

**COMMUNITY INTERVENTION PARTNERSHIP
NORTH FRANKLIN ED CENTER, MALONE, NY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016**

- PRESENT:** Co-Chair Stephen Shafer, District Superintendent, FEH BOCES
Co-Chair Michele Mulverhill, Commissioner, Franklin County DSS
Donna Andre', Superintendent, Brushton-Moira Central School
Julie Austin-Kormanyos, Principal, FEH BOCES
Alida Bunk, Berkshire Farm
Ginger Carriero, Alice Hyde Medical Center
Cheryl Felt, Deputy Superintendent, FEH BOCES
Candy Gadway, Franklin County Department of Social Services
Jerry Griffin, Supt. of Schools, Malone CSD
Joseph Keegan, North Country Community College
Joelle Lamica, Catholic Charities/United Way
Alex Logie, Adirondack Arc
Denise Luka, Principal, F-E-H BOCES
Julie Marshall, University of Vermont Health Network/Alice Hyde Med. Center
Tracy Merrick, Franklin County Department of Social Services
Amy O'Connor, Alice Hyde Medical Center
Brandon Pelkey, Principal, Malone CSD
Brian Post, Upward Bound
Lee Rivers, Community Connections of Franklin County
Erica Soper, Associate Director, JCEO
Erin Streiff, Director, Franklin County Public Health
Alan Tessier, Supt., St. Regis Falls CSD
Christine Venery, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Mental Health Services
- CALL TO ORDER:** Co-Chair Stephen Shafer, District Superintendent Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, called the meeting to order at 9:35 A.M.
- WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:** Mr. Shafer welcomed the members. The members present introduced themselves.
- APPROVAL OF APRIL 29, 2015 MEETING MINUTES:** Mr. Shafer asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes of the April 29, 2016 meeting. Alan Tessier moved, seconded by Alex Logie to accept the minutes as presented. All approved, minutes accepted.
- FOSTER CARE MAPS DISTRICT OF ORIGIN/ DISTRICT OF PLACEMENT:** Michele Mulverhill presented a PowerPoint to review the status of Foster Care Placement in Franklin County. She pointed out to members the majority of placement is in the Malone and Brushton area. Placements outside of Franklin County tend to be placements with relatives or placements for therapeutic reasons. Michele said DSS tries hard to keep the children with family or relatives in the community and maintain them in their current school district. She showed the breakdown of district placement. Michele applauded Candy Gadway for working to provide foster care homes in the south end of the county. She shared information regarding 15 new foster care placements in the last two weeks, mainly due to drug abuse. Michele thanked the districts for working out transportation issues in order to maintain children in home school districts.

**PRESENTATION
ON UPWARD
BOUND:**

Brian Post presented an update on the Upward Bound program. He explained this is a college prep program for low income, college-bound students. They currently serve 209 students in three counties. The program is located at SUNY Plattsburgh, is the fourth largest in the country and the largest in New York State. They provide college visits, assistance in filling out college applications as well as their summer program held at the college in Plattsburgh. Brian said they had 180 students in the dorms last summer and offered over 40 courses. He explained college students acting as mentors, local high school teachers and college teachers participate. The program recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Brian thanked the participating districts for their support of the program.

**NORTHERN
BORDERS
ACADEMY
UPDATE:**

Julie Austin-Kormanyos and Tammy Hill shared an update on the Northern Borders Academy located at Franklin Academy in Malone. Julie explained the P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) program, which involves health science, human services and chemical dependency counseling. Three districts are participating this year, Brushton-Moira, Malone and Salmon River.

Julie shared information regarding the summer program recently held involving the Alice Hyde Medical Center, Citizen's Advocates and North Country Community College. She explained projects and experiences the students took part in. The students were exposed to various career possibilities, got to know each other and were introduced to the college environment. Julie shared photos of students in the summer program. She extended an invitation to everyone to visit the program at Franklin Academy.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT
RESPONSIBILITY
MENTAL HEALTH
TRAINING:**

Cheryl Felt explained under the 2016 State Budget Law 2801-a, school districts are required to prepare staff for emergency plans in mental health training. Many districts were already working on this, now they are required to provide staff with mental health training. Staff are trained to look for signs of mental health crisis. Ms. Felt advised administrators to make sure staff is aware of this new legislation and that they know how to handle situations and make referrals.

**COMMUNITY
CONNECTIONS:**

Lee Rivers introduced Community Connections of Franklin County to the group. He explained it is a peer run, peer driven recovery center, building bonds with individuals who share like experiences. The program has been around since 1995 and was known as the Mental Health Program originally. The name was changed to Community Connections of Franklin County and became more successful with the name change. Lee shared many services provided by Community Connections including advocacy for families and individuals, referrals, assistance for parents with CSE meetings, assistance with procurement of benefits, housing, employment, transportation, suicide prevention training, life and social skills training, PTSD support groups and adult LGBT support groups. Lee said Community Connections is located at 7 Pearl Street in Malone and can be reached by calling 521-3507.

**NEW VISION
CODING AND
GAMING:**

Adam Barse provided a brief overview of the coding and gaming program. He explained the purpose of the program is to provide training in software coding but the gaming aspects makes the program fun for the students. They are learning a skill that can be used in any field of employment. Currently there are eight students enrolled. These students come from both ends of the county and are taught via video conference setup. On different days, Adam is in Malone at the North Franklin Educational Center and the teaching assistant is in Saranac Lake at the Adirondack Educational Center. The staff rotate days in each location. The program partners with two colleges, Canton SUNY and North Country Community College.

Mr. Shafer explained all of the New Vision and CTE programs have articulation agreements with colleges. Some programs have bridge credit whereby students are earning college credits while attending the BOCES program.

Jerry Griffin suggested beginning recruiting for next year's program now. Adam should visit the districts to introduce the program to the juniors, as class schedules for next year are being developed at this time.

**ALICE HYDE
MERGER WITH
UVM:**

Amy O'Connor and Ginger Carriero explained the recent merger with the University of Vermont Medical Center. She said it was not so much a merger as a partnership, the Alice Hyde Medical Center is still a standalone hospital. Amy explained her role with the hospital and the advantages of partnering with UVM. She stated Malone now has the same services that Burlington has only on a smaller scale.

Ginger Carriero explained her role with the Alice Hyde Medical Center. Ginger attended today to learn better ways to collaborate with community services. She shared initiatives the hospital has been working on to provide services to their patients. She is excited to see the opportunity to work with county service providers and schools to offer avenues of service for people who need transportation, housing, literacy, diet counseling, mental health services, family counseling and other assistance.

Julie Marshall, Chief Nursing Officer at the hospital, feels there are many programs that could be used to keep patients out of the Emergency Room and support them in their homes. She shared news regarding the creation of a crisis stabilization unit in the old nursing home at the hospital. This will contain inpatient beds and mental health beds. The hospital is working with Citizens Advocates to launch this program.

**NATIONAL
ADOPTION
MONTH:**

Candy Gadway was excited to announce November is National Adoption month. She hopes to raise awareness of children in foster care waiting for families. Candy shared that most of these children have experienced emotional or physical trauma prior to entering foster homes. She explained the process to become an adoptive family. Candy said this is an opportunity to make a huge difference in a child's life. She would be willing to attend any function to share information regarding the adoption process.

**OPEN
FORUM/SHARING
INFORMATION
FOR UPCOMING
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
ACTIVITIES:**

Alex Logie, Adirondack Arc, shared news of the closing of the early intervention program. This program, which had been serving 30 families currently, had been running in the red for several years and had to be shut down. Alex said the Adirondack Arc has proposed more children's homes and has not been successful, however, they will continue trying. He shared news of success in funding for four new aging-out homes. Anyone with children who are aging out of the foster care program can contact Alex.

Erin Streiff, Director, Franklin County Public Health, said the Alice Hyde Medical Center is exploring options to continue the early intervention services. Healthy Families of Clinton County now have three full-time staff members to provide services for pregnant women and children with the same curriculum of growing healthy children.

Erica Soper, Associate Director, JCEO, shared Head Start is funded for home visits to get services needed to teach parenting skills. They receive referrals from Catholic Charities and DSS or they can be reached at 483-7022. They will have a meeting regarding Prenatal Population Services on November 16, 2016 at Noon at the 19 Webster Street Office.

Joelle Lamica, Catholic Charities, stated they work with the same population. They are excited to be coordinating services. They are creating a pamphlet of available services that can be distributed at hospitals and OBGYN offices. Their case managers are currently averaging 22-25 cases each. A lot of referrals are opioid and substance abuse issues. Joelle discussed the result of substance abuse on a developing fetus. Catholic Charities recently purchased curriculum, a desk guide to show mothers the impact of drug use on the fetus. Joelle said 211 is a service funded by United Way to direct people to services in the community.

Christine Venerly, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Mental Health Services, shared news of mental health services training on December 14th and 15th. She reported the Office of Mental Health awarded funds for screening of Head Start and Pre K children. Also, they will work screening young adults for suicide prevention and promote good mental health. Christine reported on an Indian Health Services Grant with the same goals, suicide prevention and mental health.

**DATE AND
LOCATION FOR
NEXT MEETING:**

The date and location for the next meeting is April 12, 2017 at the North Franklin Educational Center in Malone. Agenda items can be sent to Michele Mulverhill or Stephen Shafer. Mr. Shafer suggested presentations regarding opioid addiction in our community.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES