



**Best Start Network
 Meeting Minutes
 January 8, 2015
 10:30am until 11:30am.
 OEYC: Brant**

Present: Melodie Spencer, Maria Timpener, Rita Stratford, Jane Angus, Adele Gawley, Barb Mitchell, Anca Gaston, Christina Rajsic, Karen Calligan, Connie McCallister, Marie Jose Baril, Luisa Pappert, Paula Thomlison, Marg Barr, Deanna Searle, Cathy Medway (recorder)

Regrets: Jo Atanas, Kim Romano, Kathy Dickens, Sherry Lewis, Brenda Blancher

	Agenda Item	Discussion/Decision	Action
1.0	Success story –	<p>Jane Angus reports that through a collaborative Trillium grant with Woodview as well as Parents for Children’s Mental Health, Contact Brant will be offering a Family Support program over the next 2 years to families waiting for children’s mental health services. This further enhances our service coordination supports to families and the community. The Family Support Providers (FSP) will work with families waiting for Woodview Counselling/Therapy services to ensure that they are linked to community resources and services and that they are being supported and have the tools and strategies they need as a family to decrease the strain on the family and the child/youth while they wait for services. We will be gathering data on the outcomes of this service and hope to see that families are more prepared when they enter treatment services and thus will require briefer services, thus decreasing the wait lists. We also hope that some families may not require clinical services following FSP</p>	

		<p>supports.</p> <p>The role of Family Support Provider will be to: Assist families in identifying strengths and prioritizing needs Assist in locating and accessing community programs and resources.</p> <p>Serve as a liaison and help build collaborative relationships between services and families.</p> <p>Assist families in developing strategies to communicate effectively with services and service providers. Support families in navigating various child and youth systems and services (e.g., mental health, education, health, YJ, child welfare) and help connect adult family members to services for themselves</p> <p>Provide support and information to other service providers.</p> <p>We had a very good response to our job posting, searching for a family member with lived experience as the primary caregiver of a child or youth with emotional or behavioural challenges. Staff will be receiving training developed in Ontario by Kinark Child and Family Services with Parents for Children's Mental Health. Brant is the first to implement this model targeting those waiting for services. We will be collecting data over this 2 year project and will be sharing this with stakeholders.</p> <p>I am pleased to introduce Krista Emmerson and Craig Tustin who were the successful candidates for the FSP position; they will be sharing this full-time equivalent position.</p>	
--	--	--	--

		<p>As Krista and Craig work collaboratively with our community partners and families, we appreciate feedback into this new service. If you have any questions, or would like a more informative presentation on this service, please don't hesitate to contact me. Contact Brant and our collaborative partners in this Trillium project, Woodview and PCMH, will also be asking for representatives for a Family Support Provider Steering Committee which will meet quarterly over the next 2 years to review progress and evaluation reports. Your feedback and input into this model of service is needed in considering the impact and what is needed in Brant to further family-centered services and supports!</p>	
2.0	<p>Welcome/Declaration of Conflict of Interest / Review of Meeting Notes</p> <p>Call to Order, Additions to the Agenda</p> <p>Approve Minutes of November 6, 2014</p>	<p>Melodie Spencer welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	<p>THE MINUTES OF THE November 6, 2014 meeting was approved</p> <p>Moved by Paula Thomlison</p> <p>Seconded by Maria Timpener</p> <p>Carried</p>
3.0	<p>Business arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>3.1 <u>Review and Discuss:</u> James LeClair Survey – Adele Gauley</p>	<p>Brantford Child Care Health Study was a project of community Health Study through Laurier University. Adele reports there was a very low response rate for the survey by James LeClair so therefore the survey was deemed defunct.</p>	

		<p>In future as the Brant County Health Unit has data through KPS with good response, Anca, as Data Analysis Coordinator, may act as a resource to take knowledge and information to front line agencies. The Best Start Network will continue to stay connected for future information through Adele.</p> <p>Karen Calligan gave a brief update on Bill 10 which has now reached Royal Assent. Now Ministry staff is able to begin working on the regulations which will repeal the Day Nurseries Act. Parliamentary approval is expected near the Fall of 2015.</p> <p>Karen shared that the ministry will be looking for public consultation and response.</p> <p>Once passed the new child care and early years act, will require school boards to survey all parents of children enrolled in their schools up to age 12 to determine the demand for before and after school programs. If there is a demand for this program the school board would be required under the legislation to either directly operate the program or enter into an agreement with a third party operator to provide this service on behalf of the school board.</p> <p>Formal child care is being promoted with the strategy focused on the child's well-being, learning and development.</p> <p>It was suggested by network members that Bill 10. could be a feature article for the Spring Edition of the Best Start magazine.</p> <p>Wage Enhancement for program staff working in licensed child care programs is still moving forward.</p> <p>There was discussion to use social media, twitter for example to get information out to community about quality child care and early years programs.. Adele indicated she can assist with this. Melodie and Kim will discuss further.</p> <p>Karen offered to contact</p>	<p>Action: Cathy to bring forward for discussion at the next editorial committee meeting.</p>
--	--	---	---

	<p>Best Start Updates</p> <p>4.0 4.1 <u>Service Update: Receive Report:</u></p> <p>4.2 <u>Subcommittee Reports: Receive Information:</u> Aboriginal Advisory, SIC Committee, Best Start Magazine, Best Start Parent Fair, Child Care Advisory Committee, Recruitment and Retention Committee</p>	<p>Dr. Jean Clinton to ask her to contribute an article for the Best Start Magazine I. Kim will discuss with program staff at Beryl Angus to do an article on How does Learning Happen and using reflective practice as their program is transitioning forward.</p> <p>Kim is not here today. No new reports at this time.</p> <p>Report from SIC Committee sent out electronically to BSN membership with a recommendation to update TOR with Brant Family and Children's Services (formerly CAS).</p> <p>Best Start Magazine Committee is calling for articles from BSN agencies. If interested please contact Cathy ASAP at cmedway@brantford.ca and she will send you the guidelines for submission. Ads and article submissions are due January 16th.</p> <p>Recruitment and Retention Committee hosting a job fair January 29 from five to seven in the evening at the OEYC.</p> <p>CCAC has been re-started by linking to the end of Supervisor's Network. Membership is open right now. They will work on matters relevant to child care including possible responses to the changes to DNA as a result of Bill 10.</p> <p>Parent Fair Committee has received a donation of \$1760 from Contact Brant to the Best Start Network to help cover the cost of the rental surface.</p>	
--	---	--	--

5.0	<p>New Business</p> <p>5.1 <u>Discussion:</u> Working groups for funding requests.</p>	<p>No other reports at this time.</p> <p>All funding requests come to Kim and Melodie. They would like to form a small committee to review the requests to make sure they meet the TOR and mandates of the best start network. Barb Mitchell, Paula Thomlison and Luisa have expressed an interest. Thank you.</p> <p>Best Start Magazine has had 10 responses to the reader survey on the outside cover. Everyone is asked to promote the survey when giving the magazine out.</p> <p>The survey deadline will be extended and the ad repeated for the next edition coming out in April. The survey needs to be promoted at the Parent Fair.</p> <p>Barb Mitchell announced the new school calendars are out and distributed them among the group. This year she has included stickers. Barb would appreciate any feedback.</p> <p>Paula shared a newsletter from the library and shared that the Main Library has been named Downtown Champion for 2014. Congratulations to Paula and her team.</p>	
6.	<p>Adjournment & Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>6.1 Success Story</p> <p>6.2 Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next Meeting Date February 5, 2015.</p>	
