

Collaborative Solutions Network

General Meeting

May 10, 2016; 9-10:30 am

Franziska Racker Centers

Introductions

What's the buzz around Tompkins County?

Fran Manzella from the Cancer Resource Center shared a program designed for families and individuals affected by cancer called, "CRC Cares About Kids". This program supports parents and families affected by cancer as well as children. Various events have been held to help families get together and focus on something other than cancer. They also meet one-on-one to support families with age appropriate language for telling their kids about cancer. Fran would like to seek feedback about this program and Jaydn suggested picking a time for a focus group and contacting the CSN.

Pat Vincent shared that there will be a carnival on Saturday 5/14/16 from 12-4 at the Mental Health Association. There will be music, food, activities, prizes and Dan the Snake Man.

Jake Parker Carver and David Bulkley have been doing ongoing Mental Health First Aid training and have been doing outreach as well. They are available to hold the training out in the community.

Tommy Miller shared information about "A Place to Stay" with Catholic Charities. This is housing for single females for up to three months. Liddy Barger is the coordinator (Service Navigator) and can be contacted for more information. Tommy is also continuing to run the "Fatherhood Initiative" at Catholic Charities and the Justice Center. Men and women can attend. Call Tommy with referrals.

Celia Clement mentioned that Tammy Pushlar has been offering mindfulness classes and will be contributing ideas for the CSN website.

Kindness Connects Event

This event will take place on Sunday 5/15/16 at the Ithaca Children's Garden from 1-4. It is a collaboration of multiple agencies and is being held in recognition of Mental Health Awareness month. We are trying to connect with each other by doing kind acts. There are Kindness Connects bracelets and the idea is to notice someone doing a kind act and give them a bracelet. We hope that that person will also "pay it forward" by giving the bracelet to someone else when they do something kind. Paper leaves have gone out to schools and agencies for people to document their acts of kindness. The leaves will be collected and displayed in some way. There is a Facebook page for the event:

<https://www.facebook.com/KindnessConnectsTompkinsCounty/>. The schools have really been getting

involved and around 7500 bracelets have been distributed. Sunday's event will have music, fun and family activities. A Kindness Tree will also be planted.

SOC RIMS Findings

The report shows that Tompkins County has made some gains. There have been no statistically significant changes, but Tompkins County has moved closer to readiness. We received high marks for collaboration and connection, but low marks for integration with state and county government. The report will be added to the minutes and the website.

Leadership HUB; Function and Role

The HUB has been around for a few years and arose to serve in an advisory role as opposed to a position of power. The HUB currently sets the agenda for CSN meetings, identifies issues in the community and problem solves around issues that arise. Is the function of the HUB still important? Should there be a different form of organization? Bringing in both more youth and families to the HUB was discussed. The group is hoping that some youth will come out of the Youth Leadership Initiative and into leadership roles. It was also noted that it can be difficult for families to come to the table given time and resource constraints. A Survey Monkey will be sent out to get feedback and nominations for the HUB.

Universal Care Team

The idea of Universal Care Team meetings came out of a desire to create predictable experiences for families meeting with providers. This has been piloted with Solution Focused Meetings and Jaydn has been working closely with Seneca County where they would like a Care Team model as well. The hope is to train individuals to be more Family Driven. There are 2 or 3 people at agencies in Seneca County doing this and Jaydn and Tommy have been doing this in Tompkins County. The information and forms for Solution Focused Meetings can be found on the CSN website. The application is now separate from the SPOA application.

Community Issues

The Possibilities program has encountered uninsured children with major mental health issues several times this year. Several members of the CSN indicated a need for the medical community to step forward. Serious health issues need to be addressed by doctors and hospitals. One solution would be to bring people to the table who could support this such as re-entry people and members of the healthcare community.

Judy Hoffmann mentioned the movie *Reject* and would like to bring it to schools and the greater community; specifically isolated communities.

The CSN can consider some topics to bring to a strategic planning session in the future.

Evaluation

Evaluation forms were completed by 14 attendees. All agreed or strongly agreed to both, "The meeting was well planned and organized" and "The meeting was well facilitated." 3 people gave a neutral response to, "There were clear action steps resulting from this meeting" and all others chose agree or strongly agree.