

Marion County Children & Families Commission

May 17, 2018 Meeting

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Grant Room, Broadway Commons

Commission Members Present: ~~Patrice Altenhofen~~, Jaime Arredondo, ~~Walt Beglau~~, ~~Carla Bennett~~, Sue Bloom, Gladys Blum, George Burke, ~~Gayle Caldarazzo-Doty~~, Troy Clausen, ~~Jayne Downing~~, Ormond Fredericks, Troy Gregg, ~~Levi Herrera-Lopez~~, ~~Chuck Lee~~, ~~Krina Lee~~, Cyndi Leinassar, Pete McCallum, ~~Cary Moller~~, Honorable Cheryl Pellegrini, ~~Allan Pollock~~, Eric Richards, Jim Seymour, ~~Sam Skillern~~, Shaney Starr, and Honorary Member Commissioner Janet Carlson

Guests- Kacie Kintz, YMCA; Jackie Franke, Catholic Community Services; Sean Moriarty, Youth ERA; Robert Wallace, Catholic Community Services; Jo Zimmer, Rural Oregon Continuity of Care (ROCC) & 100 Day Challenge

Staff Present: Denise Clark, Tamra Goettsch, and Shirley Gardner

Meeting Summary Notes by Denise Clark

Introductions/Welcome

Shaney made a motion to approve the CFC Summary Notes of January 18, 2018 and March 15, 2018. Judge Pellegrini seconds the motion. Motion passed.

Together Toward Tomorrow: Hope Initiative-

Sue Bloom told the Hope story of a teen from a troubled home and the impact the Boys and Girls Club and Deputy Chief of Police George Burke had on her life. They helped her find hope and motivation and provided her with resources. She was recently accepted into the police cadet program; her goal is to become an FBI agent.

Hope Initiative Next Steps, Proposed Model- Tamra

Discussion included:

- How does the commission keep Hope alive?
- Need to identify tools and resources for the “how.”
- Use the Hope survey.
- Be selfish, what does it mean to have Hope yourself?
- Incorporate Hope stories in commission meetings.
- Need staff support; share collective resources.
- Coined the title “Hope Alive” to put a name on the model.
- Wellness is Hope- you understand where you are, and where you need to go, to reach your goals.
- Arbinger Training- a model for application identifying how we support those in our lives to help them be successful. This isn't the only model, but could be utilized.

Questions/Comments:

Once back to the office, how do we implement Hope Alive; is this additional work? Answer- this isn't a new concept; it is identifying how we work within the already existing programs addressing what is needed for ourselves and also for those we serve in helping them be successful; preparing people to accept what is being offered them to make changes.

Sue Bloom noted that her staff participated in the Arbinger Training. They are now speaking differently to one another, more positively and being “other” focused. This aligns with the Hope model and launching kids successfully. It has “aligned just in the area of language” in her agency.

Judge Pelligrini expressed her support for this. The courts have a system of control; they could provide metrics- the number of youth that don’t come back into the system, or who graduate. They meet people “where they are” and how they can be helped; not focusing on what they are lacking. She encouraged not to make a big financial investment, but to start small.

Deputy Chief Burke noted that when a person is in a position of authority, people listen to every word that comes out of their mouth so to be cautious of the words used. Change the mindset of those who have contact with those without hope. Changing one’s own mindset helps to change others; present it in a way people can buy in.

Commissioner Carlson reminded everyone that the commission has the freedom to determine a new direction since there is no longer a state mandate as to what the commission does. Everyone has spheres of influence. This gives the commission something to land on. Any organization can benefit determining how it works within their own context.

Cyndi observed that Hope can be instilled in any conversation, with anyone you have contact with. An internal staff survey is helpful to determine employees’ levels of hope.

Jim indicated that the Arbinger training has been really beneficial to him. This is a complimentary program and suggested that progress happens at the speed of relationships. One needs to take time to build relationships with others; the structure needs to include how to engage one another.

Pete encouraged the commission to start small; “build as you go.” Have to get buy-in at each step and not worry about instant gratification.

The Arbinger concept is strengthening the culture. Decisions should be based on the greater good. You can build empathy hearing of your peers concerns and assisting where you can.

Troy Gregg indicated that for juveniles, hope is paramount; from first contact to all the way through the process. He supported identifying champions, using paths that are ready, and invest in training.

Shaney noted that this is a way of inspiring people in how they can live. You can choose the direction you go. When she was younger, the people around her gave her hope.

Ormond observed that self-sufficiency programs kick in when people have lost everything; they need hope. This population touches everyone’s organization.

Kids in the school system and seniors also need hope.

Sue Bloom made a motion for the commission to pursue this concept; Pete seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The “Deepest Well,” a book by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, was given out to members in order for everyone to have a common language and understanding.

Family Preservation Team- Foster Parent Champion- Jackie Franke, Robert Wallace

The plan is to help foster parents, filling the gap and finding resources. Jackie and Robert are here to bring a plan, a living document.

What they are doing:

- Hired to work eight hours a week through November.
- Meeting with lots of agencies to understand the document created and determine how agencies feel about the plan.
- Robert’s testimony, being a former foster child, encourages foster parents that the kids can be successful.
- They are helping create links and resources.
- People support foster care, but they don’t know how to help or how to reach the foster parents.
- Looking at supply needs and holding events to make resources available.
- A foster parent event was held last week in which many provided gifts and financial help.
- Helping businesses identify how to help foster parents.
- Had cities acknowledge May as Foster Parent Proclamation month.

Question- How do they reach the foster parents themselves? Answer- they mingle together at events.

100 day challenge update- Jo Zimmer (added to the agenda)

- Jo is a private consultant to Rural Oregon Continuity of Care. She was previously on the citizen review board.
- The 100 Day Challenge is run by the Rapid Results Institute, an international company.
- Community leaders identified youth homelessness for the challenge.
- They hit the goal within the 100 days, which ended on March 23.
- To keep the momentum continuing, they are now doing a “what’s next?” workshop.
- They have developed an immediate needs response station.
- Train the Trainer is going on now, taking the experiences of the Marion County community to other communities.

Announcements:

Tamra indicated that the Community Resources Network (CRN) is still developing. There is a need for an English tutor in the city of Salem.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:24 PM