

**KIT Collaborative Region III East
Monthly Meeting Notes, 12.02.09**

Present: Doug and Heather Band, Deborah Barthlow, Barb Broaddus, Lisa Carper, Monica Cogle, Jacqueline Columbia, Caren Forstandi, Cindy Largent Hill, Angi Sherman, Veronique Walker, Teresa Warnick

I. Introductions

New to the group were Doug and Heather Band, and Angi Sherman, from Home Base Inc.

II. Regional Summit – Tuesday January 19 - 1 PM

The topic for the Regional Summit will be CPS referrals.

The KIT Collaborative will meet before the Summit, at noon, everyone is welcome to bring their lunches. We will meet at DHHR, the Regional Summit is a video conference.

The March KIT meeting will be March 3 at 1:30 PM. Kathy Bradley will be presenting information about the CPS redesign roll-out.

For this meeting we would like to invite others who might not be on our regular mailing list – this information is necessary for all mandated reporters.

Teresa will make sure that the invitation goes out on the United Way Community Announcements.

III. Service Array - update

a. Reports

Well Being is nearly done

Safety has completed part one, is working on part 2

Permanency is mostly done

The deadline for steps four and five is April.

b. Next steps

Each group will write up their report and place it in designated binders. Each chair person will pull it all together, and send it electronically to Melanie for review prior to its being presented.

Kathy has proposed having Melanie Swisher and Barb Recknagel come from Charleston on Jan. 6 for our reports. This has not been confirmed.

Teresa is available to help punch holes and organize the binders at the United Way office.

Kathy will ask if we can move our presentation to early January and if Melanie Swisher and Barb Recknagel will come to Berkeley County.

At this time we will be trained on steps 4 & 5 of the process.

There will be a presentation to the System of Care Implementation Team in Charleston.

IV. Partners in Prevention Update

Children's Home Society has received a \$7,500 grant for prevention activities and are doing parenting classes.

They will be held at Asbury Methodist Church, 4257 Kearneysville Pike in Shepherdstown and Bethel Assembly of God Church, 2010 Tavern Rd. in Martinsburg in early 2010.

They are open to the public, and will be using the Nurtured Heart curriculum.

Lisa suggested that Deb contact the counselor at Page Jackson, they have asked for parenting classes for their parents. The students there are K-2.

They are also considering teen parenting classes.

April Planning

Deb said that there are flags available

It would be good to have an article in the newspapers

An effort ought to be made to raise awareness about the WV Children's Fund check off on state tax returns.

It would be good to create boards for the hospitals and libraries – some communities do a statistical display

The trend is to move away from negatives and to put more emphasis on positive prevention steps, such as parenting, things the community can do to strengthen families.

Creating cut-outs of children with information and statistics seems negative but is effective

Lists such as "10 ways to spend time with your child" are helpful

Monica will spend some time doing research on line to find some materials to use and will send links to everyone to preview

Teresa suggested the possibility of doing a ChildWatch bus tour on a Saturday in April

We could have a service fair, inviting all providers dealing with children to set up table, no fundraising, just information

DHHR could have someone to assist with CHIP applications

A school representative could have applications for free and reduced lunches

There could be presentations on a central stage on parenting, depression, sexting

It would be beneficial to have it during spring break, the week of April 5-9

Teresa will find out more from Cathy Slemenda about the service provider fair that was sponsored by Prettyman Broadcasting in the fall.

Feedback from United Way staff was that United Way at the Mall was not an effective use of time for the non-profits or staff. Few community members attended, little information was disseminated.

VI. New Business –

1. Staff from Home Base presented information about their program, they go into homes and provide services to children and families. They are in 25 WV counties now, working towards having a facility in every county. Currently they have 40 open cases in Berkeley County, their capacity is 400. They offer socially necessary services, receive referrals

from DHHR, are seeing youth, providing parenting support, adult life skills, supervised visits and reporting, social and emotional support for families. They provide the safety bundle but can break services out of that separately.

They are located across from Parsons Ford on Shepherdstown Rd. The facility is home like, they prefer to do supervised visits there, they do not have videotape capacity.

All staff have Bachelor's degrees or higher, they have a psychologist on staff to travels from different offices.

They work on family reunification.

2. Teresa asked that the group be open to help with the MAPP – Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnership. It involves 4 assessments and public forums the areas of assessment are:

Community Health Status, Community Strengths, Forces of Change and Local Public Health System

The entire HHSC will be asked to support this effort by distributing (and getting back) surveys from staff and community members and by getting people to attend the forums. Collaborative members will also be asked to help facilitate, if possible.

3. The Board of Child Care had a Thanksgiving Dinner for all their families, a couple of hundred people were present.

4. Children's Home Society is recruiting mentors for the We Can program. Celestine is the director of the program.

CFC reaccreditation is next week. A new officer will be training to do child advocacy, Sgt. Buber has been reassigned to do internet crimes. State troopers, Sheriff's Department representatives and representatives from the Ranson Police Department are all attending the MDTI meetings.

5. Eastridge has been inundated with referrals, there is a dearth of clinicians who will see children under 13.

6. The issue of training for clinicians generated enthusiastic discussion. Ideas include:

Creating a way for seasoned social workers to mentor new workers.

Providing trauma training – DHHR is supposed to be providing this, Monica is working on finding a location.

Training on play therapy would be very helpful – Carin has contacts and will find out what is needed to get this going.

Training on medications would be beneficial for staff and parents – the Board of Childcare has the location and classrooms for training such as this.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 19, 2010, noon at DHHR. The Regional Summit will follow at 1 via video-conference. The topic will be CPS referrals.