personnel.
4. New Action Planning
- a. Institute Day Planning. Friday, March 3, 2017. Speaker--Shannon Suldo. Resource Fair with our community partners.
 - The workgroup should develop a one-page template with key information for school-based navigators.
 - Carla will create a survey for the Partnership to see who will have a "resource table" and who may be attending the session.
 - Beth Plachetka suggested that Shannon come on March 2 to work with providers. Carla will check with Shannon.
 - b. Outreach to physicians is also another group to include and/or share information and resources. This would be a good workgroup. Perhaps a series of informational breakfasts a couple times a year?
 - c. Other ideas are included in the event information listed above.
 - d. Both the Juvenile Justice Council and the Health Department are working on a shared consent form. Perhaps this, too, is an area where we could be of assistance.
5. Future meetings: November 18, January 27, March 24 (this meeting may be cancelled due to the March 3 event), May 19

Questions? Contact Carla Cumblad, Executive Director of Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative, carla.cumblad@d303.org; 331-228-4873 or the listserve.