



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes  
NE FYSPRT  
May 19, 2022**

**Introduction**

**Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement**

**Davina Akiu, System Partner Tri Lead**

The NE FYSPRT met on May 19, 2022. Becky Hammill convened the meeting via Zoom. System Partner Co-Tri Lead Davina Akiu, System Partner Co-Tri Lead Gail Kogle, Family Tri-Led Helen Harding, and Youth Tri-Lead Ashley James were present. Davina welcomed 27 attendees with 10 family, tribal and youth members, and 17 system partners. Davina began the meeting by sharing the acknowledgement that we are living and working on land that originally belonged to the Tribes.

**General NE FYSPRT Business**

**A. Contract/Compliance – Community Education**

**Angela Southerly, Founder of Light a Lamp and Project “Lift Up”**

Light a Lamp was created in 2014 as a way to recognize individuals going through tough times. A gift basket is created for people who have exhibited inner strength during these times. At the 2022 annual meeting, Angela also asked her Board of Directors to address teens suffering from mental health challenges. The project is called “Lift Up” and gift bags are taken each month to high schools throughout the area where counselors identify those students who could benefit from this positive reinforcement. After 3 months, the students get a smaller gift bag with the emphasis “thinking about you.” Angela indicated they hope to expand from Spokane and Mead School Districts this year. She indicated they are having a fundraiser on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Barrister Winery with a silent auction and band. All funds go directly toward the purchase of the gift bags. Donations can also be made on their website: [lightalamp.org](http://lightalamp.org).

Angela was thanked for this wonderful volunteer organization’s efforts to connect with youth.

**B. Contractual WISE Data Report**

**Davina Akiu, System Partner Co-Lead**

Davina gave the NE FYSPRT members an update on the status of the WISE teams in eastern WA. Overall, the capacity in the NE FYSPRT’s region is 516 individuals. In March, 534 individuals were enrolled.



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes**  
**NE FYSPRT**  
**May 19, 2022**

- Adams County – Teams: .75; capacity: 10; enrolled 7
- Daybreak – Teams: 1; capacity: 15; enrolled 15
- Excelsior – Teams: 15; capacity 180-225; enrolled 195
- Frontier – Teams: 14; capacity 168; enrolled: 171
- Institute for Family Development – Teams: 1; capacity 10-15; enrolled: 11
- Lutheran Community Services – Teams: 2; capacity 20; enrolled: 20
- New Alliance – Teams: 2 full 2 .5; capacity 34; enrolled: 34
- Passages Family Support – Teams: 3; capacity 36; enrolled: 36
- Pend Oreille - Teams: .75; capacity 10; enrolled: 4
- Catholic Charities Rising Strong – Teams: 2; capacity 30; enrolled: 18

The number of enrolled has increased in March. All agencies have significant wait lists currently and those who have openings are accepting referrals. Becky will send out the referral form to all agencies. Davina asked that when referring to WISE, only select one organization so that the family is not overwhelmed with agencies calling to schedule an assessment.

**NE FYSPRT Regional Issues**

Currently, when two Peers provide services at the same time to the family and to the individual, only one of the Peers may submit a billing claim or they must split the time. The billing process needs to allow for both individual and family peer services to occur at the same time. Another example is when there's been violence in the home and the agency requires that two people respond. If you can't bill for both of those individuals, it's a heavy burden on the organization. All organizations have this same issue. Health Care Authority is also not getting the true picture of the full scope of services being provided. Staff have to travel to a family's home separately so that they can provide services before or after a CFT meeting, which is an inefficient and costly administrative charge to the organization reimbursing mileage. The group discussed the rate setting process with the managed care organizations and the Health Care Authority. The peers also feel that there is an ethical component of entering documentation that does not reflect the true picture of the services provided.

Sharon O'Brien also raised the regional issue of lack of Children's Long Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) beds. Several inpatient settings are not accepting clients due to the lack of staff, including Child Study and Treatment Center.



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes  
NE FYSPRT  
May 19, 2022**

One individual has been at an inpatient psych hospital short-term program for six months because there are no staffed beds in a long-term facility. Kootenai has closed their outpatient behavioral health clinic and substance use disorder program due to inability to obtain sufficient staff.

**NE FYSPRT Self-Care Fair June 1, 2022**

Planning continues for the NE FYSPRT Self-Care Fair on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Over 30 organizations have confirmed attendance. The Fair is from 1:00 to 4:30. Flyers are being sent electronically to all NE FYSPRT members and paper copies will be delivered to any organization who would like a supply. Members were encouraged to share the event information with those they serve. There were over 200 participants last year and we hope to increase that considerably this year. The event is open to anyone.

**Meeting Evaluation/Next Meeting**

Members attending today's meeting were asked to complete the NE FYSPRT evaluation.

The next meeting will be July 21, 2022. There was discussion regarding in person or virtual meetings and the consensus was to keep it virtual at this point with perhaps a hybrid model for both. Also, it is planned to have the meeting in a community north of Spokane and this will be a discussion item in July. Some FYSPRTS have separate meetings for youth and for families to better accommodate schedules.