

## **Marion County Children & Families Commission**

**November 15, 2018 Meeting**

**11:30 AM to 1:30 PM**

**Grant Room, Broadway Commons**

**Commission Members Present:** ~~Patrice Altenhofen, Jaime Arredondo, Sue Bloom, George Burke, Gayle Caldarazzo-Doty, Troy Clausen,~~ Jayne Downing, ~~Ormond Fredericks,~~ Troy Gregg, ~~Lisa Harnisch,~~ Levi Herrera-Lopez, ~~Chuck Lee, Krina Lee,~~ Pete McCallum, ~~Cary Moller,~~ Carla Munns, Honorable Cheryl Pellegrini, Allan Pollock, Eric Richards, Jim Seymour, ~~Sam Skillern,~~ and Shaney Starr

**Honorary Member-** Ron Hays

**Guests-** Paige Clarkson, District Attorney; John Van Dreal, 24J; Kacie Kintz, YMCA; Eileen Casey White, Connections Consulting

**Staff Present:** Denise Clark, Shirley Gardner, Tamra Goetsch, Melinda Hautala, Heather Johnson

Meeting Summary Notes by Denise Clark

### **Introductions**

**Approval of September 20, 2018 Meeting Summary Notes:** No quorum present for approving notes.

**Hope Story-** Troy Gregg

Troy presented a story of an 18 year old homeless man who had drug and alcohol issues and owed \$6,000 in restitution. He attended the Guaranteed Attendance Program (Gap) and graduated high school. He is now working at Papa Murphy's and paying off his debt. He has plans for enrolling in the community college in the future.

### **Announcements:**

Levi Herrera-Lopez - Mano a Mano is launching a radio station; they are working on funding. A regional launch is scheduled for January.

Eric Richards- School boundaries conversations are taking place. A task force meeting is set for November 27 to review potential boundary alignments. The website has boundary maps. There will be one community forum.

Jim Seymour- The Transitional Living Community (TLC) is now located at St. Joseph's Family Shelter. The first family has moved in; the parents are in recovery and able to keep their children with them.

Pete McCallum- Woodburn City Council approved Smith Creek Housing Subdivision with 850 new living sites to be developed; that is in addition to Westwood with another 350 sites.

Alan Pollock- The Cherriots advisory committee has approved a list of projects that have been submitted to ODOT for approval, including extra service.

Troy Gregg- The EQUIP program targets older kids; it follows up on Family Checkup and Everyday Parenting. It has a bilingual program.

Paige Clarkson- She is replacing Walt Beglau on this commission. They are partnering with the county, Salem PD, and the sheriff's office for the law assistance diversion program addressing people who commit livability offenses using law enforcement as a bridge for these folks. There are 17 people actively engaged in the program who are currently incarcerated. Have a resiliency docket; also able to identify young women being trafficked.

Judge Pellegrini- The law enforcement face has to work to transform how the community views law enforcement. Think of it as a bridge and that it's not all bad; need to shift the perception. The courts benefit from all of these programs. They are working with the LGBTQ youth community, need to accommodate this emerging population. Ormond Fredericks, of DHS, is doing a good job of target marketing this to foster families. They run two treatment courts. St. Joseph's new housing program is really helping get the services they need. The Star Court for youth is graduating 7 or 8 this year, the highest number so far.

Ron Hays- United Way is raising money for mobile showers for the homeless; they are a third of the way to meeting their financial goal.

Shaney Starr- There are 130 children waiting for a CASA; they are closing that number with new recruits. In January they will be starting a pilot project with Marion County partners to serve youth and delinquency; this is the first in Oregon.

**Suicide Prevention and Community Partners-** John Van Dreal

- Salem/Keizer Schools has had a threat assessment (student or adult harm directed at another, including fire) system in place for over 30 years with a revision done in 2001; it was then revised again in 2017 to include suicide.
- Budget limitations limited the amount of employees dedicated to this.
- Collaboration with Polk County Mental Health.
- There is a "Level 1" and "Level 2" process.
- Previously the school counselors were responsible; now school administrators, SRO, and parents involved.
- They have added a full time social worker who has helped stream-line the process.
- Building relationships with community partners; started a community outreach program.
- The district gave a grant for Question Persuaded Referral (QPR) program.
- Hope to eventually get everyone in the district trained; currently 9 district staff are involved in Train the Trainer. Also training students and members of the community.
- Increasing people's understanding of risk factors will increase the number of referrals.

**Level 1:** School site based

- Conducted by school counselors, administrators, and parents.
- Student interview- information gathering of accurate and fact-based information.
- Determination of risk and intervention plan.

**Level 2:** Community based conducted by mental health partners (MC Behavioral Health and Polk County Mental Health)

- Salem Health gave \$5,000.
- Interviews student and parents for suicide risk assessment and need for immediate intervention.
- The health partner creates a plan of action.

Between February 2018 and October 2018 there were 528 Level 1 assessments. The process takes 2-4 hours to conduct. There is currently one Level 2 assessment being done daily.

Referrals come by peer, self-report, and teachers' report. They receive limited parental reports.

Listening Sessions (community forums)

- Salem Health provides food and day care.
- A panel of mental health professionals take questions and provide answers.
- Dr. Robert Wolfe is the facilitator.
- Includes smaller focus groups.
- Helps people get more information and they become more relaxed about it.
- Marketing is done by their communications department using social media and newsletters.
- The first one (at Sprague) was attended by about 200 people.
- A second one was held at McNary; the attendance numbers are unknown.
- It was suggested to bring QPR training to the Listening Sessions.
- Tamra indicated that Marion County could include Listening Session information on their web pages.

Hurdles- There is an information void between parents and the district. There is a "Code of Silence" amongst boys- they aren't reporting. Girls are doing better. Parents, who are worried, nervous, and embarrassed, won't report.

The screening/interview process has gone from being very quick to now being burdensome and time consuming.

The community suicide walk fundraising event held recently is a national model; the funds don't go to the local schools.

Carla Munns noted that a regional community health assessment determined that in Marion County 25% of eleventh grade students report thoughts of suicide. An epidemiologist in Washington County has collected data following a suicide and found indicators can be getting an eviction notice or giving pets away at shelters.

Tamra indicated that Phil Blea sent her a radio spot that provided her with some suicide information. In January there will be a training of dog shelter staff, along with the humane society, to work collectively in identifying

suicidal signs. The county's dog shelter doesn't take surrendered dogs. However, staff can employ asking questions as to why the person wants to surrender the dog, "cloaking" the questions to learn more of the motivation for surrendering the dog.

The Salem/Keizer Schools' crisis team helps staff via the employee assistance programs. Principles also reach out to staff.

**Hope Initiative- Eileen Casey White**

Eileen is charged with putting together a Hope Initiative action plan. The mission is not identified as to how to act on this.

Topics for table discussions:

1. Core of the initiative?
2. What are the various components?
3. What threads do you see across the components?

Discussion results:

- Tamra- need catalytic leaders, people grounded in the Hope theory. They need to take this back to their own organization. Need clear language so everyone speaks similarly to have the dialogue in the community.
- Jim- there is a lot of models including protective factors such as social connections. When you have networks of people you trust, that builds power; it is a tangible support in times of need. Building knowledge and skills makes for more resilience.

Questions handed out to take back to the individual's organizations:

1. What does a successful Hope Alive initiative look like? What could it be in 5 years?
2. What is at its core? What are the various components?
3. How would Hope Alive's success connect with the mission of the CFC?
4. What tools currently exist in your organization to support Hope Alive?
5. How can this framework enhance the work that you are doing?

Eileen would like feedback as to the organization's responses.

This message gets pushed out by taking to one's own circles of influence.

Tamra- the questions are for internal organization conversations. What does hope look like to your organization? What might it look like in five years? Be purposeful in infusing these things.

Eileen will be scheduling more interviews with members that she hasn't met with yet. She would like to have a focus session outside of these meetings.

**Meeting Adjourned: 1:35 pm.**