

Minutes
Washington County Empowerment
April 24, 2008

Board Members Present: Edie Nebel (treasurer- Health), Megan Jones-Schiebel (chair-citizen), Jim Miksch (Board of Supervisors), Jennifer Callahan (citizen), Sue Kos (vice-chair, education), Delores Carpenter (human services), Janis Gruber (faith)

Board Members Absent: Lonna Blodgett (citizen), Mark Schneider (education), Anna Rich (citizen)

Advisory members present: Tasha Beghtol (Empowerment Coordinator), Mary Ann Williams (AmeriCorps), Karen Arbuckle (PAT), Carolyn Clements (CART), Renella Crawford (Head Start), Sheila Temple (fluoride Varnish)

Meeting called to order @ 4:30pm with a quorum established
Minutes of the March 27, 2008 meeting were approved with correction at the end of 4Cs narrative.
Motion by Jim Miksch, second by Sue Kos. Motion carried.

Program Reports:

Child Care Alliance Response Team (CART) – Carolyn Clements handed out materials and reviewed general description of the CART program. Referrals extreme behavior issues are taken at Grant Wood AEA and observations are made by the behavior specialist. 40-50% of parents are asked to be involved in the process. Caroline has had 10 referrals to date, 6 of those came on day 1 of the program. CART did not get started until December 2007 and Carolyn currently works 2 days/wk.

Jim Miksch asked about the process for which CART was implemented. Tasha Beghtol explained that the Preschool Committee brought it to the Board as a new program that could be utilized with the additional preschool monies left over when Mid-Prairie and Highland received DE funds. Grant Wood will write a proposal for FY09. Sue Kos noted that the brochure indicates home providers as eligible for the service. The current funding stream being used does not allow for home providers to have access to CART. If CART is funded through a different carve out next year, then eligible providers may change. The current CART program is modeled after the Johnson County CART program.

Parents as Teachers (PAT) – Karen Arbuckle provided an overview of the PAT program and gave examples of the types of activities that parent educators will do during a home visit. PAT began in 1999 and continues to be a free program for all families. PAT is not mandated by DHS to visit specific families. Karen handed out and reviewed the 3rd quarter report that is submitted to the coordinator. Karen noted that the extreme winter had an impact on the program. PAT may need to hire educators for FY09 and they estimate approximately \$3,00 to \$4,000 in carryover for FY08.

Karen shared information on the Peer Review process that the Board had requested PAT participate in. It was noted that Washington Co PAT has some unique issues that may be new for the peer review process. PAT has submitted the peer review application and has been assigned a support person. It may take up to one year to complete the evaluation and receive credentials.

Fluoride Varnish – Sheila Temple provided information about the Fluoride Varnish program and answered questions. She noted that children receiving 2 treatments a year might decrease the risk of dental decay by 44%. Washington Co currently does not have enough dentists to care for the child population and all children should see a dentist by one year of age or by the first tooth. Sheila explained that many dentists will not take young children, but she has arranged for children to be seen if she can show that they are compliant for her during the fluoride varnish. Renella Crawford noted that dental

services are part of the Head Start performance standards and typically 50% of Washington HS students do not meet the standard. Fluoride Varnish is a voluntary program.

Financial Report: Edie Nebel reviewed the financial report and noted estimated carryover by line item. Grant Wood AEA programs were noted with high percentages of carryover. The report included updates (red font) added by Tasha to reflect claims that were submitted, but not yet included on the GEODE report. Edie shared information about the possible change in legislation to reduce the allowable carryover to 20% beginning in FY08. Current projections show that Washington Co should have less than 20% carryover.

Edie reviewed the Fluoride Varnish request for additional funds (see handout). Motion by Jim Miksch, second by Janis Gruber, to approve an increase of \$3,000.00 to the Fluoride Varnish contract FY08. Edie Nebel abstained due to conflict of interest as Public Health Director.

Board Operations and Assessment Committee: Edie Nebel reviewed the minutes from the last committee meeting. Bylaws continue to be updated and changes have been made regarding membership terms and election of officers. Edie explained that the committee discussed issues relating to carryover and contract language. Tasha met with attorney Les Lamping to clarify current contract language and steps the Board can take to flexibly re-allocate funds that were contracted to an organization that is not spending sufficiently. Tasha will make changes in the contract template and send them to Les Lamping for review. New language will be in FY09 contracts to better account for proper spending by programs.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm
Next meeting scheduled for May 22, 2008