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BYS Minutes 10/06/2010

Board of Youth Services Meeting Minutes 10/6/2010

Attending: Carlene Newell, Lynn Horgan, Lori Talanian, Joan Robbio, Joan Axelrod, Phyllis Brown, Mary DeCoursey, Elizabeth Oppedisano, Donna Dolan

1. New Board member – Ann Horgan. She will be invited to next meeting.
2. Review of Minutes of September meeting: Motion to approve, unanimous vote to approve minutes.
3. Updates: Guiding Good Choices - class starts at the Ottoson tonight – Cindy and Maryanne are facilitating the class. Good response from parents, full class.

Town Day wrap up: Great spot. Many visitors to table went to house; over 600 pedometers were given out. Very successful. iPod raffle was a hit. Computer café agreed to put us up a on a link on their website. Many brochures given out, many people didn't know about us. Try to keep track of how many people are referred from Town Day. Linda created a photo album.

New Hires: Total of 5 new hires, all fee for service. Two have started last week. One is also in a PhD program. One woman is of color who had great experience and another woman is Chilean and speaks Spanish. Another is an expressive therapist. Phyllis would like to hire a "certified substance abuse counselor to round out the need we have. We could then take cases referred from the diversion program.

Referrals are coming in quickly.

Board to send a welcome note to all new employees. Lynn will coordinate.

4. AYCC Update

Quality Management Plan – Phyllis presented the QM document plan for AYCC. Review of plan. Goals and a satisfaction survey are needed. Have to implement the CANS (Child/Adol. Needs Survey and assessment tool). Mandated by the state. Clinician has to fill out survey. One of the new employees will train the others to fill out this survey which can be cumbersome. For new patients all Fee for Service providers must take the survey. Then they have to do it every 90 days. This could be incorporated into the Electronic Medical Record to help facilitate the process.

Move to approve QM plan. Unanimous vote to approve.

Should we have an event for the town employees and all those that have helped revive AYCC. Phyllis mentioned there has been so much support and this has really helped moral. The board agreed this would be a great event. Phyllis will coordinate and make it into an open house evening with light refreshments.

5. Thanksgiving Food Drive (Lori) – Vicki Rose at Thompson agreed to house all the food at Thompson. This will make the program go a lot smoother. We will be able to distribute food from Thompson School. Other clients (not in Thompson district) will be brought up to Robbins House. Sorting will be part of the 5th grade community service at Thompson. Will accept gift cards from grocery stores and donated "Thanksgiving" type food. We want to try to keep it to "healthy foods", thanksgiving foods. Ottoson will still have a food drive usually at the 6th grade level. Donna will

coordinate as she has in the past. Could we ask principal to be cheerleader for the program? Stratton will have a food and gift card drive.

Seniors at the AHS can help out with the sorting at the Thompson.

Boys and Girls Club will also do a food drive.

Holiday Help – Lori is asking for more help on the holiday program.

Mailings are going out to find donors. These letters go out next week.

Process is cumbersome; she enters all family information and then codes it, for confidentiality reasons.

Logistically the form is very cumbersome.

Patsy is still helping out with it. Liz is helping as well.

Lori is going to let all know when we can help.

There were 109 families last year.

Lynn requested that Lori let us know what we can do to help.

MRC can help out as well.

6. Grants – what do we need money for and programs to develop? Grant subcommittee will meet to discuss ideas for programs and then try to determine what grants to go for.

7. CHNA update – Mary updated the group on the Community Health Network Area local meeting and the work that is currently being done. Mount Auburn Hospital will be dispersing “Community Benefit” money to the local communities it serves: Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Lexington, Somerville and Waltham. The process will be discussed at the next CHNA Assessment Group meeting scheduled for Monday October 25th. Meeting is an open meeting. Funding may come from grants, and allocations. It is important that we get involved. The CHNA Assessment Group has already done Community Assessments of these towns and has identified Youth Mental Health, Youth Substance Abuse, Obesity and Healthy Living, Adult Mental Health and Health Access as priority issues that need to be addressed with this funding. Funding may be up to 1 million total for the next 5 years (could be more).

8. 501c3 status is up to date. How can we collaborate with the 501c3 Board? Should we have a liaison? Mary will distribute minutes to Barbara Tosti so she can be aware of what we are doing, and distribute to the 501c3 Board if desired.

9. Other program Updates:

Parent Forums: (Carlene) All are advertised through the Arlington Advocate. No longer making a flyer because of the cost. Emails are also sent to parent lists and forums are listed on the APS website.

Open Circle for parents starting October 19th. There was an overwhelming response.

Guiding Good Choices class is starting tonight.

Emergency Preparedness Training for Parents, Kathy Kaditz – Nov. 3

Michael Thompson at AHS to speak to senior parents.

Kindergarten Transition program

Carlene asked if the Board could support Parent Forum with a \$350 donation as we have done in the past. Motion by Lori to support – all in favor. Unanimous vote to approve.

Camperships – Lynn asked if we could support Thompson Camper scholarship this year. Phyllis mentioned we do have funding in the “hardship” fund for this. Motion to sponsor 3 students for \$1020 total. Motion by Donna to support – all in favor. Unanimous vote to support.

First Step - still meeting but need support.

Transition subcommittee will be meeting with Brian Sullivan to follow up on Symmes grant proposal and to thank him for his support.

AYCC Logo – Christine asked people to vote and she picked one that was the most popular. She is following up with the agency to finalize.

SADD club – Looking for funding for the SADD Day events. Elizabeth is looking for a speaker. Funding has been cut,

Elizabeth used to have 3 teachers helping out but now it is only her to coordinate the program. There are approximately 100 Arlington High students in group.

Motion to adjourn, all in favor.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Mary DeCoursey