

## **Minutes**

### **Services Committee**

#### **Developmental Disabilities Resource Board of Clay County**

**July 7, 2015**

Pat Schoenrade called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Present at the meeting were James Gottstein, Bob Boydston, Pat Schoenrade and Brian O'Malley. Alan Naylor was excused.

Pat began the meeting by distributing a list of agencies and sites to be visited. Pat indicated that she had meetings already set for Della Lamb and Northland Early Education Center, Northland Therapeutic Riding Center, Immacolata and the TNC Group Home and ISL Apartments. Bob offered to visit the day program of Easter Seals Midwest. James offered to visit KC Rehab, Children's Center for the Visually Impaired and Alphapointe as they were near his area of work. Bob said he had visited Easter Seals and would also visit their early childhood program.

Pat then introduced the issue of transportation and noted again her meeting with Laurie Brewer was coming up. Pat said there was concern about the growing costs, too many unmet needs and how large or small the scope of the problem is. James asked why we are giving capital grants if agencies are not meeting the needs of the community. Brian expressed that he was ok with the Capital Grants as the agencies had needs and these grants had not been made available in many years. This led to a discussion of the role of the board and its current method of funding services rather than becoming a provider. James offered to discuss the issue with Jake Jacobson of Jackson County. Pat suggested that after her meeting with Laurie Brewer meeting with Anita Hartman was needed. This would help clarify the scope of needs before going further with any recommendations.

Next Pat asked the Committee to consider similar issues with the recreation program. It seems that, in the view of the case workers, Concerned Care gets high marks for their recreation program. Still, there are questions about the scope of these programs, the possible distinction between recreation and recreation as therapy, and the role recreation programs of other organizations not funded by DDRB, as well that of recreation programs in other funded organizations (for which DDRB does not fund recreation). The growing number of Autism cases alone merits a review of what is available and what could be made available.

This led once again to the role of the Board using its funds to help as many people as possible. James expressed his deep concern for the safety of persons with disabilities especially regards sexual abuse. James cited statistics that were very disturbing. Bob admitted he was not aware of this growth in the issue and asked what the Board could do to help. James noted there must be qualified people to conduct training programs for providers and consumers alike. It would have to be designed as user friendly approach for different ages, gender, level

of disability and background but should be considered. James offered to provide material regarding the studies he noted. The Committee expressed a desire to be more of a resource than just a funding source. Could the Board be a catalyst for training, Information/Referral, and more creative funding method. Bob raised the possibility of the Board sponsoring, or helping to sponsor, periodic talks/meetings/workshops of interest to developmentally disabled citizens and their family.

Pat said she appreciated all the conversation and wants it to continue toward concrete action and perhaps a training program or other available resource on safety is one possible community education topic as a place to start. Brian noted that CHS had hosted a training on sexual awareness by Planned Parenthood last summer so he could follow up on that with Anita.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O'Malley, Administrative Director