



WRAPAROUND MILWAUKEE

Child & Adolescent Services Branch

News – A Monthly Publication

SEPTEMBER 2010

From the Director...



Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare Reports on Lawsuit Progress and Semi-Annual Statistics

On September 17th, Secretary Reggie Bicha and Director Arlene Happach of the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) and Eric Thompson, Attorney for Children’s Rights of New York, reported on the progress BMCW has made on the Jeannine B. Settlement Agreement. That progress has been good. The only two remaining enforceable provisions are the standards for reunification of children (71% are reunified with parents/caretakers within 12 months of entry into out-of-home care) and placement stability (90% of children will have three or fewer placements in BMCW custody). Children in BMCW custody enrolled through Wraparound Milwaukee are excluded in this calculation.

Two areas that Wraparound Milwaukee is assisting BMCW with, as noted in the community meeting and related to placement stability and other standards, are the crisis intervention services being offered by the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team dedicated to foster youth (MUTT-FF) and the new dedicated Educational Liaison being provided by Wraparound Milwaukee and Families United of Milwaukee.

Of other statistical interest, the number of children in out-of-home care is at an all time low of 2,135 (2,638 in 2008, 2,825 in 2005 and 3,489 in 2003). The number of children exiting care through June 2010 exceeds the number of youth entering care. As to ages of children entering care, while the highest number (46%) are birth to 4, of significance was a growing number of youth (12%) entering care after their 16th birthday. The percent of children staying in care over 24 months continues to decline with only 35.4% doing so through June 2010 versus over 40% in 2009 and nearly 63% in 2003.

For the full report on the settlement agreement and 2010 Semi-Annual Report from BMCW, you can contact the Wraparound Milwaukee Administration Office at (414) 257-7639.

Wraparound Milwaukee Moving Toward Utilizing CANS Assessment Tool

Wraparound Milwaukee is planning to adopt use of the Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool by the end of 2010. With the Wisconsin State Department of Children & Families adopting the CANS tool for all Wisconsin counties to be used to help determine the needs and level of care for youth in out-of-home placement, knowledge of and certification to administer the CANS will become increasingly important.

Beginning January 1, 2011, the State is moving to a new rate structure for out-of-home care in treatment foster care, group homes and residential treatment centers. There will be two levels for residential care centers – moderate and specialized, two levels for group homes – basic and moderate and four levels for treatment foster care – basic, moderate, specialized and exceptional. Assessments through the CANS tool will help set an assessed “level of care” and providers will have to be certified to be able to meet the child’s assessed level of need. If the child’s assessed needs exceed the certification level of the placement facility, the treatment foster care, group home or residential treatment center cannot accept that child without being granted an exception from the State. Certification levels for providers will be based on such factors as supervision and staffing ratios, therapy components, living arrangements and structure, milieu considerations, etc. The State proposed rates for these levels should be available in the next few weeks.

As to the CANS tool itself, it was designed by John Lyons, Ph.D., of the University of Ottawa. It is based on Wraparound principles around the identification of strengths and needs, and designed to support individual care planning. There are different versions of the CANS for different target groups and there are separate modules for juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health and developmental disabilities. Wraparound Milwaukee will decide on whether it uses the standard version used by child welfare or a more customized tool. Each item in the instrument uses a four level rating system. Those levels are designed to translate into action levels. Different action levels exist for needs and strengths.

Wraparound Milwaukee Management will be working with Dr. John Lyons to help determine how this



tool can best be used consistently with the Wraparound Milwaukee model and with the child and family team process. Also, how care coordinators, supervisors and others will be trained and certified to use CANS will be another challenge.

Wraparound Milwaukee will be providing more detailed information to our agencies as decisions are made on the CANS implementation.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

Wraparound Success Story...



Sam was enrolled in REACH to assist his family with his needs related to his diagnosis of Aspergers and was transferred to Wraparound Milwaukee after obtaining a delinquency charge. Sam's mother requested residential treatment care to assist with his behaviors, but the Child & Family Team, mostly his Probation Officer, knew that residential treatment care was not the option for someone with his diagnosis and advised against it. The Child & Family Team suggested environmental changes that worked best with Sam's needs, including sensory integration and consistency in care for his outbursts that often occurred in the home due to Sam's not understanding the rules of the home.*

Sam's father had been involved, but had never had placement of his son. His father requested that he live with him, so Sam was placed with his father in June 2010. His father admitted to the Child & Family Team his concerns about medications, treatment and schooling stating that he felt Sam should have a regular life without all the involvement that he currently had, but understood this could be a process. Sam's parents continued to work together for the best interest of their son and co-parent consistently, as well as share parenting techniques they feel work within the household.

Sam continues to visit with his mother every other weekend to spend time with his step-siblings and step-father. The Child & Family Team continues to keep his mother a crucial part of the process, so that Sam maintains a parental balance in his life.

This summer Sam's father enrolled him in a summer camp for kids with Aspergers. Sam did well in the camp all summer and enjoyed it. He and his father practice baseball together because Sam loves playing and really wants to be a pitcher for his school someday. Sam is a great part of the Child & Family Team meetings bringing humor and enlightenment to the process. He is able to vocalize his needs and does a great job of holding team members accountable. The Child & Family Team has continued to look for

community resources that focus on sensory integration for children with Aspergers to help Sam develop social skills and a safe integration into the community. Sam has taught the Child & Family Team the most important part of the Wraparound process – thinking outside of the box to help children live a fulfilled, but safe life.

(* Name changed for confidentiality.)

Submitted by St. Aemilian-Lakeside



Youth Council...

Due to being unable to schedule the lazer tag event, the Youth Council will be going to the Brewers game on Friday, September 24th. The tickets were generously donated by LaCausa. At the moment there are 30 tickets available. So, come join the Youth Council for an evening of Baseball at Miller Park on Friday, September 24th at 7:10 p.m. Transportation is not being provided for this event, so Care Coordinators should assist youth and their families in getting there. We will meet at our section before the game. If you are interested in attending, please call me at (414) 358-4120. Hope to see you there!

Brian McBride, St Charles Youth & Family

Mobile Crisis...



In August, I renewed my participation in a statewide legislative process looking at utilization of Chapter 51 Mental Health Services. In 2006, access and availability of mental health services changed, with more responsibility placed on guardians of youth, when services are needed. This process is chaired by State Representative Sandy Pasch and consists of stakeholders, consumers, parents and professionals from across the State. Along with Jeannine Maher and Pauline Spencer, the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team (MUTT) has also begun working with potential new crisis stabilization providers. Efforts are being made to assist these new providers in understanding and working within the parameters of HFS 34 and the Wraparound Milwaukee program.

Finally, MUTT team member Patti Cooper gave birth to Jonathan Cooper on August 11th. Mom, Dad – Matt and son are all doing well. Congratulations!

Dr. Chris Morano, Mobile Crisis Director

Quality Assurance...



Impact Consulting Group – Living as a Leader, is a local consulting agency that supports community/agency leaders. Every month they do a Book Summary. In August they shared some key ideas from “Death by Meeting” by Patrick Lencioni. I’d like to share some of his thoughts, since we are all involved in participating in many meetings.

In his book, Death by Meeting, Patrick Lencioni provides a blueprint for leaders who want to eliminate waste and frustration among their teams and create environments of engagement and passion.

What is the real issue? There are two: 1) First, meetings can be boring. They are often tedious, unengaging and dry; 2) Second, meetings can be ineffective. The question is: Why are meetings boring and ineffective?

Meetings are sometimes boring, because they lack drama. Or conflict. Most meetings have plenty of potential for drama. Unfortunately, rather than mining for the golden conflict, most leaders of meetings seem focused on avoiding tension and ending on time.

Meetings are sometimes ineffective, because they lack contextual structure. Participants have a hard time figuring out whether they’re supposed to be debating, voting, brainstorming, weighing in or just listening. To make our meetings more effective, we need to have multiple types of meetings and clearly distinguish between the various purposes, formats and timing of those meetings.

ADD DRAMA:

Use a hook: Open the meeting with a compelling position. It helps to jolt participants during the first ten minutes of a meeting so they know what is at stake.

Mine for conflict: When a group of intelligent people come together to talk about issues that matter, it is both natural and productive for disagreement to occur. Resolving issues is what makes a meeting productive, engaging and even fun.

Real-time permission: A leader needs to announce to a team that some conflict will be expected from them – and it is critical that this is made clear.

FOUR TYPES OF MEETINGS:

Daily Check In: About five minutes. The purpose is to share daily schedules and activities.

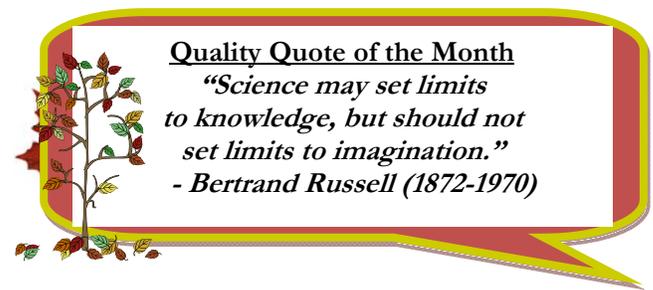
Weekly Tactical: 45-90 minutes. The purpose is to review weekly activities and metrics, and resolve tactical obstacles and issues.

Monthly Strategic: Two to four hours. The purpose is to discuss, analyze, brainstorm, and decide upon critical issues affecting long-term success.

Quarterly Off-Site: One to two days. The purpose is to review strategy, industry trends, competitive landscape, key personnel, and team development

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to give me a call at (414) 257-7608 or email me at pam.erdman@milwcnty.com.

Pamela Erdman, QA/QI Director



Announcements...



Positive Recognition Awards

The following have been recipients of “Positive Recognition” awards:

Med Group Transportation, LLC

Nominated by Tanya Cummings and Danyelle Sun – LaCausa, Inc.

“Med Group has been very reliable in getting our youth and families to their appointments on time! The office staff are awesome! All around job well done.”

Families United of Milwaukee

Nominated by Caralee Hammerling – My Home, Your Home

“I want to thank Margaret Jefferson and her team for donating school supplies to the families of My Home, Your Home and St. Charles. They donated their time at the Back to School event by helping to serve food to the families that came. We appreciate you!!”

Mobile Urgent Treatment Team

Nominated by Caralee Hammerling - My Home, Your Home

“Thanks for donating your time at the St. Charles/My Home, Your Home Back to School event and assuring that everyone was safe. We appreciate your hard work!”

Chris Shafer & Elena Montes – Families United/Wraparound Milwaukee

Nominated by Caralee Hammerling - My Home, Your Home

“Thanks for donating your time at the My Home, Your Home/St. Charles Back to School event. We appreciate you and all your expertise in helping our families feel assured that their children receive the best education.”

St. Charles Youth & Families Care Coordinators

Nominated by Caralee Hammerling - My Home, Your Home

“I want to thank the Care Coordination team, especially Lisa Rizzo and Angie Redmond for coordinating with My Home, Your Home Care Coordinators in helping plan the Back to School event. A big thanks to your team for getting the families there, sharing your space with My Home, Your Home and Brian’s Nesco and crockpot for the food. Let’s collaborate again!”

My Home, Your Home Care Coordinators & Tyreese Evans

Nominated by Caralee Hammerling - My Home, Your Home

“Thanks to MHYH Care Coordinators, especially Erin Rinderle, Michelle Zoerb and Melissa Glass for coordinating with St. Charles Care Coordinators in planning for the Back to School event. A special thanks to Tyreese for donating his time at the event and using his megaphone voice for the raffle. Also, a big thanks to the MHYH Care Coordinators for getting families there.”

Upcoming Events...



OCTOBER 2010

Oct. 1 New CC Training – Mod. 9
8:30-4:00pm WM – Room 416

Oct. 5 New CC Training – Mod. 10
8:30-12:00pm WM – Room 416

- Oct. 5** ARB Meetings
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 6** New CC Training – Mod. 11
8:30-11:30pm WM – Room 212
- Oct. 6** DHHS Centralized QA Mtg.
9:00-11:00am WM – Room 253
- Oct. 6** Wraparound 101 Crisis Training
9:00-4:00pm WM – Room 416
- Oct. 7** Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting
8:15-10:00am “CANCELLED”
- Oct. 7** High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 7** Monthly Care Coordinator Mtg.
1:00-3:00pm CHP Auditorium
- Oct. 12** ARB Meetings
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 13** New CC Training – Mod. 12
8:30-12:00pm WM – Room 416
- Oct. 13** Child Psych. Cons. – Aurora
12:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 14** High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 16** Family Orientation
11:00-12:30pm WM – Cafeteria
- Oct. 19** ARB Meetings
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 20** Partnership Council Meeting
11:30-1:30pm WM – Room 212
- Oct. 21** Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting
8:15-10:00am WM – Room 416
- Oct. 21** High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253
- Oct. 28** High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

Editor
Debra Jansen, Consumer Relations Coordinator - (414) 257-6532.
For more information on Wraparound Milwaukee, go to our Website at www.county.milwaukee.gov and search using the keywords “Wraparound Milwaukee”.

Greater Milwaukee Major Events

9/24-9/25	Oktoberfest in Downtown Milwaukee	Old World Third Street	(414) 271-3377
9/24-9/26	Harvest Fair/World Beef Expo	Wisconsin State Fair Park	(414) 266-7000
10/22-10/24	Hunting Moon Pow Wow	Potawatomi Bingo Casino	(414) 847-7320
11/6	Veterans Day Parade	Downtown Milwaukee	(414) 273-5533
11/18-1/2	Milwaukee Holiday Lights Festival	Downtown Milwaukee	(414) 220-4700
11/19-11/21	Holiday Folk Fair International	Wisconsin Exposition Center	(414) 225-6225
11/20	Milwaukee Holiday Parade	Downtown Milwaukee	(262) 377-5935