Thursday, September 24, 2015

Council of Juvenile Services Members Present: Betty Oldenkamp, Chair and CEO of Lutheran Social Services; Mike Leidholt, Vice-Chair and Hughes County Sheriff; Kim Cournoyer, Service Provider; Doug Herrmann, Director of Juvenile Services; Judge Karen Jeffries, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Judge; Jacob Kabrud, Youth Member; Amy Lake-Harmon, Brown County Juvenile Detention Center Administrator; Aaron McGowan, Minnehaha County States Attorney; Sara McGregor-Okroi, Director of Alive-Roberts County; Vanessa Merhib, Executive Director of Boys & Girls Club of Brookings, Moody, and Yankton Counties; Beth O’Toole, Professor at the University of Sioux Falls; Lyndon Overweg, Mitchell Chief of Public Safety; Carol Twedt, Former Minnehaha County Commissioner; and Virgena Wieseler, Director of Division of Child Protection Services.

Council of Juvenile Services Members Absent: Nancy Allard, Director of Trial Court Services; Dadra Avery, School Counselor at Sturgis Brown High School; Austin Biers, Youth Member; Judge Jeff Davis, Seventh Circuit Court Judge and Pennington County JDAI Co-Chair; Becca Hill, Youth Member; and Marissa Surrounded, Youth Member;

Others Present: Bridget Coppersmith and Heather Van Hunnik, South Dakota Department of Corrections; and Staci Jonson and Rebecca-Kiesow-Knudsen, Lutheran Social Services.

1. WELCOME

Chair Betty Oldenkamp called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM on Thursday, September 24, 2015 and welcomed all participants. Chair Oldenkamp extended her gratitude to the members who were attending their last meeting and thanked them for their commitment to the Council.

2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2015 MEETING MINUTES

Sheriff Mike Leidholt moved to approve the June 2015 Meeting Minutes as presented, Lyndon Overweg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. BUDGET STATUS REPORT

Bridget Coppersmith provided an overview of the Formula Grants Program FFY2011 budget status. Coppersmith explained that the award was fully expended in August which is prior to its extended end date of September 30, 2015. Coppersmith explained that just over $38,000 was moved internally between budget categories to aid in closing the award in time. Coppersmith noted that $60,000 is the maximum amount that could have been transferred without a formal budget amendment submission. Coppersmith added that funds have just started being coded to the FFY2012 Formula Grant Award of $400,000 which has an extended end date of September 30, 2016. Coppersmith stated that a better projection of funding will be available at the December Council Meeting. Coppersmith provided an overview of the amendment that was applied to the award in July to remove the program area of Alternatives to Detention and add Delinquency Prevention to be consistent with the Council’s current subgrant awards. Coppersmith noted
that only $40,000 can be moved between budget categories without an amendment going forward as this is the first year of the lowered award amount of $400,000.

4. DISCUSSION OF 2016 COUNTY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

Coppersmith provided an overview of the current county reimbursement program and stressed the need to have funding allocated toward the core requirements of deinstitutionalization of status offenders, sight and sound separation, and jail removal. Coppersmith explained that the Department of Correction’s (DOC) recommendations for calendar year 2016 consist of keeping the county cap of $10,000 and the program cap at $60,000 with the same parameters surrounding electronic monitoring that were added with the 2014 program. Coppersmith noted that in calendar year 2014, 236 juveniles were served by twelve entities and $50,388.88. Coppersmith added that so far in calendar year 2015, 119 juveniles have been served by eleven entities and $29,743.63. Coppersmith explained that claims for reimbursement are sometimes sent several months after the services have been rendered and that she anticipates more claims coming in prior to the end of the calendar year.

Discussion ensued concerning the history of the county reimbursement program and if the program has run its course and should be further discussed in the future.

Chair Oldenkamp turned the meeting over the Vice-Chair Sheriff Mike Leidholt due to a conflict of interest with the two Disproportionate Minority Contact applications.

5. DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC) PRESENTATIONS

Pennington County: Staci Jonson, Program Director of the ARISE Youth Center under Lutheran Social Services, provided an overview of past Pennington County DMC awards, the services provided at the ARISE Youth Center, and the current application for the Council’s consideration. Jonson explained that the previous award was with the Pennington County States Attorneys Office and that it was decided this year by the county to let Lutheran Social Services apply for the funding directly rather than contracting with them for services. Jonson explained that with the funding that is about to end, Pennington County has implemented Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT) sessions for minority youth through groups twice a week and hired a case manager to ensure that minority youth are aware of available services in the community. Jonson added that of the 777 Risk Assessment Instruments (RAIs) completed by the reception center and detention center to date in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015, 577 were for minority youth and of the 173 youth served in the shelter care, 114 were minority youth. Jonson explained that the application for funding in FFY 2016 is targeted to address the number one reason for overrides to secure detention which is due to the youth having a warrant. Jonson noted that most of the warrants are failure to appear warrants. Jonson explained that the funds, if approved, would go toward a case manager position to work with families of minority decent who have youth who are at risk of noncompliance and escalation within the juvenile justice system.

Discussion ensued concerning the details of implementation of the services provided by the case manager, how to serve transient families, and holding parents responsible for their children not attending hearings.

Minnehaha County: Rebecca Kiesow-Knudsen, Vice-President of Community Services for Lutheran Social Services, explained that Minnehaha County through Lutheran Social Services is applying to continue their Functional Family Therapy (FFT) program for minority youth in Minnehaha County. Kiesow-Knudsen explained that in their first year of funding, a FFT Counselor was hired to deliver services to minority families in Minnehaha County. Kiesow-Knudsen noted that in the first year, 27 youth
and families have been served since beginning to implementation in January and of those 27 cases, ten youth and families have completed the three to four month program to date. Kiesow-Knudsen noted that referrals mostly came through the Unified Judicial System (UJS) for youth on probation services. Kiesow-Knudsen described that, if approved, the FFT Counselor would continue to provide services and that the DMC award would fund a 60% caseload to serve 28 youth in FFY2016. Kiesow-Knudsen added that the funds would also provide interpreter services for non-English speaking families to make sure that the intervention is successful.

Discussion ensued concerning successful cases and outcomes from the first year, the interpreter services, FFT implementation beyond the DMC award, and the high number of referrals in the first year of implementation.

6. DOC RECOMMENDATION FOR FUNDING DMC APPLICATIONS

Van Hunnik provided an overview the awards currently being funded by each county and explained that this is the final year of the three year cycle for the subgrants. Van Hunnik stated she expects Minnehaha County to fully expend their award and that Pennington County will have a balance of between $20,000 and $30,000 due to difficulties with the data specialist position and implementing the voucher system. Van Hunnik noted that the DOC staff recommends that the Council fund both applications and that staff do not see any programmatic issues with the applications.

Discussion ensued concerning Pennington County not fully expending their award, how Lutheran Social Services came to be the applicant for both counties, and how it is encouraging that both applications have the potential to directly serve youth.

Carol Twedt moved to approve Pennington County’s DMC Application, Doug Herrmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Betty Oldenkamp abstaining.

Judge Karen Jeffries moved to approve Minnehaha County’s DMC Application, Lyndon Overweg seconded. Motion carried unanimously with Betty Oldenkamp abstaining.

Vice-Chair Leidholt turned the meeting back over to Chair Oldenkamp.

7. TRIBAL ADVISORY GROUP STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Coppersmith explained that at the June Council Meeting the Council approved for one planning meeting of the Tribal Advisory Group (TAG) under a contract with South Dakota Voices for Children. Coppersmith stated that South Dakota Voices for Children dissolved as a 501© 3 organization on June 25, 2015 and that the TAG contract dissolved along with it. Coppersmith stated that in recent years, the TAG has lacked attendance, deliverables, and coordination. Coppersmith asked that the Council discuss if the TAG is something that the Council wants to continue to pursue and if so, that the Council start taking the initial steps of discussing what the vision, expectations, outcomes, and implementation of the group needs to look like to be effective.

Discussion ensued concerning how the TAG started, the importance of the right staff or organization leading the group, the funding tied to the TAG, and the importance of looking into what other groups may already exist as to not duplicate efforts. The discussion concluded with the direction for staff and Council Members to look into existing groups tied to Tribal offices and the state’s implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JJRI) and to provide feedback at the next Council Meeting.

8. OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION SITE VISIT UPDATE
Coppersmith explained that Carmen Santiago Roberts from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) conducted a site visit on July 28-30, 2015 in Sioux Falls, Brookings, Watertown, and Sisseton. Coppersmith added that Santiago Roberts met with current and former subgrants and several Council Members and that she was impressed with South Dakota and the commitment, knowledge, and relationships between the Council, South Dakota DOC staff, and subgrants.

Coppersmith noted that no corrective action was required after the meeting which is a great accomplishment. Coppersmith added that Santiago Roberts did have three recommendations following her visit. The first recommendation was that program staff develop formal subgrant monitoring policies and procedures. Coppersmith explained that the current processes are more informal and that staff is in the process of implementing the recommendation. The second recommendation centered on a special condition requiring the reporting of subgrant awards equal to or greater than $25,000 starting with FFY2011 federal awards. Coppersmith noted that this finding had been addressed and is no longer an issue requiring resolution. Coppersmith stated that the final recommendation was to assess the staff time designated to compliance and DMC to see if 50% of a position is enough time to dedicate to the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Coppersmith noted that this recommendation does not reflect a lack of performance by South Dakota’s Compliance/DMC Coordinator but is a recommendation being presented to all states and territories.

Discussion ensued concerning the visit and the Council applauded the work done by the Department of Corrections staff in preparation and execution of the visit.

9. SUBGRANT UPDATES

Coppersmith explained that following the Positive Action training in June, schools systems in Britton-Hecla, Fort Pierre, Newell, and White River have purchased curriculum to be implemented either during the day or in after school or diversion programs. Coppersmith added that the three prevention resource centers in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, and Watertown also received curriculum to be added to their libraries. Coppersmith noted that several other school systems were impressed with the training but that it was not an ideal time with their school’s curriculum schedule to be adding the program during this school year.

Coppersmith discussed that the three delinquency prevention sites in Aberdeen, Sturgis, and Watertown are implementing their second year of services associated with Project SUCCESS and Positive Action. Coppersmith noted that Sturgis has hired a new prevention specialist and has made the Positive Action the universal curriculum for the Meade 46-1 School District for counselors and students. Coppersmith added that individual and small group sessions have started in the Watertown middle school and that classroom sessions will be in the high school alternative education and English classes. Coppersmith noted that Aberdeen is in the process of finishing a school wide survey to better examine their needs and are currently seeing individuals.

Coppersmith explained that of the three Native American Programs subgrants, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe is the only subgrantee actively implementing their award as the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe is in the hiring process for their probation office and the Lover Brule Sioux Tribe is dealing with numerous internal issues which have brought implementation of their beading program to a temporary halt. Coppersmith added that the Rosebud Sioux Tribe has started several programs under the umbrellas of their truancy prevention program including Lakota Horsemanship, student mentors, and teaching coping youth throughout the reservation.
10. FY2015 ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE
   Coppersmith explained that the FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014 Annual Reports were condensed six page publications as compared to previous publications of around thirty pages. Coppersmith added that the plan for FY2015 is to continue with the condensed publication and that a draft will be reviewed at the December Council meeting. Judge Karen Jeffries and Beth O’Toole volunteered to aid in reviewing the draft report prior to the December meeting.

11. JUVENILE JUSTICE UPDATES
   Coppersmith presented an update over the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) which was provided by Liz Heidelberger, Statewide JDAI Coordinator. Coppersmith stated that the RAI was implemented statewide on July 15, 2015 and that detention center staff in Beadle, Brown, Codington, and Hughes Counties have been appointed as the intake officers by the presiding judges in each judicial circuit. Coppersmith added that training has occurred across the state and will continue to ensure that individuals are aware and trained on the implementation of the RAI and the change in the intake process. Coppersmith stated that the Statewide Steering Committee met three time in 2014 and once thus far in 2015. Coppersmith noted that the committee will meet again in November to discuss and recommend next steps with the implementation of JDAI in 2016 and that one of the recommendations for 2016 will be to create advisory collaboratives across the state to assist with the implementation of the core strategies of JDAI on the local level.

   Discussion ensued concerning the implementation of the RAI on the local levels, specifically in Hughes and Brown Counties.

   Doug Herrmann provided an update of the implementation of the JJRI to date as it concerns the DOC. Herrmann explained that steps are being taken to develop a monthly treatment process with providers, develop community-based treatment for juveniles in partnership with the Department of Social Services and the Unified Judicial System, and address changes internally within the DOC including changing the revocation process.

   Discussion ensued concerning commitments to the DOC since July 1st, shortening the length of stay at STAR Academy, and changes occurring on the community and diversion levels.

12. NEXT MEETING, WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN
   Chair Oldenkamp stated that the next meeting will be December 9, 2015 in Oacoma, SD.

   At 11:02AM, Amy Lake-Harmon moved to adjourn, Judge Karen Jeffries seconded. Motion carried unanimously

   Recorded by Bridget Coppersmith, Juvenile Justice Specialist