

Rice County Chemical Health Coalition Provider Team

May 11, 2010 12:00 to 1:30 pm

Present at the Meeting: Jody Anderson (West Hills Lodge), Gary Braun (Recovery School of Southern Minnesota), Kim Hedenstrom (Rice County Community Corrections), Dorothee Ischler (Center for Human Resources), Jenine Koziolk (Fountain Centers), Charlie Mandile (HealthFinders), Yvette Marthaler (Rice County Social Services – Rule 25 Assessor), Kris Matson (Northfield Hospital Opiate Agonist and Therapy Clinic & Family Health Clinic), Kathleen Meier (Northfield Hospital), Sarah Shippy (Omada Behavioral Health Services), Maynard Speece (Dakota County Detox), Ellen Unruh (Rice County Public Health / Four Corners Partnership), Andy Yurek (Northfield Hospital), Zach Pruitt (staff support, Northfield Healthy Community Initiative), Kathy Sandberg (staff support, Rice County Family Services Collaborative)

Introductions and Updates:

- Dorothee reported that she is seeing more MN Care clients than in the past. She also expressed concern about the lack of support groups for youth in Northfield.
- Fountain Centers has had a noticeable drop in their population of men.
- Dakota County is looking to have providers do Consolidated Funds assessments due to budget concerns.
- Transportation issues and costs continue to be a challenge for the Recovery School, as has enrollment.
- Four Corners is working on tobacco-free grounds at area colleges (South Central has agreed to move to this by summer). Four Corners is also working on combating the new tobacco products through sales practices and taxation. They are also looking at the local impact of tobacco and alcohol advertising with retailers through environmental scans.
- The Rice County SHIP program hopes to offer some mini grants next year to support cessation efforts.

Prevention Specialist Training

- Kathy shared information from Shelly Cole's experience at the training.
- The group seemed supportive of offering the training locally as a way of building capacity and increasing the knowledge base in local schools.
- Members of the Provider Team also indicated an interest in participating in some of the sessions.
- Kathy and Zach will pursue this as a possibility and will share progress with the team.

Halfway House:

Jody reported on progress toward establishing the halfway house in Northfield for West Hills Lodge. There have been several changes at West Hills that have needed attention. Jody has a meeting today about the host county contract, which is required for a license from the state. Policies, procedures, handbooks and some other documents are also needed by the state and are being worked on. The West Hills Lodge Board continues to be very supportive of the initiative. Plans are to take over the house by June 1st and begin filling the beds by July 1st.

Provider Team and Chemical Health Coalition Initiatives

School Curriculum grants:

Zach reminded the group about the process and shared that 7 schools received approval to move forward in studying and implementing evidence-based prevention curriculum.

Rural Flex Grant:

The grant is coming to an end, but significant dollars and effort have gone into education of healthcare providers, community members and school communities. Medical staff training has been provided in Faribault and Northfield; Northfield has also done protocol development. Team members commented about the article in the Minnesota Office of Rural Health newsletter written by Ellen Tichich. Take It to The Box was also an offshoot of this project. Kathleen and Andy will be presenting on the Rural Flex Grant program at the Minnesota Rural Health conference this summer.

Buprenorphine administration:

Kris reported that she and Dr. Charlie Reznikoff have made contact with someone at the jail to educate them about the Buprenorphine clinic and the use of this drug. The clinic is going very well; patients seem very happy with the services provided. The patient population has expanded beyond the initial typical patients (young adult males using heroin). The clinic has been very successful and several members cited anecdotal data that supports that success. Kris is doing some research with parents around their stories of heroin use and will be publishing the results of that work. She is also anticipating a study that looks at the correlation between opiate use and attention problems.

Prescription Drug Disposal Campaign:

The Take It to the Box program has collected over 1,400 pounds of medication since the opening last September with an additional 100 pounds of scheduled drugs. A regional information session was held with more than 65 people from 30+ communities statewide attending.

Parent Support Group:

Sarah reported that the group still meets the first Tuesday of every month, with 4 to 5 parents attending on average. Most are parents of young adults who are opiate addicted.

Adolescent Outpatient Treatment Group:

The program is still going strong with 9 currently enrolled. Two are currently being transported from Faribault. Sarah anticipates continuing the program through the summer.

Grief Support Group:

No report.

Safe Places for Youth to Gather:

No report at this time. Dorothee is going to invite someone from The Key to attend the next Provider Team meeting.

Recovery Month:

Recovery Month is September. People were supportive of the idea of developing a pin that could recognize individuals who support recovery. Jody also mentioned that recognition of support given to the halfway house efforts and other support could be done that month.

Identified Need Areas:

Mental Health Needs- Family Focus has started a co-occurring disorders group. Sarah mentioned that Cedar House is also looking at some services for co-occurring disorders clients (substance abuse and mental health) and reported that she also cooperates with several local mental health providers. There will also be some combined efforts around mental health

needs through the Rice County Family Services Collaborative's Mental Health Resource Team, HealthFinders and the Growing Up Healthy project.

Services for Non-English Speaking Individuals-

Yvette mentioned that the county has interpreters available on a regular basis, offering translation/interpretation in Spanish and Somali.

HealthFinders- The agency is looking at the needs of uninsured clients and mental health access issues. HealthFinders is considering hosting a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy support group focused on depression. However, this is a single project, not planned to continue permanently at this point. Kris suggested that in treating patients with depression, medication is a key issue and the involvement of a psychiatrist or a physician is important.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, August 11, 2010 – Noon-1:30 p.m.

Northfield Community Resource Center (1651 Jefferson Parkway)