

OPEN MEETING MINUTES
Waukesha County Human Services Center
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting
Coordinated Services Team (CST)
May 24, 2023

Present CST Committee: Health & Human Services-Child Welfare and Protection Services (Fred Garcia), Health & Human Services-Children who are Mentally Disabled (Lithda Fischer (Vice Chair)), Health and Human Services-Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (Amanda Huber), Health & Human Services-Responsible for Economic Support Programs (Bob Alioto), Horning Middle School (Angie Krueger), Parent Representative (Hugh Davis), Parent Representative (Lon and Maureen Plestina), Public Defender's Office (Maura McMahan), Public Health (Mary Heather Carlson), Waukesha Police Department (Officer Jason Fink)

Absent CST Committee: Health and Human Services-Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (Eve Altizer (Chair))

Guests: Beth Bode, Katie Green, Jessica Hannaman, Megan Lamster, Kylee Linder, Elise Logghe, Melissa Minkley, Ron Pupp, Michelle Taylor

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Fischer called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. Introductions were exchanged among the committee members and guests.

McMahon arrived at 12:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Garcia moved, second by Fink, to approve the Coordinated Services Team (CST) minutes of April 26, 2023. Motion passed without a negative vote.

3. Committee Business

a. "Grieving Life as We Have Known It" – Presentation from Melissa Minkley, Executive Director, Healing Hearts

Fink left at 12:06 p.m. and returned at 12:07 p.m. Davis arrived at 12:08 p.m.

Healing Hearts was established in October of 2009 and provide grief support services for children and families grieving a loss. Families grieve all types of losses, not just those related to a death, and can include a loss due to a divorce, abandonment, incarceration, deployment, deportation, or life-threatening illness.

The 12-week program is offered twice a year at the Waukesha location and the 6-week program is offered in Oconomowoc and Menomonee Falls. The curriculum is set up to help families cope with change to avoid potential future issues of addiction.

All services are free, and meals are offered before each group session. Families come together for the meal and then divide into small groups. The small groups for children are separated by age and there is a curriculum for primary, elementary, intermediate, and high school ages. The adult groups are specific to the type of loss and the curriculum is geared towards helping the adults help their children deal with the grief as well.

The Fall sessions will begin in September for the Waukesha and Oconomowoc locations and in November for Menomonee Falls. Family program sessions are all in-person, however, there is a virtual option for the young adult and adult sessions. The programs are open enrollment and participants can start at any point during the sessions.

Programs can also be adapted to fit the needs of schools. The in-school program is eight weeks and will include a different topic each week. The school can identify which topic(s) to focus on.

For more information or to register for a support group, go to www.healingheartswisconsin.org or call 262-751-0874.

b. Discussion on Subcommittee Rules

This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

c. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

- Continue the CST Day discussion and planning

4. Committee and Organizational Updates

a. HHS Staff Liaison

Pupp announced that there will be an event to recognize the agencies that were awarded American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds with the County Executive today. The agencies that were awarded ARPA funds and their programs are:

- Orion Family Services – parent skill-building program to offer in-home support for families raising teenagers to help improve communication, coping skills, and enhance family relationships
- Professional Services Group (PSG) – opening a new mental health clinic in Waukesha
- Wisconsin Family Ties – change the outcomes for youth by changing the attitudes, approaches, and actions of adults. The program is called Securing a Future for At-Risk Kids (SAF-ARK) and is intended to help the youth stay in the home and thrive.
- Family Service – The program will teach the teachers motivational interviewing skills. The goal is to have the teachers learn approaches to engaging youth and parents so that they feel safe in school and continue attending school. This will help establish creative ways to avoid trancies.

May is Foster Care month. Waukesha County is recruiting for additional foster care homes with availability specifically for infants, adolescent girls, and teenagers.

HHS has begun the budgeting process. This process begins in May and ends with the final approval in November. Updates will be provided as they become available.

b. Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)

The CCS program has grown significantly over the last year and is on track to enroll 10 additional youth into the program this month. There are currently 26 vendors within the network, including one that was recently onboarded with workers who have lived experience.

c. Coordinated Services Team (CST)

There were no additional CST updates.

d. Children and Family Services Advisory Committee (CAFSAC) Updates

There were no additional CAFSAC updates.

e. Mental Health Advisory Committee (MHAC) Updates

McMahon gave an update from the May MHAC meeting. This meeting was a joint meeting with CCS and included a Fair Housing Rights presentation.

5. Agency Updates/Announcements

Butler Middle School students are guests at this meeting to find out what would create interest for youth and families to participate in a future CST/Community Day. Attendees discussed potential CST day ideas. Some of the ideas included:

- Opportunities for youth to play sports or do activities (dunk tank)
- Provide food (pizza or food trucks) and music
- Gift or goodie bag for coming to the event (shirts, bracelets, stickers, fidgets)
- Best time of year to host the event would be during summer in the afternoon
- Host at park off school grounds so youth do not feel like they are at a school function
- Best way to advertise the event?
 - Post on social media (Tik Tok or Instagram) – create a catchy hashtag
 - Flyers or signs at parks/schools advertising what will be available at the event
 - Have youth create a video to advertise and share with others
 - Add to school emails/texts/newsletters
- Give scenarios to have youth discuss what they would do in certain situations
- Guest speaker who will share their experiences

Caregiver Community, a support group bringing together caregivers of children and adolescents with social, emotional, behavioral and/or mental health challenges, is held virtually on the last Thursday of the month from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Some of the monthly topics include parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social-emotional competence of children. If interested in attending, RSVP to Kirsten Jones at kejones@waukeshacounty.gov.

The Waukesha County Teen Court program offers eligible youth the opportunity to hear from a jury of their peers. It is held every other Thursday and is open to youth aged 12-17. For more information, go to: <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/HealthAndHumanServices/adolescent-and-family-services/TeenCourt/>. Interested individuals can contact their HHS Social Worker or one of the Teen Court staff:

- Fred Garcia 262-548-7660 or fgarcia@waukeshacounty.gov
- Dr. Ron Pupp 262-548-7226 or rpupp@waukeshacounty.gov
- Amy Aldrich 262-548-7387 or aaldrich@waukeshacounty.gov

Garcia left at 12:54 p.m.

6. Discussion Items for Next Agenda

- Discussion on the subcommittee rules received from Corporation Counsel
- Continue the CST day discussion

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Adjourn

Motion: McMahan moved, second by Alioto, to adjourn the CST meeting at 12:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. in Room 114 of the Waukesha County Health & Human Services Center.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Hannaman.

Minutes Were Approved:  _____ Date: 6/28/23