



## **NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes NE FYSPRT**

April 5, 2018

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The NE FYSPRT met April 5, 2018 at Passages Family Support, 1002 N Superior, Spokane, WA and was called to order by the Passages Family Support Youth Co-Lead Morgan Gabriel. Thirty five members and guests representing families, youth, and system partners were present or participated by webex, including WISE providers in Okanogan, Stevens and Adams Counties.

### PRESENTATION

Rosey Thurman, Attorney with Team Child, provided the NE FYSPRT with a presentation on 504 Plans. TeamChild provides free civil/ legal advocacy and community education to help youth involved in the juvenile justice system secure the education, health care, housing and other supports they need to achieve positive outcomes in their lives.

Ms. Thurman explained how 504 plans came into being: they are a component of the system to eliminate discrimination due to physical or behavioral disabilities or impairments.

Schools have an affirmative obligation (are required to act) to identify and locate disabled students

- School staff see that a student can't do what other students do
- Parents ask
- Other sources put the District on notice (counselors, WISE teams, doctors, psychologists)

The process starts with an evaluation. The evaluation covers all suspected disabilities and should be the same for 504 or special education. The evaluation should be validated/given by a trained person and should include specific areas of educational need. Outside evaluations must be carefully considered.

A meeting is held with persons knowledgeable about the child & uses data from the evaluation to consider accommodations and placement.

Placement requires education and nonacademic participation with non-disabled students to the maximum extent to meet the disabled student's needs.



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Ms. Thurman then explained the steps involved when a parent identifies that their child needs more than has been identified; when they are not satisfied with the services provided and wish to file a grievance; and how to appeal an adverse decision.

At the May NE FYSPRT meeting, Ms. Thurman will discuss the Individual Educational Plan (IEP). Ms. Thurman was thanked for her informative presentation.

### WISe UPDATES

WISe Teams provided updates on their agency's WISe capacity and staffing. Justin brought up the fact that the SCRBHO WISe teams are at or near full capacity. Teams were allotted 10-12 enrollees but most are at 14-15 with more referrals each month. There were 50 referrals in March. There have been 250 since January 1<sup>st</sup>. This does not include American Indian/Alaska Native or BRS clients.

The BHO is not able to refuse any client who wants WISe services. There continues to be discussion about what services to provide enrollees when all teams are full. Interest lists have been created for those families who want WISe services when they become available. Until a vacancy occurs, families will be referred to general outpatient services (with referrals to other agencies such as Homebuilders if appropriate) while they wait for WISe openings.

The BHO and providers will need to assess why there is such a volume of referrals and is it something that can be sustained; if it can't be sustained, then what will the plan be? Schools provide most referrals. In the summer, the volume of referrals is expected to drop considerably. Twenty five (25%) of screenings don't meet the criteria for WISe.

### WISe Performance Improvement

Justin indicated that the BHO participates in performance improvement activities and he explained the process for completing PI activities. Two opportunities for improvement have been identified for consideration: a) crisis response (not enough followup incorporated into the cross system care plan, treatment plan, child/family/team meetings; or b) not enough peer hours are



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being reported. Individual therapy and care coordination are being reported, but peer support is not (the BHO's numbers are lower than the statewide average for peer hours).

The Spokane BHO WISe providers have the most youth in inpatient settings, the highest crisis response, and highest in home services. Services are being provided to youth and are being provided to parents, but not to families as a whole. The data does reflect that some families enter WISe because they can't get into services elsewhere, e.g. autism services. Becky did indicate there will be a training program for families by Care Connections in the fall.

This continues to be a subject for statewide consideration. Please send your comments/thoughts regarding these two proposed performance improvement projects to Justin or to Angela Quadry at the BHO.

The next meeting is May 3, 2018. Location to be determined.