

Systems of Hope
Houston Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
Monthly meeting

October 28, 2010

Present: Taren Bates, Karen Bates, Bonnie Cord, Vivian Parks, Alma Bell, Randy Joiner, Tammy Foster, Julie Bourne, Kim Hamilton, Eileene Chappelle and Barbara Sewell.

Meeting called to order at 7:19pm

Eileene announced that the HFOFCMH governing board was very happy to see PEG join the Houston Federation of Families Chapter. Eileene stated the following plans for this group have been discussed with the HFOFCMH board and will be implemented starting in our next meetings.

Training:

- Family Driven Care
- Parent Empowerment
- Special Education Law

Book Club:

The Leadership Equation

Strategies for Individuals Who Are Champions for Children, Youth, and Families
Edited by Gary M. Blau, Ph.D., & Phyllis R. Magrab, Ph.D.

Meetings:

Monthly meetings will continue. There will be work done during the month and everyone is encouraged to let Barbara know what they would like to work on so she can get them involved.

There was discussion of there should be a second meeting each month for training. We will continue to talk more about this after the holiday season. In January 2011 it will be addressed again.

Barbara reported the HFOFCMH board is currently working on the Parent Connector program, reviewing their by-laws and getting ready to write policy and procedures. Barbara stated that the board is also working on getting a website up and running.

Barbara reported that HFOFCMH will soon begin resiliency support groups. These groups are similar to parent empowerment but also give family members the skills needed for self management in the family. The groups will help family members learn

social skills and build social networks. Ohio FOF has a video on their website with family members talking about resiliency. Eileene will email the link to everyone.

Barbara and Eilleene reported that once the Parent Connectors was up and running, they believed that care teams could make referrals to HFOFCMH of families who are graduating from SOH. This would be additional and ongoing support for the families. Parent Connectors would have weekly calls with family members and help them find the right type of support group in their community.

Barbara also stated that HFOFCMH plan to take the Family Driven Care training out to the Sunnyside and Kashmere Family Enrichment Meetings. It's important for family members to be empowered and know that they are equal partners to providers.

Barbara gave out volunteer applications to everyone and asked them to be completed and returned to her. The following areas have been identified by HFOFCMH governing board on areas to be addressed now.

- Education- working with the schools
- Administration- policy and procedure writing, etc.
- Financial- budgeting, looking for grants, etc.
- Program- Parent Connectors, Resiliency groups, etc.
- Recruiting- bringing more families in to reach out and empower others.

Bonnie asked Barbara if HFOFCMH had liability insurance. Barbara stated that they are in the process of getting a policy for the board members to have insurance. They are looking for funding to purchase liability insurance for the chapter as a whole.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Next Meetings:

November 18th will be a telephone conference call 6:30pm-8:30pm

December 16th – 6:30pm-8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Foster, Scribe