

Members Attending:

Michael Steinert, Co-Chair — FWISD
Connie Winkle – The Women’s Center
Kathy Jo Zeigler – Lena Pope Home
Jan Finch – The Parenting Center
Sudeepa Bhattacharya – Cook Children’s
Patty Wright –Arlington Human Service Planners
Sean Allen — MHMR
Mahie Ghoraishi – MHMR
Pat Cheong – United Way

- ***Introductions...***
- ***Old business***
 - Mahie Ghoraishi - Mahie updated the group on MHMR’s submission of the next SAMHSA System of Care grant. The proposal focuses on wraparound services for children 0-6 in Tarrant, Hood, Johnson, Parker, and Palo Pinto Counties (City of Fort Worth excluded). If funded, the program would serve approximately 350 families over 5 years.
- ***Current grant awards, applications, requests for support letters***
 - Jan Finch – The Parenting Center has received an award from The King Foundation in support of play therapy, has received funding for expansion of the Healthy Marriage initiative which will waive a portion of the marriage license fee for those couples participating in pre-marriage education and counseling.
 - Sudeepa Bhattacharya – Cook Children’s received \$45,000 from CVS to provide training to parents and professionals who work with hearing-impaired children. Cook also received continuation of Ryan White parts A and B funding.
 - Sean Allen — MHMR has partnered with Winfrey Academy and Lena Pope Home to pursue the USDE Mental Health in Schools grant. MHMR is also looking at SAMHSA funding HIV outreach (may collaborate with Tarrant Challenge on this), and NIH reducing Mental Health Stigma research funding (Columbia University may be interested in partnering on this evaluation of our anti-stigma campaign).

Additional MHMR applications (reported by David Helton) include:

SAMHSA Targeted Capacity Expansion - HIV Services grant in collaboration with Tarrant Co. Health Department, AIDS Outreach Center, Recovery Resource Council and MHMRTC-Research Division. This is a grant that provides both substance abuse treatment (detox and intensive residential) and targeted outreach and peer recovery support services as well as case management to ethnic minorities who are substance abusers and at highest risk of HIV. They will focus on women in particular but will also serve MSMs and male IDUs. This grant will replace their current SAMHSA TCE-HIV five-year Project Health First Plus (PHFP) grant that ends this year and that was a continuation of our original SAMHSA TCE-HIV grant project, Project Health First (PHF).

Veteran's Administration Capital and Per Diem grant collaborating with the VA to try to open a 30 bed transitional housing facility for substance abusers that will provide extended structured supportive residential treatment beyond Pine St.

SAMHSA Targeted Capacity Expansion grant that will focus on enhancing our treatment services with a full range of Recovery Oriented System of Care components which include things like Peer Recovery Support groups, Peer mentoring, Recovery coaching, peer life skill training, peer relapse prevention groups, etc..

- Kathy Jo Zeigler – Lena Pope has been awarded a five-year charter from TEA and will be opening its charter academy in August of 2008. The initial class will include PK-1st grade with a new grade added each year. The location (tentatively) will be in the area of South Hulen and Sycamore School Rd... Lena Pope also received support from the Harris Methodist Foundation to assist with psychiatric services.
 - Patty Wright – She and Jennifer Gilley met with Arlington ISD in an effort to further engage them in Mental Health Connection efforts. She plans to get on the schedule of new superintendent Hector Montanegro later this spring.
 - Connie Winkle – The Women’s Center received Federal funding from the Attorney General’s office for primary violence prevention (school-based, community-based, coalition building). They have also re-applied for continuation of their current VOCA funding.
 - Pat Cheong – The United Way of Tarrant County has moved its offices to 1500 N. Main in the Mercado building, 2nd floor. Currently, United Way is approaching local foundations for funding of local impact issues. Pat also reports United Way Community Development Division has contracted with Linda Fulmer to explore grant opportunities to fund impact issues. The ‘One Church, One Child’ kinship initiative is also considering holding a kinship fair in June 2008 at The Resource Connection
 - Michael Steinert – Reported that FWISD and Birdville ISD, in partnership with JPS, will be opening a joint school-based health clinic at 28th and Layton streets in Hurst later this spring.
- **Announcements**
 - Jan Finch – The Texas Association for Infant Mental Health is in the process of forming a Tarrant County chapter. The group has met at the Parenting Center and is in the process of identifying a potential fiscal agent to sponsor it.
 - Sudeepa Bhattachary – Cook Children’s is conducting a community-wide comprehensive health data survey to better inform children’s health programming for Tarrant and surrounding counties. The United Way will coordinate its needs assessment with this process. Sudeepa also reports that Cook Children’s has identified research as one of its 7 strategic focus areas. Currently Cook Children’s has 43 grants and over 250 different active protocols.
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- **Next Meeting**

Thursday April 10th, 2008

9:00am

MHMR north tower – 3rd floor conference room