

JFS Planning Committee
February 25, 2020 9 am
JFS Community Room

Present: Bert Cene, James Ford, Rachel Ketterman, Chaney Nezbeth, Marcy Patton, Roger Sikorszky, Tracy Smith, Kim Steele, Eloise Traina, Steve Ullom, Anna Marie Vaughn, Cathy Webb, Luann Dunham, Naomi Wells

Meeting Called to Order/ Quorum Established

James welcomed members and called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

Eloise made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Bert seconded. Motion carried.

Adoption of Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda. The agenda was adopted as presented.

Introduction of Guests

Members welcomed and introduced themselves to new member, Chaney Nezbeth, who will be taking Vicki Ritterspach's place on the committee as the new Executive Director of The Way Station.

Reports

OhioMeansJobs Report – Bert reported that from July 1, 2019 to current, Mahoning County had 8,616 visits (a 4% increase in visits compared to the same period last year). Columbiana County had a 29% increase with 4,066 visits. This big increase was due to the ASPIRE GED program and unemployment compensation visits.

The **Mahoning County office is relocating** due to flood damage last May. The new space is very close to the current office but is about 300 feet higher so should not have any flooding issues in the future. They will be signing the new lease soon which is a flat-rate lease with very good terms. They are **planning on moving in early spring**, and the only cost to them will be the actual moving costs.

The number of individuals receiving job training has increased about 25% from last year. **Their high training numbers helped prove that their training program is effective and resulted in MCTA receiving a \$500,000 grant in discretionary funds for the program.**

Their **federal performance evaluation ended June 30, 2019. Out of 11 measures, they exceeded 8 and met 3.**

Tomorrow, the Department of Labor will be coming in to review their files.

CCDJFS TANF Program Reports – Luann reviewed the TANF program reports (see attached power point). Members appreciated receiving the reports ahead of time so they could review them.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Nominating Committee Report / Presentation of Slate of Officers – Rachel reported that Eloise had volunteered to be the Vice-chairperson for 2020; Roger will move up to Chairperson; and Rachel will continue as the Secretary. She presented the new Slate of Officers to members.

Election of Officers – Janes entertained a motion to approve the Slate of Officers. Eloise so moved. Bert seconded. **Motion carried. The new officers will assume their duties at the May meeting.**

Title XX Plan – Rachel explained that half of the Title XX Plan is for TANF programs, and Title XX is the sole source of financial support for the Adult Protective Services workers. She reviewed the Plan with members. ****see attached Plan.** James read the **Resolution of Support and passed it around for members' signatures.** Marcy made a motion to approve and sign the Resolution of Support for the Title XX Pan. Roger seconded. **Motion carried.**

Member Comments

Rachel announced that JFS has 2 levies which will be on the ballot on March 17 – the Senior Services levy and the Children Services levy. Both levies are renewals.

Naomi, who served as the Senior Services Levy Administrator for the last 4 years, was named the JFS Assistant Director at the end of December. Sherry Smith, the current foster parent recruiter, was recently selected to be the new Senior Services Supervisor.

Rachel stated that they desperately need the Children Services levy to pass. In 2019, they served 112 children. The gross cost of providing just room and board for those children was \$2,343,945.00 – this did not include any medical care, childcare services, or other expenses that frequently come up in caring for the kids. After the federal reimbursement, the net cost of caring for the kids was \$1,343,512.00. The Children Services levy generates \$1,118,889.00 which is a \$224,623.00 deficit.

They have signs they are asking community partners to put out, and they have a Facebook page.

Chaney announced one of the Way Station's newest initiatives – a more comprehensive job training program for people coming in their doors. They are expanding into the special needs community by partnering with special needs schools to help the students learn skills for various jobs. They are looking for private grants and donors.

Marcy reported that MHRS Board had its Recovery Summit last Friday in the JFS community room. It was very productive – people in recovery shared the needs they have been experiencing as they learn to recover. **MHRS continues to collaborate well with community partner agencies to try to meet the needs of those in recovery.**

They continue to offer K-12 prevention as they work with schools and make plans for prevention funding. Lori has been working closely with the schools.

March 27th will be their Faith-based Collaborative training, “It Starts with You – What You Can Do,” in the JFS community room. The **focus will be on how and where to make referrals.** There will be some role-playing and training on specific things to say.

They will hold a Crisis Intervention Team training at the end of April (also in the JFS community room).

Anna Marie reported that ESC has gone through its accreditation process again. They are expanding their summer youth program and continuing with OOD job trainings. 35 employers work with them, and ESC has its own retail store.

They are selling t-shirts (\$6 each) for Soldier Angels – they identify soldiers and their families in Columbiana County who need assistance.

Eloise asked Rachel to send out a brief analysis on each of the levies (Children Services and Senior Services) to members so they can share them with their staff and contacts to get the word out. FRC will be hosting an event in Salem all day on April 27th – **Dr. Ted Parran will be presenting a training on Trauma and Recovery.**

Steve shared that Family and Children First Council does have multi-system youth funds (\$8 million) which can be used to prevent kids from coming into care by offering services to them and to their families. Services include short-term residential treatment, purchasing service animals, and other various services. If members have situations like these, they can call Steve to apply for the families.

James reported that Legal Aid will be having an Open House in their Youngstown Office. He said that he has enjoyed being chairperson of the committee, and “passed the torch” on to Roger.

Roger made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

The next JFS Planning Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 9 am in the JFS Community Room.