

# **PEG**

## **Parent Empowerment Group**

### **Face-To-Face Meeting**

**August 26, 2010 6:30-8:30 pm**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Alma Bell, Julie Bourne, Bonnie Cord, Barbara Sewell, Eileene Chappelle, Roger Chappelle, Karen Bates, Kim Williams (phone), Tammy Foster and Randy Joiner

Bonnie called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

#### **Minutes Approval**

Bonnie moved that the minutes of June 24, 2010 to be approved with minor corrections. Julie seconded the motion. Barbara stated that the minutes incorrectly stated that PEG had decided to become part of Houston Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (HFFCMH) at the end of the SAMHSA grant in 2011. Barbara's recollection was that PEG did not decide to wait until the end of the grant to become part of HFFCMH. The motion passed by a majority, with Barbara dissenting.

#### **Family Enrichment Time**

Julie met with the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) about attending the monthly Family Enrichment Time (FET) to work with other youth. YAC decided they would have to vote on the issue and will get back with Julie at a later date.

The Care Teams surveyed the families served to identify what the barriers were to more families attending FET. Responses and possible solutions were briefly discussed. The FET subcommittee will get together to address each response and report back to PEG with recommendations.

#### **Family Primer Subcommittee**

Bonnie reported that the Family Primer Subcommittee will not meet again until after the Sustainability Subcommittee gets farther along on working out the future structure of PEG. That work may affect some of the revisions needed for the Family Primer. In addition, many of the same people are on both subcommittees and it was decided to concentrate on the sustainability subcommittee work first.

#### **Sustainability Subcommittee**

Bonnie reported that the Sustainability Subcommittee has decided that its next task is to work on bylaws. The subcommittee began by trying to make revisions to the HFFCMH bylaws, which would allow PEG to comfortably join HFFCMH. However, that turned out to be too complex and controversial to tackle all at once. Accordingly, the subcommittee decided to break the work into smaller steps. First, the subcommittee will work on creating PEG bylaws. This will help PEG decide how it wants to organize itself. Then the subcommittee will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which

will address conflicts between HCC bylaws and PEG bylaws. If approved by the entire PEG group, that will be presented to the HFF Board to help negotiate a legal joining of PEG and HFF. Upon completion of negotiations, the HFFCMH bylaws would be revised to conform to the agreement.

### **Conferences**

Tammy announced that PEG has 5 slots for the University of Houston Downtown, “Strengthening Families Conference” which will be in September. The following PEG members will be attending: Barbara, Julie, Alma Bell, Eileene and Bonnie.

Due to the budget cuts for year 6 of the grant, we may not be able to send any PEG members to the National Federation of Families Conference in November.

### **Leadership Equation**

Bonnie noted that she and Barbara have been reading *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. Bonnie briefly described the book to the group and said that she and Barbara thought it would be useful if we all read it together. Randy said we would be able to order books for the group.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that once we get the books we will decide how we will operate our “book club”. Suggestions included possibly reviewing a chapter before each PEG meeting, having a separate meeting and maybe some telephone conference calls.

We also discussed inviting the youth from the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) to join us in reading the book and participating in the book club. Members felt it would help us build our relationship with YAC members and help empower them in leadership skills.

Kim Williams will research and see if we would be able to get a discount on the books since we are a systems of care site.

### **Houston Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health**

Barbara reported on the activities of HFFCMH.

- HFFCMH will be working with Cherease on the Youth Move group. Since YAC has now become a Youth Move Chapter under HFFCMH, membership criteria, rules of operations, by-laws, etc. will have to be created.
- HFFCMH is an organized non-profit and moving forward with making community partnerships and providing services and consulting on family driven, youth guided and culturally appropriate services for children and families. Barbara announced that the group is available to PEG for consultation and or training if they are interested. Barbara stated that HFFCMH will continue with their current governing structure, whether or not PEG becomes a part of HFFCMH.

- HFFCMH is collaborating with Sunnyside to provide outreach and support groups in the community.
- It is partnering with faith-based groups to start support groups in churches.
- It continues to work on the development of Parent Connector, a peer-to-peer support program.
- HFFCMH needs to amend its by-laws, but, due to other priorities, the amendments have been put on hold for now.
- Barbara invited anyone PEG member who is interested to join HFFCMH.
- Barbara stated that HFFCMH has a broader group to serve than SOH does; HFFCMH's service population is not limited in age or location. If PEG members know of anyone who does not fit the SOH eligibility criteria and needs resources, give them HFFCMH contact information.

Bonnie asked for a list of the training that HFFCMH can provide. Barbara and Eileene will use the PEG Matrix and see what trainings that PEG is interested in that they can provide. Barbara and Eileene will bring this information back to the group.

#### **Old Business**

Bonnie asked if anyone had anything important to share from SOH work teams. There are no reports at this time.

#### **New Business**

No new business at this time.

#### **Announcements**

Nancy Baird will be offering Management Training and has invited PEG members to attend. Bonnie has sent out the information to PEG members.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next PEG meeting will be a telephone conference on September 23, 2010

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Foster, Scribe

Date: August 28, 2010