

STRENGTHENING CUSTODY AND TRANSITION SERVICES ADVISORY TEAM

Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth
1111 N. Lee Ave., Suite 500
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

May 27, 2015
10:00 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Minutes

1. Introductions

Commissioner Charles

Agencies represented included: Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS); Central Oklahoma Juvenile Center (COJC); Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS); Sand Springs Home; Creek County Youth Services; Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS); Oklahoma Boys Lion Ranch (OLBR); Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth (OCCY); National Resource for Youth Services (NRCYS).

2. Review and Approval of March 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Charles

TaRessa Kaemmerling motioned to approve and Richard Yahola seconded. Motion passed.

3. Norman Pilot Project Update

Kimberly Osmani

We have 6 applicants and will be doing interviews during June or July. There are some internal DRS candidates and the rest are external. All partners in this pilot will be on the interview committee.

4. Oklahoma Now Is the Time Initiative

Shannon Lee

Grant from SAMHSA awarded in October 2014. Born out of President Obama's Now is the Time plan (NITT). One goal is to create mental health treatment for young adults in transition. Oklahoma is 1 in 17 states awarded. It is a 5 year grant. Focus on youth 16-25 that have or are at risk of developing a serious mental health or co-occurring condition. They hope to serve 1,750 young adults in transition across Oklahoma, Okmulgee, and Washington counties. It is through existing Systems of Care sites.

536,728 young adults in transition in Oklahoma meet requirements. 32,204 meet SED or SMI. 1 in 3 of those was served. This is the least likely age group to seek treatment. Goals are to increase awareness, do outreach, and treat and support young adults in need of services.

Funds support a full-time team of providers: transition facilitator and transitions mentor. Address basic needs in addition to behavioral and physical health services.

- Increase safe and stable housing
- Increase employment and/or volunteer opportunities
- Decrease contact with law enforcement
- Increase access to reliable transportation
- Improvements in family and social connectedness
- Increased opportunities for continuing education
- Improvement in daily living skills, including social skills

The PowerPoint is attached to these minutes.

5. Georgetown Capstone Project Update

Janelle Bretten

OJA partnered on some grass roots advocacy activities. The Institute on Child Advocacy worked with OJA on this. OJA was able to get the funding from OK legislature needed to maintain the female facility in Norman. The capstone project has had to be put on hold because the charter school has been a priority; however, the charter school is a piece of that program through engaging

parents (videoconferencing, helping with transportation, etc.). Now, they are working on bringing in various taskforces to develop policies to have guidance and accountabilities with staff to ensure they're doing what they can to collaborate and move forward. They want the early on involvement and have parents present if at all possible. Within 10 days of a youth arriving, a staffing will occur between facility and JSU staff where they go over the case, what's going on in home, what we already know, what evaluation/assessments we have to develop a treatment plan, what's available in the community, etc. and then having continuous staffings along the way.

They are developing a focus group with JSU field staff to see what is going on in local communities and to obtain buy-in. Have done Trauma Informed Care Training. Janelle has contacted SAMHSA to see what they can do to support. They will have Motivational Interviewing Training with District 7 and District 3 for pilots (rural and urban). They will also have Quality Assurance in place.

The Charter School: hired principals for SWOJC and COJC; have hired all teachers, maybe a few still to go at SWOJC but will be on track. Have partnered with CareerTech and may implement an auto tech program at SWOJC. Have a graphic design specialist hired as a teacher at COJC and will incorporate that. Still have partnership with Gordon Cooper Technology Center. School starts July 13. New teachers have to go through 2 weeks of training. Dr. Grissom will do some training. They will have Trauma Informed Care and Motivational Interviewing further down the road. Everyone will be on the same page to team together.

6. COJC/SWOJC DRS Pilot Project Update

***Richard Yahola, Michael Rolerat,
Mark James, Kimberly Osmani***

Michael gave an update on the status of the SWOJC pilot. He had 6 residents graduate. He is using services from Systems of Care. He is trying to get two kids into Job Corps. One is beginning school at Seminole State College in August. Other kids have applied at SWOSU. We are still trying to schedule the next team meeting at SWOJC. They hope to get SWS going next fall. Another student was going to do concurrent enrollment, but his ACT score wasn't high enough. He is one who applied for SWOSU. Michael has reached out to a program that is free through Francis Tuttle Technology Center. Kids know who he is now and are reaching out to him.

See attached notes for Richard's update. We lose 6-8 students each month due to parole.

Mark James stated the youth built picnic tables (welding, carpentry, cement work) through GCTC. They will do short-term credential programs this summer.

Kim stated how difficult it has been to set up meetings for the SWOJC team. Kim asked Richard and Michael to take the lead on setting up these meetings. Kim and Michael will purchase a Jawbone speaker/mic to enable conference call capabilities. Kim, Janelle, and Jason will talk to decide who core team is that must meet.

7. Community Based Transition Initiatives

Onreka Johnson

Office space was donated to the Next Step program. This person also donated fax line, phone line, and everything else they need. Partnership with Family Promise to let youth take showers, wash clothes and have some transportation to interviews and doctors' appointments. At the end of this school year, there were over 700 homeless youth identified in Lawton Public Schools (200 were in high school, 50 of those were unaccompanied youth). They are celebrating some graduations of 8 youth involved in initiative. Genesis house is at capacity. They participate in Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP). A conference was held in May, and 12 were identified to have at least 1 parent incarcerated.

8. ABLE Charter School

Dr. Kenneth Kuczynsk

Newly formed virtual charter school. They serve every county. Tina Barker is a special education instructor. They offer virtual classes in grades 6-12 and will begin in August. Curriculum is state approved and has state certified instructors in core subjects and electives. Focus is working with youth in community. They are focusing on serving students who are slipping through the cracks in the traditional education model.

They supply internet and technology, they meet with them one on one, can have same teacher from 6-12 grade. This is free. They need referrals. Whoever enrolls by August 1, the state will give

them money. They can enroll when they are under 21 before school starts. They need 23 credits to graduate. They will meet with students in safe places, like the YMCA, public libraries, etc., to do one on one teaching/training.

They must provide the same special education services as the public schools. They will do some form of end of instruction testing. They anticipate having 100 students. Uber will be of use. They have testing laptops and can access the internet anywhere. Visit www.ablecharterschool.com

9. Systemic Issues Sub-Committee Update

TeRessa Kammerling

TeRessa provided an update on the activities of the Systemic Issues Sub Committee. TeRessa reported that the legislation on driver's license passed, which means you can take a signed affidavit from parent or legal guardian to Dept. of Public Safety to help kids get permits. Another bill also lowered the age to 14 for those in foster care (starts in October) to begin planning. Normalcy standards are also a focus. Teen conference is next week and a focus is on how you build your community and knowing the people around you and how they can be supportive of you.

10. Next Steps and Meeting Date

Commissioner Charles

Next meeting scheduled for July 22, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth

Jackie McDaniel will present on the Road to Independence Grant at the next meeting.

Adjournment