

OnCare Training Workgroup

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, December 17, 2014, 1:00 – 2:30pm

In Attendance: Peter Swords (OCMS), Joe Scripa (Adult/LTC), Judy Nemecek (Youth Bureau); Jennifer Daly (Parent/Caregiver)

OnCare Staff: Facilitators Bruce Brumfield (CCA) & Marilyn Woyciesjes; Tashia Thomas (OnCare)

Excused: Shiann Brown (PEACE, Inc.); John Cook (ACCESS); Kim Kromer-Murphy (Catholic Charities) – late arrival?

Absent: Karen Kalb (Community/Teacher)

Introductions/Updates: Workgroup Chair Peter Swords welcomed the members. The Meeting Notes from November 19th Workgroup Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Discussion: Peter and Tashia provided updates on the implementation of the system-wide implementation of the Collaborative Problem Solving Model and the feedback received following the series of training events centered around a visit from Dr. Ablon, Co-founder of the CPS Model, on Dec. 4–5th. Seventy (70) Parents/Caregivers attended the evening dinner session on Dec. 4th; 150 people attended the Community Presentation held on Dec 5th in the morning; 130 educators attended the afternoon session. In addition, representatives from the agencies involved in the implementers training held on Oct. 27-28th attended a leadership luncheon. The leaders discussed plans to expand training for the CPS Model to a regional effort thereby making the impact wider and deeper.

Jennifer provided feedback on the Parents/Caregivers session. She remarked the session was dynamic and enlightening. Dr Ablon provided examples of ways to work differently with children by promoting a shift in mind-set and thinking of challenging behaviors in terms of learning disabilities and skills deficits that, once identified, can be addressed. Peter added that the CPS approach can be helpful when conflict is heightened, as a more collaborative approach can work to decrease the conflict. Bruce added that the CPS approach should feel authentic for each family. Parents/Caregivers who work in the human services field may have different perceptions. The work/life balance can be difficult when practicing CPS skills at work and at home - becomes 24/7. All agreed that the CPS approach offers families more tools for their tool box. Peter added that the approach complements other trainings proposed for dealing with challenging behaviors that may be a result of trauma, loss and grief.

Peter provided an update on the plans for CRM Training from his discussions with the lead trainers and coaches. Elaine Miller-Karas will be involved in the all-day session scheduled for Feb 27th (7-7 ½ hrs. with a break for lunch); two half-day sessions (4-5 hrs.) will follow on March 9th or 10th and March 16th (total 16 hrs.) Peter will firm-up the dates and times with Bill Cross.

Space for the training is TBD - The Noble Training Center is being considered as it offers large group space and break-out space for small groups. The location may pose transportation issues so alternate space should be explored. There are 7 – 10 coaches available, enough for 35-40 people to engage in practice groups (ratio 1 trainer: 4 people).

The registration process will be completed using Survey Monkey. The registration form would include a question about how the person would use the skills they learn to help themselves and to help others. It will also ask the person if they are able to commit the time to attend all three sessions. Tashia agreed to set-up the Survey Monkey survey.

The targeted audience would include 15 youth; 10 parents/caregivers, 5 natural support persons or faith community leaders, and 10 direct service workers who have limited opportunities to access training through their employers. Diversity in group composition would be preferable.

Tashia and Peter agreed to work on promotional materials for distribution via e-mail and at the Full Stakeholders Meeting on Jan 12th. The "soft" registration deadline will be Jan 27th with a plan to extend the deadline to Feb 10th. The February 2nd FSM will offer an opportunity for final push if registration falls below expectations. Joe offered to send Peter a template for a flyer that can be easily replicated.

The registration forms should be available for review at the Jan 28th Workgroup Meeting to determine if the targets are being met for the intended audience. If necessary, promotional efforts may need to be increased to meet objectives.

The Jan 28th Meeting Agenda will also focus attention on the proposal Shiann is developing for Healing the Hurt, Restoring the Hope (HHRH). She asked the group for feedback about how to gauge interest for the training; how to identify and recruit facilitators, and; what locations would provide a safe, "neutral" space for the support group meetings. The various topic areas covered in HHRH offer a high degree of adaptability and flexibility depending on the specific audience. We will follow-up on the discussion about targeting faith communities and refuge communities as they would offer the opportunity to promote diversity and increase cultural competency. It was agreed that there would need to be an effort to develop the groups to open and inclusive vs. exclusive.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 28th, 1:00-2:30pm – Catholic Charities, 1654 W. Onondaga St., Conf. Rm C (park and enter in back of bldg.)