



Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 22, 2019

Location: 63500 Byesville Road – Cambridge, Ohio

Present: *Appointed County Prevention Specialists* – David Boyer (Muskingum), Candy Emmert (Muskingum), Jennifer Burns (Carroll), Kate Offenberger (Carroll), Robin Bowdish (Tuscarawas), Debra Knight (Harrison), Joshawa Jones (Tuscarawas) *OCTF Staff* – Nicole Sillaman, Maguire Sanders *Ohio University Staff* – Linda Holmstrand and Aimee Collins

Absent: *Appointed County Prevention Specialists* – Leane Rohr (Coshocton), Nicole Caldwell (Guernsey), Steven Foreman (Muskingum), Jane Kalonick (Belmont), Kathy King (Belmont),

Welcome and Introductions: David Boyer, Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting at 9:18 a.m. A quorum was present at the meeting. A special welcome to Joshawa Jones, newly appointed county prevention specialist from Tuscarawas County.

Review/approval of minutes: Minutes from the April 2019 Council meetings were distributed. A motion (Bowdish/Emmert) was made to approve minutes from April 2019 as written. PASSED

Coordinator Updates: Since the last meeting there has been one council reappointment for a 2nd term, C. Emmert (Muskingum), and one appointment for a 1st term, J. Jones (Tuscarawas). Currently, the Council has the following county commissioner appointed vacancies: Coshocton (1), Guernsey (1), Harrison (1), Jefferson (2), Monroe (2), Noble (2). Linda asked members to invite someone to the next meeting or suggest someone for Linda to invite. She is also available to meet or talk with potential council members. There will be several more vacancies in March 2020 due to term limits. Included in packets was an updated council directory that is also available on the OCTF website. The website has a variety of council related items and hosts the awareness campaign, including a lot of resources.

Mileage reimbursement is available for council members for travel to council meetings. Please contact Linda for instructions on seeking reimbursement.

OCTF Statewide Updates: Nicole introduced Maggie Saunders, hired end of April to be a Program Manager. She worked as data director for YMCA, has preschool teacher experience, and is excited to be working for OCTF. The OCTF Board is in flux. While they had six months at capacity, they are currently looking to fill five vacancies of 15. Two had their term limits and three are due to moves or termed out.

Nicole shared that OCTF received 1 million TANF earmark for biennium. They are working through the eligibility pieces to assure that the funding is spent appropriately. OCTF revenue has decreased through the years and the OCTF federal grant has also decreased by \$300,000 in last few years. The TANF funding will maintain current funding, not increase it. TANF funding will not be directed to the Eastern region.



When looking at the OCTF budget, the OCTF board cut the funding to April Prevention Month by about 40% which will not make it feasible to provide funding to the regions and for statewide activities. All coordination and execution of April Prevention month will occur by OCTF through a statewide contract. All 2019 materials/PSAs will be used in April 2020. There will be a statewide steering committee to determine best ways to distribute messaging in communities. Council member will not be distributing materials locally. The Eastern Council expressed concern that the funding will go to Cincinnati, Columbus, and Cleveland because this is where the population resides, and "you get more bang for the buck". Nicole said the vendor is to serve the entire state and cannot do anything without approval of staff.

OCTF and the coordinating entities are involved in an initiative to standardize collection and reporting of program participant demographics and outcomes. OCTF is hoping that the regionalization will lead to improved collection of data and reporting through a data dashboard. The dashboard will include population-level ACEs, Protective Factors Survey, and other secondary data measures. Linda will be able to pull the data for quarterly reports. Vendors will be inputting through online system. This year is the transition year and next year it will be a requirement.

SFY 19 Strategy – Final Update

Linda distributed the yearly summary report submitted to OCTF this month. The report provides an overview of the strategies, vendors, services implemented, participant demographics and outcomes as well as overall challenges and barriers. Of the \$356,066.75 strategy allocation to the region for SFY19, about \$85,500.00 was unspent because vendors could not be identified to provide mentoring services. At least three potential service providers were conflicted out of providing mentoring in the region, about \$50,000 allocated to vendors was not invoiced, and more than half of this was as a result of staff turnover by one vendor. Linda shared a binder of quarterly reports/final reports submitted by each vendor. Those reports are available to interested council members.

SFY 20 Prevention Plan Strategies, Vendors and Contracting Update, RFP Update, and Discussion

Linda provided a table of strategies, funding award, status of funding, and items to guide the discussion.

Strategy 1 – Caregiver/parent education to promote high quality care and education early in life

- SFY20 allocation of \$48,500. At the councils direction an RFP was issued seeking providers in counties without mentoring services. A binder containing the RFP was shared with council. It is the same materials that were shared electronically and also available through OU Procurement. The RFP is open until September 18. Priority counties are Belmont, Coshocton, Monroe, and Noble, followed by Harrison and Jefferson.
- Council are invited to serve on the proposal review committee and are should let Linda know of their interest.
- Motion (Offenberger/Emmert) to move up to \$60,001 from Strategy 2 mentoring to Strategy 1. PASSED
- Motion (Knight/Bowdish) to allow OU and OCTF to select vendors based on the RFP review team recommendations. PASSED
-



- Linda suggested the Prevention Plan workgroup convene this fall to review and revise this strategy to reflect funding requirements and progress made during the past two years.

Strategy 2 – Mentoring services

- Coshocton Community Center does not have the capacity to do mentoring this year and has declined funding.
- Brightway Center was given planning funding last year. Linda provided them a draft scope of work for mentoring implementation in Jefferson (CAMP Distance Model on Saturdays) and Harrison County (CAMP model to be determined.) They have been slow to respond to communications to confirm they are implementing in SFY 2020. Council suggested Linda email them and giving ten business days to confirm their interest in providing services this fiscal year.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of both East Central Ohio and Zanesville have agreed to deliverables and their contracts are being developed by Ohio University.
- Amount of funding with no vendor identified is \$30,001
- \$30,000 is still in negotiation with Brightway, Inc.

Strategy 3 – Awareness Campaign

All products have been completed toward the awareness campaign. Linda passed around flyers, PowerPoint slides, and media ads developed for the campaign. Media buys through the end of this calendar year have been secured. The allocation for this fiscal year is \$20,000. Nicole shared other regions have done do kickoff events, created standup banners to take to different events in the region, and some printings. Suggestions today by the Council included: banners, some local advertising, put materials on thumb drives to give them videos to plug into TV, bookmarks (perhaps color-in), things like post-it notes instead of posters, and refrigerator magnets. No interest in pull up campaign banner or vinyl banner. Linda will see about ordering items for the council and local communities to distribute.

Linda encouraged council members to share campaign eblasts directly with others that may be interested in receiving them or let Linda know of email addresses to add to the distribution list. All are encouraged to “Like” the campaign on Facebook, share posts, and follow the campaign on Twitter. If anyone has trainings or other events they want advertised, let Linda know and she can put them on Facebook.

Parent Leadership The current plan is to do 2-3 local focus groups as this has yielded helpful information related to service needs in other regions. Concern shared by council on using people already in services, and they suggest doing the focus groups with PTOs and offer a donation to the group if they pull in participants. Another suggestion was to access other agencies’ convening groups. The council has funding to provide a stipend for parent participants. Council does not have a specific age group to target as the strategies cover all ages of children. Ideas for questions: refer to RFP, barriers to participating in services, curious if they have heard of campaign, what social media outlets do they use? Suggestion to try and have focus groups in counties where services are limited and those without council members.

Outreach funding is to be used solely to use vendors. Can use to help vendors get participants into the programs. Once contracts are in place Linda will work with vendors to assist in recruitment of participants.



Ohio Children's Trust Fund

Ohio's Prevent Child Abuse America Chapter

Council Wrap-Up and Dismissal Concern expressed by Council about quorum and appointments. Six council members are going off in the spring. Term limits and quorum is something the OCTF staff and board are concerned about and are discussing. For now, anyone with ideas for recruiting new members should contact Linda.

David and Linda thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. The next Council meeting is October 31st at 9:15 a.m. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.