

NERO CST/ISP Coordinators' Meeting
July 21, 2009 Minutes

Attendees: Chris Craggs, NERO; Dennis Dornfeld, Mary Kennedy, White Pines; Edie Ritzman, Nancy Koene, Sheboygan County; Lauren Martin, Rick Gedemer, Fond du Lac County; Ludene Smits, Bryant Duchow, Menominee County; Cindy Gray, Waushara County, Carrie VanEvera, Bruce Retzloff, Oconto County and Margaret Buhk, Door County.

Round Robin: Each program was asked to provide an update of recent activities, challenges and successes:

Sheboygan County: A new parent on the Coordinating Committee brought energizing ideas from another county regarding fund raising and connections with Lakeshore Autism for parental support. An example shows that CST can be successful by keeping perspective that that "there is always something to work with". Challenge is for child welfare/delinquency staff to initiate teams before child is placed and reluctance to take the time to get to know the family.

Fond du Lac County: All social workers do teams. There has been a shift from saying "I don't have enough time to do teams" to seeing that the team process is a time saver. They are doing a newsletter and "lunch and learn" sessions. Still challenges with compliance focus of delinquency services.

Menominee County: There is increased buy-in at the middle school. Challenge in doing CCS/CST simultaneously. Flow chart is being developed.

Oconto County: Carrie has been on board since April. They are getting information out, getting buy in from schools, court/attorneys and increasing Coordinating Committee membership. Initially Carrie will do teams; not sure about having other staff involved. Challenge with law enforcement being cautious about community safety and difficulty in showing that CST will be able to meet child/family needs in the community.

Waushara County: They are continuing teaming across child protective services and Crisis. They are doing a ½ day seminar on Autism/Asperger's and ½ day on RAD for providers and parents. A challenge is the lack of specialized services and consumers not yet able to make use of their power.

Door County: Door County's ISP has been functioning since 1998. They have members of Coordinating Committee visit schools with them when there are new administrators. They have improved dialogue with DSS/DCP on transitioning students using increased community resources. Challenges are the high turnover in school administration and moving forward with the use of the CLTS waivers.

Updates from Chris Craggs: The State budget shifts responsibility for the non-Federal share of kids and older adults at Winnebago and Mendota to counties starting in 2010. Through the use of one time ARRA funds, the non Federal share in 2010 will be 35% compared to the usual 48%/49%, though for most programs the State is diverting this increase for operations. The budget also requires approval by county community programs or human services prior to an emergency detention by law enforcement. This provision applies to all detentions, not just Winnebago and Mendota, and is thought to be in effect at this time. The Northeastern Regional Crisis Grant, in addition to renewal of their grant for five years, is now working with the NEW Partnership as a "Behavioral Health Training Partnership". They are developing core-training curriculum. The goal is to extend this training to other program's training (CST, CLTS) when there are common elements. Teaming is the first component of the training and is being piloted in Oconto and Kewaunee.

Issues identified during the round robin were listed and prioritized. Discussion followed as time allowed.

CST/ISP as Alternative to Placement: Particular barriers seem to be law enforcement concern about liability, community risk and violating rights. Suggestions for dealing with barriers: use Crisis staff to do an assessment prior to law enforcement action, have a law enforcement person who supports collaborative service talk with law enforcement, have safety plans available by families so they can hand them to law enforcement, get crisis plans to law enforcement, or have them call the crisis line who can maintain the updated crisis plans, have officers sign crisis/safety plans, have families write thank you notes to law enforcement following an incident, bring in Ron Diamond or David Mays to do one day training for law enforcement or use one of the three CIT sites in Wisconsin, demonstrate how response time is reduced when crises are avoided, avoid calling law enforcement, have parents transport and admit if possible, build on successes, publicly give credit to partners who do

interventions in lieu of placement, take advantage of the new DCP/DHS required approval of emergency detentions

CCS/CLTS/CST/TCM – Putting it all together: Chris shared his diagrams showing the relative diagnostic/eligibility limits versus process/documentation/reporting requirements in CLTS, CCS, CST and TCM. CCS services require a physician prescription, eligibility through the functional screen, different time limits (one month to complete the assessment), a Mental Health Professional has to assure the plan meets the psycho-social rehabilitation requirements, the language used in assessment and plans must be “rehabilitative”, short and long term goals need to be updated every six months, etc. Suggestions:

- Waushara County modified the La Crosse integrated paperwork to apply more to children. **Cindy will share that paperwork.**
- CCS doesn’t require a specific format but, regardless of format, there is a need to capture the required CCS information in order to meet the requirements for eligibility and authorization for the services. Since no prescribed format is mandated, CANS is accepted as part of the comprehensive assessment for CCS. Counties can look at whatever format they are using and identify which components of what assessments go into which boxes.
- It is possible to write the CST Plan in outcomes that are acceptable for CLTS and/or CCS, and/or TCM
- When considering whether CCS or CLTS is more appropriate, need to consider that CCS is a “rehabilitative” service versus the “habilitative” nature of some CLTS services, and follow the “waiver mandate” that indicates a state plan service (card service) should be used first when a waiver is also available.
- One plan could be developed (by the team) that incorporates everything you need for CCS, CLTS, CST, etc.
- Consider if separate child versus adult CCS programs would facilitate CCS services to children. A child should not have to change workers or plans when he/she turns 18.
- Concerns about having to have a certified CANS assessor in CCS cases could be addressed by having the certified person review the ratings and sign off. Menominee County is using CANS in place of the Juvenile Risk Assessment.

Out of home services to children in late teens: Although foster homes can be dually licensed for children and adults it takes about 18 months to get that arrangement approved. Some children are staying in institutions until they are 18 for lack of an alternative.

Collaboration/Working with Others: Discussion items and suggestions:

- When there is turnover, have the departing manager share with the new person how advantageously they see the collaborative process
- Encourage the staff who work with CST/ISP share their successes with their new administrators
- Have Coordinating Committee go out to meet with new administrators – or a County Board member with a family history or personal experience with mental illness
- Give the new administrator a couple of examples of what the collaborative process can do to help his/her particular issues
- Use the Team Overview to convey information – it is simple and short
- Menominee County is able to build off a “Collaboration for Kids” grant in the elementary school.

Reactivating Coordination Committee: Some counties are having difficulties keeping members interested and attending. Suggestions from the group: use case studies, invite people to speak – Dan Naylor, principles, parents and providers, do a retreat where they talk about concerns with non attendance and talk about how to do it differently, investigate what the county requires for a quorum and modify the quorum if necessary. Parents are the key to the Committee because they are passionate

Managing Change: Systems change is never done; it’s a journey. It helps to be able to bring along people who want to change. Celebrate successes because success sells the change. It is important to tell the story and better if it can be done peer to peer. Need to assume that people want to learn and grow.

The Next meeting will be the Project Directors meeting in Stevens Point on October 6, 2009.

