

Mental Health Services Act

Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Component “Children & Youth at Risk for School Failure”

**Sutter-Yuba Mental Health Services
Valley Oak Conference Room
1965 Live Oak Blvd
Yuba City, CA 95991**

Minutes

Date: Friday, May 16, 2008

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Facilitators:

Chair: Jackie Stanfill

Co-Chair: David Markland

Committee Participants:

Sandra Turnbull, SYMHS Youth Services

Carmen Smith, Friday Night Live

Nancy Cook, Friday Night Live

Noah Vigil, Safe and Drug Free Schools & Communities (SDFS&C) Program

Marisa Lara, Sutter County Schools

Crystal Snider, Children System of Care (CSOC) and SDFS&C

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order and self –introductions were offered.

Work Group Committee Discussion/Update

1. Presentation by Crystal and Noah regarding Strengthening Families program. Presented info regarding their training and the outcomes that are reported nationwide. They are waiting for another staff person to get hired to start the program. They anticipate they can do a maximum of 10 families at a time and the program lasts for 7 weeks. So approximately 7 sessions of 10 families each is the maximum = 70 families per year. Their target is families involved in Pathways, 1st Steps and Options for Change. Also will look at For Families. Focusing on families with youth ages 10-14 years old. The program also has curriculum for different age groups. It is available in Spanish and has ethnic adaptations available

2. Discussed FNL’s Celebrating Families program that is currently underway. They have no age restrictions on children. They can serve 8 families and their program lasts 16 weeks. They anticipate being able to do 2 sessions per year = 16 families. It is going very well. Issues have been keeping families engaged for the whole time and transportation.

3. Discussed training trainers who could then spread the knowledge in the community and increase our capacity: churches, schools in outlying areas, etc.

4. Presentation from FNL regarding their mentoring program. It involves pairing high-school age youth at risk with middle school age kids at risk. They are referred by counselors and teachers. The youth meet as a group, but also individually. There is a curriculum they follow including topics like friendship, who is a good influence, integrity, going to high school, etc. Also incorporate Project ALERT – a alcohol drug, tobacco prevention and resistance program as well as Second Step Violence and Bullying Prevention. They have not studied outcomes, but do a survey at the end to get feedback. They serve 80 to 100 students per county per year. They do this at a cost of \$30,000 per county. They are funded through ADP to the State's FNL programs. This is operating in 26 counties. They use the money for FNL coordinators 1 per county, they also pay stipends to counselors, teachers, etc who act as their liaisons in the schools.

5. Presentation from Marisa re: Student Assistance Programs (SAP). They have recently been to a training that was offered for free under a grant from the Masons. The SAP has been shown to improve student attendance, had reduced suspensions and improved behavior and also improved academically.

6. Discussed where we are with the process of PEI planning. Advised that it is our intention to meet with the other group chairs and see what ideas we have so far and see if there is overlap so we can put together something to bring to the leadership, or to have one final meeting with all groups to finalize recommendations.

Next Meeting

Meeting notification will be sent out in the next two weeks.

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Stanfill
Work Group Committee Chair