

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2008, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – Room B
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Susan Broman, Candace Cowling, Sandra Davis (for Tom Czerwinski), Bev Drake, Lynne Ferrell, Kristen Gietzen, Jack Greenfield, Bob Haight, Lynn Heemstra, Debra Holmes-Garrison, Paul Ippel, Jackie Klinestecker, Kevin Kornaska, Sharon Loughridge, Carol Paine-McGovern, Diana Sieger, Wendy Lewis Jackson, Sandy Walls (for Cathy Raevsky), Patti Warmington, Savator Selden-Johnson, Andy Zylstra

Members Absent: Tom Czerwinski, Judge Patrick Hillary, William Forsyth, Arlen-Dean Gaddy, Cathy Raevsky

Guests: Matthew VanZetten, Gayle Orange, Carolyn Guyton, Allison Trumbell, Vaneese Chandler, Dave Neifer, Phil Porter, Shelby Chartkoff

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Carol Paine-McGovern welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A friendly correction to the proposed minutes was noted that Lynne Ferrell made the motion to approve accept the November agenda and June 5, 2007 minutes. Sandra Davis made a motion to accept the meeting agenda and the November 6, 2007 minutes. Diana Sieger supported.

UNANIMOUS

2. Grand Rapids Juvenile Crime Index Report

Paine-McGovern welcomed Lynn Heemstra from Our Communities Children to share with the Council the Juvenile Crime Index Report.

Heemstra introduced Shelby Chartkoff from GVSU's Community Research Institute and Phil Porter from the Grand Rapids Police Department who helped prepare the Report. Heemstra shared that the Report was two years in the making and with the support of CRI, the Grand Rapids Police Department and funding from the Dyer-Ives Foundation became a reality. It is her Office's hope that the data will be updated annually and used in public policy discussions throughout the area.

Porter noted that the information in the report is a baseline and it is important to understand some key definitions related to the information. Specifically, not all 'offenses' are crimes – however, because they take police time it is important to note where the 'offenses' occur.

Chartkoff shared that the target population that was studied was children ages 8 – 16 who live in Grand Rapids and involved in an offense in Grand Rapids. There were 1713 unique juveniles

identified with 2640 unique offenses. Juveniles arrested for a crime totaled 903; juveniles with a documented status offense totaled 855; and juveniles with a documented family/domestic offenses totaled 329. The majority of criminal offenses were concentrated among disorderly conduct and assault, retail fraud, driving offenses and drug-related crimes. Regarding status offenses, the occurrence of juvenile runaway incidents, family and domestic troubles and curfew violations were the leaders. It is also important to note that Grand Rapids follows the national average in so far that the immediate time after school is when activity increases.

A full copy of the report is available at grcity.us/ocyf or at cridata.org.

3. System of Care Grant Update

VanZetten reviewed a memo regarding the System of Care grant application. In general the Community Family Partnership Council (SOC name) will provide an approach to services that recognizes the importance of family, school, and community and addresses the child's physical, emotional, educational, cultural, linguistic and social needs. The CFP intends to build on a number of existing discrete efforts designed to promote service integration. These efforts, presently lacking a mechanism for larger systems integration, will be seamlessly coordinated and integrated through structural and practice changes supported by these federal CMHI funds.

Staff and the Executive Committee requested that the KCFCCC support and endorse the grant application.

A motion was made by Sandra Davis that the KCFCCC

- a. Provide overall governance and monitoring of the effort.
- b. Establish of a Committee called the Community Family Partnership Council that includes representatives from the existing KCFCCC committees as well as other efforts that may be going on (i.e. Family Group Decision Making within DHS) within the major public or private systems.
- c. Establish Community Family Partnership Council subgroups including:
 - An Evaluation Team led by the Constella Group
 - A Family/Youth Council that would provide the major service systems with consumer input and direction
 - An Implementation & Sustainability Team of program managers from the various systems driving and coordinating services
 - A Cultural & Linguistic Competency Team that leads the necessary changes within the major systems
- d. Endorse the SOC grant application by network180

Diana Sieger supported. **UNANIMOUS**

4. Strong Family Safe Children Funding

VanZetten reviewed a memo regarding SFSC funding.

He noted that Kent County's allocation increased by \$93,177 from its original planning allocation. However, he noted that one begins to review recent funding decisions about existing programs supported with SFSC funds and considers recent developments within the child welfare arena, it quickly becomes apparent that these funds will be used to fill gaps rather than expand services.

To that point, it is proposed that the revised allocation be as follows:

- Kinship/Community Compact - \$87,049
- Healthy Start Home Visiting - \$35,598
- Healthy Start Assessment - \$81,821
- Early Impact - \$178,236
- Adoptive Services - \$33,315
- Staffing - \$2,000

A motion was made by Diana Sieger to accept the revised funding. Debra Holmes-Garrison supported. **UNANIMOUS**

5. Nomination Committee Report/2008 Executive Committee

VanZetten reviewed the process by which the Nomination Committee functions. In November a two or three person committee is appointed by the Council. They meet during the next month to consider a slate for the 2008 Executive Committee and present that in the January meeting.

The slate is reviewed by the Council members and voted upon in February with Executive Committee terms serving from April – March.

This year's nominating committee has submitted the following slate for 2008/09:

Name	Representing
Carol Paine-McGovern (Chair)	Consumer/Advocate
Jack Greenfield (Vice-Chair)	Private Service Provider
Susan Broman	Funding Agency
Bev Drake	Public Service Provider
Paul Ippel	Public Service Provider
Kevin Kornarska	Public Service Provider
Judge David Murkowski	Public Service Provider
Savator Seldon-Johnson	Public Service Provider
Diana Sieger	Funding Agency

6. **Great Start Collaborative**

Lynn Ferrell shared that the work of the Collaborative is moving forward.

The 1st Phase of the Medical Home Research has been completed. The findings, while not public yet, show that there are large discrepancies between the outcomes for children on private insurance versus those on public insurance. Conversations continue with Priority Health regarding the pilot study of implementing a medical home. Maureen Kirkwood has been hired to lead the Medical Home component of the work.

The Home Visiting Committee has reviewed the Cuyahoga County (OH) program and are working toward replicating it here. They are pondering a submission to the Kellogg Foundation for some initial pilot funding to test how it would work here in Kent County.

The Infant Toddler Committee continues its work on improving quality among child care centers as well as within the Family, Friends and Neighbors category.

It is important to note that Parents are making significant contributions to the work. They are meeting on their own as well as with the Great Start Collaborative. Also, a communications staff member will begin on March 1, 2008.

7. **Kent School Services Network**

Wendy Lewis Jackson introduced Dave Neifer – the KSSN Program Manager – to provide an overview of the recent work.

Neifer shared that over the past semester increasing parent involvement has been a key strategy for the Community Schools. Earlier this year, Children's Aid Society trained principals/community school coordinators on the Joyce Epstein parent involvement model. This has resulted in various activities at schools including two significant ones. At Alger and Harrison Park, each school held a Thanksgiving feast with great success. Over 750 parents attended the event where school personnel were able to celebrate student achievement with families as well as share information on literacy.

Other key efforts at this time include discussion regarding sustainability and expansion. A series of meetings with legislators is occurring and the Network has met with the new State DHS Director – Ishmael Ahmed.

8. **Public Comment**

There was none.

9. **Miscellaneous**

There was none.

10. **Adjournment**

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Room B

