

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of September 11, 2012.

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Diane Candido, Alan Chapin, Paul Geer, Gary Johnson, MaryLou Kecko, Donna Nunno and Sue Stango.

Absent: Rev. Deutzman

Also Present: Lisa Diamond-Graham, Melissa Dubiel, Mindy Natale and Christie Roache.

Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Minutes

A motion was made by Candido, seconded by Chapin to accept the minutes of the July meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Staff Report

Mindy and Christie were present to review their roles and the services provided through Youth and Family Services.

Mindy is the Clinical Coordinator and she stated that her role is to make sure the community is aware of the therapy services available; behavior, divorce, grief and school related issues. There is family and parenting therapy. There is the in school satellite program. There is no fee for service in the schools. This program is designed based on the schools needs; anger management, bullying, family, etc. Mindy also recruits staff interns and supervises the clinical staff. There are currently 15 clinical staff with 5 interns and graduates pending licensure. Mindy provides direct care services as well. Staff also works on programs with the Boys and Girls Club, the Police Department and the Fire Department. No one is denied services for lack of pay. Lisa stated that staff also provides assessments and referrals; schools call with specific cases/needs. The State Department of Education grant mandates that family therapy is provided. Therefore, if therapy is cut; grants are lost as would be youth services.

Christie is the Program Coordinator and she supervises the prevention based programs for Youth and Families. The Back Pack Program is coordinated with the Salvation Army. This year 389 backpacks were provided to kids. This is over 100 more than last year. Family Fun Night meets the first Thursday of the month and is for Middle School and Elementary School kids and is funded by the Enhancement Grant. The Mayor's Youth Award's 25th year is coming up. Christie works with schools to develop programs. She is currently working with The Academy on a Life Management Program. The Improvisation Group works with difficult issues with teens. She also works with community resources. Lisa reported that this past weekend on Saturday and Sunday

Mindy and Christie were at the Fairfield Fire Academy for the Fire Starters Program and are very involved in the Milford Prevention Council. The Community Conversation will take place on 9/27/12 and Mindy will be a facilitator. Mindy stated that she sees kids benefit from multiple programs as they age and get support throughout.

Lisa's Report

Youth and Family Services had 173 clients in July and 163 clients in August in therapy and 433 individuals in July and 791 individuals in August participated in the prevention based programs.

Human Services had 144 clients in July and 152 clients in August that received case management services. 224 people applied for the rent rebate program in July and 72 applied in August. 249 people received the senior farmers' market vouchers. 88 clients received food referrals.

All of the schools are being met with to set up clinical services. Lisa stated that she is trying to update board members via email and asked if this was helpful. All felt that it was.

The Energy Program begins on September 17th; there are 70 oil customers signed up already. Appointments for those that use utility companies will begin in November. Lisa reviewed a case where the staff assisted a homeless family with multiple referrals and services.

A thank you letter was received from the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation regarding the donation.

A thank you letter was received from the Principal of Calf Pen Meadow regarding the back pack program. Lisa thanked all of the board members that came to help with the back packs.

4. Committee Reports

None.

5. Fiscal Report

The financial report was reviewed and a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Kecko to accept the report as presented.

6. Old Business

The comparative wage report was distributed and reviewed. This compared salaries from the city and the state.

The reserve account was reviewed and a discussion followed regarding line items and uses for such.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit,

MaryLou Kecko, Recording Secretary