IFSP Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes of the April 26, 2010 Meeting

I. Welcome

J.C.S. welcomed members to the meeting.

II. HFWA Update

- J.C.S. reported on the meeting and that most of the time was spent talking about experiences, strengths, concerns, and about how things are going so far with High Fidelity Wraparound. There are some things that still need to be worked on.
- The next step will be to gather staff who have been involved in the process and complete an evaluation sheet that reviews progress on if staff is being supportive of the program. An evaluation form is being worked on. It will look at where changes and concerns need to be addressed and then work with and support Pinebrook Services to be more supportive of HFWA.
- J.C.S. will give an update next time on how the form worked and will review it. J.C.S. also mentioned that eleven families are currently being worked with and some additional ones have been closed.
- A discussion was held regarding the goals of the youth and the family, the priority of the goals and how they might sometimes be different. The main idea is to try to balance the goals and to get the youth to look at things in a healthy way. The goals of the youth are not always realistic, and the family's priorities are not always the same as the caseworkers. It is a matter of working together to come up with an appropriate priority list and make sure the family's needs are met. P.T. discussed a case she worked with where the caseworker goals were different, but still important, so goals can be added to help.
- The National Consultant suggested to keep meeting on a regular basis and to also meet with workers that are involved with HFWA to make sure progress is made. J.C.S. will be working with Pinebrook to start on their community team which will be a supportive agent to them.
- R.M. mentioned that sometimes people decide to give up after a bad experience. There will be ups and downs with every new service and sometimes there will be failures. Everyone needs to stay positive and give it another try as everybody is learning at the same time.

III. Review State Response to IFSP Plan FY 10-11

J.C.S. reviewed the response that was received on last year's plan. Most of it was positive. The draft guidelines for the next coming submission have also been received. She will resend an email containing the response from last year and will send the official document once received.

IV. Update on Act 62 Presentation

P.T. was part of the presentation for Act 62. She gave a report on the Autism Task force which has developed a committee named Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services Partners. A parent provider from this meeting had some concerns about Act 62 Autism insurance. Parents are having difficulties because the primary insurance company is not paying the provider and they are losing their current provider who they have good relationships with. Another issue is the provider is not getting paid for services through their primary insurance company.

P.T. also attended the Northeast Regional CASSP Coordinator's Meeting and mentioned that the Autism Task Force has been speaking about curriculums. They would like to begin providing education to EMT's, police officers and firefighters because children with autism may act out. They want the community to be educated about Autism and how to handle the children.

V. Determine Agenda for Advisory Committee Meeting

J.C.S. reminded there is an Advisory Committee meeting in May and asked for items that may need to be addressed at the meeting. She will place HFW Updates on the agenda and will present the response for last year's plan. J.C.S. will add the draft of next year's outcomes as well. When the final guidelines are received, she will send them via email.

VI. Office Updates

B.F. shared some information on Systems of Care. They will be meeting within the next month. A mini presentation on HFW will be given to the group. It is an initiative which works with clients who have multi-system case involvement. B.F. also gave a report on their participation of the initial kickoff of Juvenile Justice Caseworker representatives from all systems. They are about ready to determine the criteria for county applications for funding. A committee for Lehigh County has been formed. J.C.S. mentioned that the youth that are involved with the Systems of Care do have to participate in the HFW process.

R.M. reported currently having seven cases and spoke about the progress of a case she has been working on. She mentioned she has been getting good feedback from AmeriHealth Mercy and is getting medications quickly when

needed. C.G. questioned how well it has been working in Lead Case Management.

- P.T. reported on the System Coordination Meetings and that there are a lot of system issues and problems with families trying to get services.
- J.C.S. reported on a recent change regarding BHIS and all information is being entered in to the computer. She said it seems to be working well.
- P.B. mentioned that they are involved with the National Governor Association in an effort to safely reduce the number of children in out of home placement. She updated the group that Lehigh is at 35 percent in the process. There were 408 children in care and now it is about 235.
- B.F. reported that they are continuing to work on internal restructuring. They are fully up and running with a youth level of service inventory which is the risk needs assessment they are using. B.F. also reported the County also received funding through PCCD for \$300,000 for an evening reporting center. It is an alternative to detention. In the next two months a new screening instrument will be rolled out, a detention risk assessment. This is a requirement if you were awarded funding. They are still searching for site for the evening reporting center.

A discussion held regarding ICSP funding and submission of the amended expenditure report. A meeting will be scheduled with J.C.S., K.A., J.R., and D.G. to discuss further how Lehigh would like to utilize the funds prior to the end of the fiscal year. J.C.S. will email A.L. and try to get a call with her to review our thought and questions.

Next Meeting Dates: Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, June 28, 2010, 8:30 a.m., Room 201

IFSP Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, May 14, 2010; 10:00 a.m., Room 123

Please visit out website at www.lehighcounty.org