

HFFCMH Meeting

2/24/11

Present: Julie Bourne, Barbara Sewell, Bonnie Cord, Eileene Chappell, Roger Chappell and Randy Joiner

Barbara called the meeting to order at 6:48pm

Minutes from the January 2011 HFFCMH meeting were reviewed. Errors to the minutes were noted and a copy will be given to Tammy for corrections to be made. Once all corrections have been made an updated copy will be sent for further review. Eileene made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted corrections; Julie seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Julie reported that she cannot open any documents that SOH sends that are in Outlook 2007. A request was made to send out things that can be opened in Outlook 2003. Randy will discuss this issue with Tammy and see if SOH can comply.

Barbara discussed the recent Wraparound Conference she attended in Coco Beach Florida. The conference was presented by the Brevard Family Partnership and she attended sessions on leadership, sustainability and wraparound.

The need for leaders in Harris County to have a paradigm shift and how family voice might effect change that will benefit families was discussed. The topic of this discussion involved issues with systems, leadership and access to families on how to empower themselves while working with systems. A comment was made that the culture and attitudes of the agencies will only change if the change comes from the top down. Additionally, Family Voice needs to speak up for families and assist. The need for volunteers in family organizations was also a topic that was discussed along with collaboration among different family organizations. Specifically regarding collaboration and not competing for the same pool of volunteers.

Bonnie provided handouts that are helpful in advocating about how Texas can and should look at bringing more services to families without additional cost to the Legislature or agencies. The group also discussed how the family voice can push for these changes and keep all efforts strength based.

HFFCMH (Houston Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health) has been invited to participate in a DFPS (Department of Family and Protective Services) function on cultural awareness. The event will take place on March 10, 2011. Julie and Eileene will man the booth for this event and represent HFFCMH. SOH has also received and accepted an invitation to participate.

Discussion on how HFFCMH will fill SOH Governing Board seats and alternate seats was discussed. Roger Chappelle and Glenda Obot will be alternates along with Alma Bell. Barbara will send a letter to Alma Montejano informing her that she is being removed as a SOH Governing Board member. The reason for her removal is related to the SOH Bylaws pertaining to the number of missed SOH Governing

Board meetings. Rebecca Johansson has spoken with Chereasa Nealey and informed that she too will be removed from the board for the same reason if she misses one more meeting. Chereasa committed to attend the March meeting.

Barbara is working with a church in the Sunnyside Community that will be open to mentoring groups. The pastor is planning to start a mentoring group for males. He is excited about the program and thanked HFFCMH for their work in the community.

Movement on the strategic plan has been slow as Barbara and others have been so busy assisting families in need. Calls and emails to HFFCMH requesting assistance have increased quite a bit.

A HFFCMH book club will begin meeting on March 10, 2011 from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. The meeting will take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Youth Services Center. SOH will secure the room for these meetings.

The Road to Family Driven Care training that was tentatively scheduled for March has been postponed. HFFCMH will look at April dates to proceed with this training.

Barbara asked for a volunteer for manage the "phone tree" for HFFCMH. This person would be responsible for building the tree with current locating information and keep it updated. The proposal is that when Barbara calls or emails Julie then Julie would put the phone tree into motion to get the word out to ALL members. Randy updated the group that SAMHSA funding has seven months remaining in. As previously reported TRIAD has created three positions to conduct wraparound in the JP courts. The jobs have been posted and interviews were conducted. TRIAD hired Larry as the supervisor and Cherease and Vermilia as the care coordinators. SOH is currently working on a plan to provide essential positions as required in the Cooperative Agreement. More will be reported on this topic as plans are made.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.