

Madison County Shared Services Meeting
Madison County Public Library
September 28, 2016

Present: Candida Akins, Tonya Bell, CeCe Ellis, Donnell Davis, Valerie Gainous, Suzy Godfrey, Donna Hagan, Cindy Hutto, Merv Mattair, Ruth Moore, Camille Quick, Paula Roberts, Brigitte Robinson, Rebecca Severin, Samantha Tracy and Philip Wilkerson.

Agencies Represented: Healthy Families Seven Rivers, Community Awareness Committee, Big Bend Cares, Ounce of Prevention, Partnership for Strong Families, FDLRS/Gateway, Madison Youth Ranch, Healthy Start Coalition, Florida Department of Health Madison, Suwannee River Economic Council, 211 Big Bend/Help Me Grow, Disc Village, and North Florida Community College.

Tonya Bell opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Tonya called for approval of the minutes of the August meeting, Camille Quick motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Samantha Tracy, motion carried.

Samantha Tracy with Partnership for Strong Families announced they have a new Adoption Recruitment Specialist on Board, PFSF is the lead Child Welfare Agency for Circuits 3 & 8. The annual Wish Upon a Star Toy Drive will begin shortly, a flyer will follow. Samantha reported the Big Bend Travel Vouchers have been set up for clients. For more information contact 352-244-1626 or Samantha.tracy@pfsf.org.

Tonya Bell announced there will be a community event held at Four Freedoms Park on October 8th, there will be food and they hope to have FarmShare in attendance, flyer to follow. Tonya will be conducting women's health workshops in a couple of months for women 14 to 44, also she is available to help anyone with Florida Kid Care Insurance applications. For more information contact 850-253-5355 or tbell@healthstartjmt.org.

CeCe Ellis is the Child Find Specialist with FDLRS/Gateway and performs developmental screenings.

Donnell Davis is with the Community Awareness Committee in Madison, they put out a newsletter twice a month and will be having their 3rd annual banquet on October 29th at 6:00pm at the Senior Center, and cost is \$15.00. Donnell said they also provide an after school program in summer. For more information contact donnelldavis111@aol.com.

Camille Quick with Suwannee River Economic Council announced they continue to have funding for utilities and propane. Camille reminded everyone of the SHIPP program, classes will begin in October and that a representative from DCF is at their office to help with Food Stamp applications and other assistance. They are also giving out free budget planning books. For more information contact 850-973-6709 or srecmad1@comcast.net.

Brigitte Robinson is a Motivational Support Specialist with Disc Village, they accept referrals for substance and sexual abuse. For more information contact 850-584-5613 or brobinson@discvillage.com.

Paula Roberts is with the 211 Big Bend Help Me Grow program.

Philip Wilkerson

Merv Mattair

Ruth Moore with the Madison Youth Ranch reported they had an open house for their donors on the 17th, and they are completing their accreditation renewal today. They also have 4 to 5 beds open at the facility and could possibly offer internships. For more information contact 850-929-3000 or ruth.moore@fumch.org.

Tom Witt with the Department of Juvenile Justice reported 6 misdemeanors, 3 felonies and 23 youth on probation in Madison. Tom announced that Craig Anderson is the Probation Officer for Madison County.

Candida Akins is the new Family Assessment Worker for Healthy Families Seven Rivers and said she hopes to be an asset to the program.

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Rebecca Severin is the Program Manager of Healthy Families Seven Rivers and said she is very excited to have Candida join the program. Healthy Families is a Child Abuse Prevention program and Rebecca reported they are fully staffed and are serving 39 families at this time with a capacity for 60. For more information or to make a referral contact 850-948-2741 or rseverin@healthystartjmt.org.

Suzy Godfrey with the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida announced they are involved with the Zika Initiative with Governor Rick Scott and are distributing Zika kits to families.

Donna Hagan reported they have been working on the Centralized Intake & Referral system for women and infants for the last nine months and it will launch on October 1st. Donna will give an update in the spring along with a Healthy Start Redesign update. Donna also announced that James Madison Preparatory High School students are looking for agency's to perform service hours with, sign-up sheets are available.

Valerie Gainous is with Big Bend Cares and performs free HIV testing and is available to give presentations, you may contact Valerie at 850-656-2437 or vgainous@bigbendcares.org.

Lerena Fleck is with the FSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities better known as CARD. FSU CARD was established in 1994 and is one of seven centers funded by the Florida Legislature and serves 18 counties in the Panhandle of Florida.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder defined by persistent deficits in social communication and social interaction, accompanied by restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities. The signs of ASD are usually evident in early childhood. Though it is still considered a lifelong diagnosis, with appropriate early intervention, individuals with ASD can lead productive, inclusive, and fulfilling lives. Many children with ASD do well in school, participate in activities they enjoy, go on to college, and are employed in adulthood.

ASD effects all races and socioeconomics and most recent data from the CDC indicate that 1 in 68 children in the US has an autism spectrum disorder. The prevalence for boys is about 5 times higher than it is for girls, with 1 in every 42 boys having an ASD and 1 in every 189 girls having an ASD.

There is currently no single cause for ASD's, it is generally accepted that ASD's are biological and there is no known cure. There is substantial evidence that individuals can make remarkable progress with early intervention and appropriately tailored therapies.

For more information contact Lerena at 850-487-9193 or Lerena.fleck@medfsu.ed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be October 26, 2016

Minutes recorded by Cindy Hutto