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**NORTHEAST EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL**

**Monday, January 27, 2020**

**5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Killingly Central Office**

**In Attendance:** Myra Ambrogi, Noveline Beltram, Patty Bryant, Patricia Buell, Rena Cadro, Kristine Cicchetti, Linda Colangelo, Ashley Fourneir, Christine Gosselin, Diane Gozembo, Lisa Girard, MaryEllen Jones, Tom Kohl, Gail Lanza, Lesley Munshower, Emily Ross, Sally Sherman, Melanie Smith*-*Cervera, Barbara Teatreault

Guest: Peter Neal, DKH

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approval of last meeting minutes
3. Guest Speaker: Peter Neal, Director of Behavioral Services – Day Kimball
4. School Readiness Updates
5. Voting – Strategic Plan
6. Regional Director Updates
7. Regional Programing / Community Updates

Meeting called to order at 5:32 followed by welcome and introductions.

**Approval of last meeting minutes:**

Review of minutes, one change, Gail Lanza was not at lasts meeting. Motion made to accept minutes with amendments by Patty Bryant, Seconded Sally Sherman, all in favor – no opposed.

**Guest Speaker: Peter Neal, Director of Behavior Services at Day Kimball**

Peter Neal – He thanks the council for being asked to speak, it’s important to hear back from community and schools as they don’t get to interface with schools much. It’s nice to put names with faces and hear from people who work with this age group. He feels that this is just the start of conversation. He presents on understanding the systems that exist and don’t exist when it comes to behavioral health in an emergency room setting. Clinicians know to take time with the younger kids in BH setting in emergency room setting. He reviews the “team” of people in an ER who would take part during intake and the components of care and what an assessment would involve and outcomes.

Questions/Comments from group:

1. How do kids arrive in the ER - is it family/home or school? Answer: It is a fair mix, however, if you look at the age range that we deal with, it’s a smaller number,
2. Is there data round identifying triggers – can you identify if it’s substance abuse, domestic violence or sexual abuse? Answer: Yes, that’s part of the work they do in identifying, again dealing with the younger age range, it’s typically intergenerational issues.
3. Is there a wait list for Day Kimball BH services? Answer: No wait lists, have added new therapists recently.
4. Comment: Is there a way to Connect back to the schools? We would encourage DKH to connect back to the schools as a partner to be one same page

General Notes/Observations:

* How can we work together with Day Kimball to form partnerships?
  + Invite to partnership breakfast (if we get grant)
  + Invite to Council meetings
  + Task force work

**School Readiness Review:**

Subcommittee just reviewed the Kindergarten Survey results (will put results together and share in March). Policy and procedure review, last time it was updated was May 2018, so it’s time to review and make changes and recommendations. Completed 3 monitoring visits since last meeting and submitted for review to leadership. Plainfield and Killingly next week. The OEC is having statewide meeting of Liaisons on Feb. 6th – will know more next week. Thompson monitoring coming tomorrow - one teacher has work on lesson plans.

All program reports are attached to the agenda packet for review.

**Voting: NECC 3-Year Strategic Plan:** Plan was sent to Council members prior to meeting for review and is included in the agenda packet. Included in packet is a list of our Council voting members as well. There is a motion to accept plan as presented by Myra Ambrogi, seconded by Diane Gozemba – there was no discussion on the plan needed. Vote: all in favor, no opposed. Motion carries to accept plan.

**NECC Updates – Regional Director:**

Equity Training: 12 People attended – School Leadership. Learned more skills to interrupt forms of bias and discrimination, followed by ways to move towards action and change and then knowledge on how to effectively talk about racism and other forms of prejudice with students and parents.

Parent Leadership Grant: Did not get the grant we applied for

Local Early Childhood Collaborative Grant: Received RFP last week to apply for up to $30,000 to support operational expenses and projects. Application due 7th, working on it now. Funds have to be expended March – June 2020. May be another RFP coming out in Spring.

Task Forces:

MHTF: Continuing to meet monthly, bringing in Guest speakers – consistently have 10-15 social workers and agencies personnel attend. Looking for co-chair for this group.

Attendance Task Force: Working in partnership with the two local YSB’s – in the process of finalizing a regional brochure explaining the role of YSB’s how they can help schools. School Superintendents will be getting an email soon to share with their school staff.

CT Children’s Collective: Attended the December quarterly meeting, our council is a partner of this new collective. They offer PD to members of our council, they help us advocate (they were part of the reason we got the grant opportunity we are applying for). The NECC is featured on the home page of the new website – handouts in the back if you want to take a look. Kris will continue to attend their quarterly meetings, next one in March.

Guest Speaker: Our March guest speaker will the Linda for Northeast District Dept. of Health.

**Community Sharing:**

Linda for NDDH (recently transitioned to working from home), in the office once a week. However, in the past week have attended meetings like SPAN (service partner’s area network) meeting. Some of the priorities – multigenerational, physical activity and nutrition initiatives. Lead poisoning: 57 kids requiring lead poison case management.

* Should we add this to council website –lead poising, something around permeant and profound issues?

Lisa Girard, new FAVOR Family Systems Manager DCF Region 3, 185 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109, 860-333-7127 cell, 860-563-3232 ext 106 office, [lgirard@favor-ct.org](mailto:lgirard@favor-ct.org). Please contact for more information.

United Services Inc. - KinShip Care Social Group (changed from Grandparents group). This group is for grandparents, aunts and uncles and friends who may be raising children. Flyer to be shared electronically.

Other: Discussion around children coming to school not prepared. In the age of electronics, kids have lost fine motor skills – they know how to “swipe”, but cannot hold a pencil or scissor and are easily frustrated around those tasks.

Meeting adjourned: 7:05 p.m.