



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
April 15, 2021**

Introduction

Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement

Vincent Cardiel, System Partner Tri-Lead

The NE FYSPRT met on April 15, 2021. Becky Hammill convened the meeting via Zoom. Tri-leads Ashley James (Youth Tri-Lead), Helen Franklin (Family Tri-Lead) and Vincent Cardiel (System Partner Tri-Lead) were present. Vince Cardiel welcomed twenty-seven (27) attendees with 10 family and youth members, one Tribal member and 17 system partners. Vince began the meeting by sharing the acknowledgement that we are living and working on land that originally belonged to the Tribes. Vince notified the NE FYSPRT members that he has accepted a new position with the State Division of Children, Youth and Families and this would be his last FYSPRT meeting. He recommended system partners consider the Tri-Lead role and to contact Becky for more information. Margaret Blum recommended the Charter go out to all members [sent 4-19-21].

General NE FYSPRT Business

Contract/Compliance – Community Education

Isaac Foundation – Holly Goodman

Holly Goodman explained how the Isaac Foundation came to be to assist families of children with autism. The Foundation provides financial support for therapy equipment not covered by insurance, weighted blankets made to order depending on the child's height and weight, hockey equipment if the child is interested in this sport, support groups: Mothers, Fathers, Parent-to-Parent, and Sibling groups, workshops, and training for law enforcement and search and rescue organizations. They support the entire family. Most of the Foundation's work is finding resources for clients newly diagnosed or in crisis, including trying to connect them with providers, changing providers, and generally helping families navigate the system. The Isaac Foundation is a nationally accredited program for training first responders and parents can register their children via the Isaac Alert so that first responders know behaviors such as being non-verbal, follows verbal commands, wanders, can be combative in certain situations, is physically independent, etc. The Foundation has had station visits at fire stations to allow the children and families and first responders get to know each other. Law enforcement and ambulance personnel also participate. The Foundation helps clients practice interaction skills. Ms. Goodman spoke about plans for the future including the Isaac's Clubhouse where 5th grade through 12th grade youth who can interact



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independently are able to get together and socialize or not with others of their own age group, for example Lego Monday. The Isaac Foundation operates in eastern WA and Kootenai County.

Regional Issues

Mental Health Awareness Month – May

Becky asked how the group would like to be involved in this annual campaign. Presentations, programs, etc? Flip the Script is a national public service that Passages will be participating in on April 19th and all youth are invited. This PSA is about what youth want to hear, not what adults want to say. Passages will be participating at the Finch Arboretum from 3-5 PM April 19th and all are welcome. This is an opportunity through the National Federation of Families.

Members were asked to email the Tri-leads or Becky if they have ideas of things to do in May.

On June 24th, Passages will be hosting a self-care fair and families, youth, system partners and agencies are invited. There will be booths and give-aways. Those invited include the WSU Mobile Medical for COVID19 vaccinations, 2nd Harvest Mobile Food Truck, give-aways from Project Beauty Share, managed care organizations, and all NE FYSPRT agencies are invited to participate with a booth or provide brochures that Passages will have on display.

Experience with hospitals in Spokane: especially with youth, there are long waits, short meetings following the long waits, being sent away and told they are fine without proper evaluation. This happens more frequently at Sacred Heart, where many times individuals are turned away from admission due to “behavioral” issues, but in reality may be suffering from trauma. There aren’t other agencies to help except WISE and those teams are all full. Many providers try and send to another hospital rather than Sacred Heart where they feel the evaluation will be more comprehensive. It was mentioned that the wait list for RISE is currently 12-16 weeks and for an inpatient bed it’s six months. Providers even attempt to cross state lines for evaluation/admission to Kootenai Medical Center. A regional solution may be to ask these entities to come to the NE FYSPRT meetings for providers/agencies to speak about their concerns, starting with SHMC and Psych Triage. Agencies/providers were asked to send Becky questions to forward to the hospitals with the invitation.



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Medicaid Funded Transportation – all providers throughout the state are concerned about the Medicaid funded transportation contracts and would like to consider alternatives such as Hop, Skip and Drive that the school district is using, or Uber Medical etc. Hop, Skip and Drive will be invited to the Health Fair. Bekka Teeters mentioned that Rural Resources provides assistance in the northeast counties. Youth used to get free bus passes, but now they're being required to commit to 15 appointments in one month in order to get a free pass.

Workforce shortage

Wise agencies also spoke about staffing shortages they're experiencing.

Meeting Evaluation/Next Meeting

Members attending today's meeting were asked to complete the NE FYSPRT evaluation. Next meeting: May 20, 2021 3:00 PM via Zoom.