

JFS Planning Committee Meeting
November 22, 2016 9:00 am
CCDJFS Community Room

Present: Lorie Colian, Eloise Traina, Jack Hile for Bert Cene, Carol Harvey, Eileen Dray-Bardon, Kathie Chaffee, Audrey Null, Roger Sikorszky, Tom Andrews, Stacey Willis for Bernie Bennett, James Ford

Establish a Quorum

Chairperson Audrey Null called the meeting to order – a quorum was established.

Members introduced themselves to Stacey Willis who was attending for Bernie Bennett.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Eloise Traina and seconded by Tom Andrews to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda Additions/Adoption

There were no additions/deletions/corrections to the agenda. It was adopted as presented.

Reports

Ohio Means Jobs Report

Jack Hile shared the OMJ traffic report. For the calendar year, the OMJ office had 4,328 total visits (repeat job seekers included). They have had 703 new job seekers. Last year's total visits were 5,018.

Jack reported that the OMJ logo will be changing again since implementing WIOA changes. The State is in the process of making policy and guideline revisions. **Once the policy and guidelines match and the revisions to the logo are finalized, Gloria will be sharing the new logo with community partners. The next One-stop Committee meeting will be held on December 8th at the Dutch Village Inn. They will be discussing the MOU so will need partners to attend. They will also be introducing CAA as a new partner member.** They continue to work on regional and local plans for Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, Stark, and Tuscarawas Counties.

Work Participation; Caseload and Applicant; Program Monitoring; PRC Services; Seek Work/SEP Reports

Eileen Dray-Bardon presented the DJFS reports via power point presentation and reviewed the updated numbers with members.

A discussion followed regarding the **Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP)**.

Jack briefly left the meeting to get some updated program numbers for members.

Annual Contract Monitoring Report

Carol Harvey shared the report for the fiscal year. Project SAFE is projected to finish the year with 71% completion and meeting all outcomes. Ozer Ministries provided counseling services to 46 adults and 32 children and showed 100% improvement. Juvenile Court's Diversion and Truancy services were reviewed. 213 youth involved with diversion services did not re-offend resulting in an 84% success rate. Ozer's outreach services (Daryl Hersh) have been very successful as have the Catholic Charities outreach services (Dottie Kane). The JARC and ABAWD contracts were listed also. **Carol reported that all of the contracts are meeting their goals and outcomes.**

Caring for Kids Update

Carol reported that **the 2nd annual fundraising event raised \$13,735** and was a wonderful event. They had 30

different kinds of cookies; over 120 Chinese raffle items; double the number of Silent Auction items from last year's event; and had over 100 bottles of wine donated for the wine raffle. The Links manager and staff were great and very helpful. Cookie judges were Harry Hofmeister, Marcy Patton, and Commissioner Tim Weigle. KSU students and ESC's Transitional Class participated. A wide range of people attended and came together to support the kids of Columbiana County.

Old Business

Shared Services Update

Eileen reported that 10 counties have been sharing Medicaid calls. It has been very challenging but also beneficial. The State keeps pushing back the inclusion of Food Assistance (FA) and TANF for Shared Services – much depends on what happens with the Affordable Care Act. The State is now talking about not including FA until 2018. Eileen reported that **after the first of the year, CCDJFS will be training and re-classifying workers so they will all be Eligibility Referral Specialists and will be taking phone calls from the public.**

CCMEP – Jack shared information on how the program works. When someone is referred to the program, there is a **2-part assessment process**. Their **target population is 16-24 year-olds who have been found OWF cash eligible and are out-of-school**. Many of the referrals come from the CCDJFS OWF Program. **Assessment Part 1 assesses the person's written skills and Part 2 is a face-to-face interview and eligibility determination. Most participants then go on to a Job Readiness workshop. Individuals referred by CCDJFS are required to participate, but others are not required. Since July 1, 2016, 67 individuals have been referred. Of those, 46 have completed Assessment Part 1. Of those 46, 36 have completed Assessment Part 2. After both Assessments have been completed along with the Job Readiness workshop, an Individual Opportunity Plan (IOP) is developed to guide the participant. So far, 29 have completed and signed their IOPs which is a 63% completion rate.** They have a **Screening Committee** consisting of other partner agencies including among others The Counseling Center, MCTA, OMJ, CARTS, and CCDJFS (Theresa Zeitler). **The committee reviews the IOPs, gives input, and works together on barriers the individuals may be facing.**

Eileen reported that one of the challenges is the population they are trying to serve and the funding streams available. WIOA and TANF dollars are separate funding streams with different rules and regulations. Both Eileen and Jack agreed that the DOL does not like the program very much.

Eileen reported that ODJFS currently has hundreds of vacancies and does not have the staff to administer the programs and changes. As a result, counties are having to work things out on their own.

Jack reported that **the goal is to ultimately get these young people on strong financial footing, and as Eileen agreed, to reduce their reliance on public assistance.**

New Business

PRC Survey

Eileen reported that **members have been or may be contacted by Case Western Reserve University to answer questions regarding how counties administer their PRC Programs. Case Western Reserve was awarded the contract by the State, and 33 counties have been chosen to participate, including Columbiana County. Eileen had to complete the survey and had to provide all of the PC members contact information. There is a concern that the survey results may affect the counties' funding. Members may be receiving the survey.**

New Terms of Membership

The expiring terms and proposed new terms were reviewed by members. **Eileen would like to re-appoint those whose terms will be expiring.** The CCDJFS union member is mandated (Tracy Smith). Other members

are optional. **She will take a Resolution to Commissioners the first of the year to recommend the re-appointments if all agree to serve again. She would like to find a new clergy member who would attend the meetings and would reach out to local ministerial groups. Members agreed.**

Nominating Committee

Carol reported that she had spoken to **potential new officers who have agreed to serve. She presented the new slate of officers: Lorie Colian will be the new Chair; Tom Andrews will be the vice-Chair; and Eileen will be the Secretary with Terry continuing to take the minutes. The election of the new officers will take place at the February meeting.** Eileen reported that Carol will be retiring February 1, 2017, so this will be her last Planning Committee meeting. She and members thanked Carol for her service.

2017 Meeting Schedule

The schedule was shared.

Member Comments

Kathie Chaffee will be retiring in June. She reported that MHRS Board received a grant to work with businesses to assist with substance abuse problems among staff. They have a good group of community stakeholders. Five (5) businesses who are members of area Chambers of Commerce can receive training and funds to support their drug-free workplace endeavors. The goal is to help people get the help they need and to retain their jobs.

Eloise reported that **Family Recovery Center is starting a new Methadone program in January** – she passed out information. They are currently working with Conquest out of Canton and then will be doing the program themselves at FRC. They had to make numerous changes to the physical building – security barriers such as steel doors and bars on the windows and in the ceilings – and security cameras and buzzers.

Carol reported that **CCDJFS is in the process of contracting for legal services with Community Legal Aid and with Atty. Jackson to assist its kinship families. They hope to have the contract in place by January 1st. They are also looking to contract with an Addiction Specialist by January 1st. They have received proposals from FRC and The Counseling Center.**

CCDJFS is also working with Sherri at Community Action Agency to find replacement transportation services to replace the JARC program for work transportation. They want to have that contract in place by January 1st also.

CCDJFS is looking for visitation supervision services for children and families for nights and weekends. The services were provided by Christina House in the past. Carol asked that members please let her know of anyone who may be interested in providing these services. The person would supervise the visits and report back to CCDJFS. Carol will send the RFP to FRC and to CAA.

Carol reported that **Salem Bob Evans will be doing a fundraiser for Columbiana County Caring for Kids. On Tuesday, November 29th, they will be donating 15% of all their sales that day to Caring for Kids. Carol distributed a flier which must be presented at check-out.**

Audrey thanked everyone for coming and wished them a great Thanksgiving.

The next Planning Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017, at 9:00 am in the CCDJFS Community Room.