

## WASHINGTON COUNTY CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

**PRESENT:** Jolene Abelson, Rick Backman, Ann Bebeau, Bob Benson, Melissa Charley, Marty Gerkey, Maggie Hart, Anita Keyes, Sue Lewis, Don Pelton, Guy Sederski, Jan Snell

**Approval of Minutes from August Meeting:** Melissa Charley moved, Jolene Abelson seconded, Approved.

### **Update from Washington County Social Services: Rick Backman/Don Pelton**

\*Rick passed out draft copies of the CCSA (Children & Community Services Act) Plan, which is both a compliance and planning document. He drew our attention to p. 20 where the Federal and State measures are list with their success rates and anticipated targets. If any of the panel members have comments on the plan, please get them to Rick by October 1.

\*Rick announced that Harbor Shelter, which served boys 12 and up and was located in Stillwater, closed after 23 years. The program has merged with the one in Dakota County, which served girls, and they now served both boys and girls. The shelter cost is high – almost \$400 for 2 days – and the county pays for this. Parents are billed back, parental fees are on a sliding fee basis and offset only a small percentage of the total cost of out of home placement. The facility is not to be used for detention. The Red Cross Crisis Response team is a daytime/nighttime alternate with the hope that more situations can be defused and the child returned home. Additionally police are now forbidden by law to place runaways.

\*School is now in session and the number of calls/referrals to the county have picked up.

\*Don reported that there two reconsiderations which will need to be dealt with before our next meeting. He will send an Email soliciting help.

### **Update from Minnesota Department of Human Services: Anita Keyes**

\*Anita handed out copies of the Draft of the report of all the CRP panels on the Involving Non-Custodial Fathers project. She encouraged us to look at the recommendations and respond. Rick has concerns about the amount of time that may be required of staff. The report is meant for all 87 counties. This report goes to DHA and will be included in the state CRP report.

### **Old Business**

\*PCAM Walk – Saturday September 12. Our CRP team raised the most money and we have been given Saints caps and tickets to a game next May. Many of us felt that the walk did not have enough publicity and was quite expensive for families.

\*Ann asked for a Co-Chair and said Melissa had expressed an interest. Guy moved that we elect Melissa as Co-Chair, Bob seconded, and the motion carried.

### **Committee Work**

\*The committee work was explained for new members. Last year's topics were Independent Living Skills for Adolescents and Shared Family Care. Also we all worked on the Involving Fathers Project.

\*The consensus was that we are finished with the first two topics. There is no money for Shared foster care. New laws require transition plans and judicial oversight for adolescents aging out of foster care.

\*Annual Reports will be due November 17 and will include: committee activities, delegates to the National Convention, the PCAM walk, reconsiderations, efforts in April (Prevent Child Abuse Month).

\*There was general discussion about topics for committee work for this year: continuing/expanding the Involving Father's Project; publicity efforts around topics like co-sleeping, infant mortality; possible gathering and/or development of materials related to these topics for dissemination; partnering with sheriff's department in some of our efforts.

**Adjournment:** Sue moved, Melissa seconded, motion passed.