

FOSTER CARE PLANNING MEETING
January 16, 2009 Meeting Notes

ATTENDEES: Lee Coleman, Robin Dealicante , Shary Mason, Alicia Meyers, , , Debbie Moberly, Marlene Putman, Margaret Van Vleit, Stacy Watney

- 1. Goal: Reduce Entrants Children in Foster Care**
 - a. Data to be used for measurement: Total # of children entering foster care and # of sibling groups entering foster care
 - b. Use data to developing a baseline beginning in January 2009(January 16?)
 - c. Definition of children for purposes of this goal:
 - i. Children that have jurisdiction in Tillamook County and are in foster care
 - d. DHS – will provide data by January 21st
 - e. Potential Actions:
 - i. FYST – could have a focus on identifying family/support
 - ii. Respite resources through – hospital, especially for children/placements. Also, engage faith community
 - iii. Extended day care 1 time a month or more
 - iv. Affordable rentals – fix up; rentals for targeted families
 - v. Increase childcare supports
 - vi. Enhance Home visit & support programs
 1. Healthy Start + 2nd birth
 2. FYST + more families
 3. Community Connections
 - vii. Parenting Classes & Skill Building –
 - viii. Community Education: options
 1. A&D effects on children
 2. Trauma Training
 - 3.
 - ix. CASA help with service needs
 - x. Community education about impacts/consequences of foster care
- 2. Goal: Increase Relative Placements**
 - a. Data to be used for measurement: How many kids placed with relatives now (as of Jan. 16 for the current year)
 - b. Use data to developing a baseline beginning in January 2009
 - c. DHS will provide data be Jan 21st for baseline
 - d. Increasing placements by 50% is reasonable.
 - e. Barriers:
 - i. Jobs limited
 - ii. Families move away
 - iii. Weather
 - iv. Busy lives
 - f. Reducing barriers
 - i. Transportation assistance
 - ii. Look at current policy – out of state placement
 - g. Measures
 - i. Increase visits & contacts with relatives
 - h. Actions: (see Margaret Notes)

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- i. CASA assist with relative searches
 - ii. Grandparents Support Group – could increase outreach
 - iii. Grandparent – family, parent
 - iv. Relative group discussion (Frank example – group adoption)
 - v. Counseling for child/youth during reconnecting process
 - vi.
- 3. Goal: Safely reduce # of children in foster care – length of stay in care**
 - a. Measure:
 - i. Current length of stay for each child
 - ii. DHS will locate data Feb 2nd
 1. relative placements
 2. non-relative placements
 - b. Question:
 - i. Should we be looking at parents and non parent placements separately?
- 4. Goal: Exits from foster care**
 - a. Data: See above.
 - b. Barriers:
 - i. Chemical dependency issues
 - ii. Housing
 - iii. Job training
 - c. Resources
 - i. ART Program – DHS increase efforts
 - d. Potential Actions
 - i. Take off – therapeutic foster care
 - ii. Drug courts
- 5. Goal: Over representation**
 - a. Current staff will review ethnicity stats to get a better number target to be determined.
- 6. Participant list additions:**
 - a. Jeannie Christensen. (foster youth, African American)
 - b. Housing
 - i. NEAHCASA – Mike Cook
 - ii. Habitat for Humanity – Cathleen Tyler
 - iii. CARE – John Sandusky
 - iv. NKH vocational program construction - ?
 - v. Celebrate Recovery – John Begin
- 7. Address Concern about Community Perception about Project & Provide Education**
 - a. Be clear about the focus on safety
 - b. Community accountability for safety of children
 - c. Impacts on children of foster care placements
- 8. NEXT MEETING – February 2 from 1-3 at ESD**

AGENDA: Report back, prep for meeting (see remaining agenda items)