



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
January 18, 2024**

Introduction

Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement

Becky Hammill, Convener

The NE FYSPRT met on January 18, 2024. Becky Hammill convened the meeting via Zoom and welcomed 32 participants with 13 family, tribal and youth members, and 19 system partners. Gail Kogle, System Partner Co Tri-Lead, Davina Akiu, System Partner Co Tri-Lead, Nicole Murphy, Family Tri-Lead and Ashley James, Youth Tri-Lead were present. Davina and Gail began the meeting by sharing the acknowledgement that we are living and working on land that originally belonged to the Tribes.

Gail reviewed the purpose of the regional FYSPRTs

The NE FYSPRT serves as a platform for bringing the voice of youth, families, and system partners together to identify the strengths, challenges, and gaps that exist in the regional behavioral health system of care.

And the NE FYSPRT Values Statement

We work continuously to provide a welcoming meeting environment for all attendees. Questions about the content or process of the NE FYSPRT meetings are welcomed. All who attend are treated with respect and dignity. We value improvement and innovation in publicly funded behavioral health for children, youth, and families.

General NE FYSPRT Business

A. Contract/Compliance – Community Education/Regional Issues/Work Plan

New Developed Nations – Dylan Ramirez, Care Coordinator

Dylan provided information on this new program in Spokane County. Healing Through Hip Hop – Empowering Minds and Transforming Lives. Objectives of the program include how to use lyrics to navigate the course of treatment and identify actionable interventions. “Explain your Brain on Music” The program’s mission is to provide the community with excellent service to assist people to be positive, functional and empowered citizens through music, sports, and physical health. Their mission is to provide youth and individuals with a voice that once might have been unheard and we strive to work through diverse collaboration to benefit people and communities across the county and around the world. Individuals can be referred or self refer. Age limits are age 11 to 18. Current capacity is 10 and hopefully another 10 slots for individuals with co-occurring challenges will be available soon. The



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program offers different cohorts based on age. They accept Apple Health clients. The program is considered intensive outpatient with two hour sessions three times a week for 12 weeks and following that, the individual is offered step down to outpatient services once or twice a week. Evidence based practices are utilized. Dylan was thanked for his presentation and development of a new program.

B. Contractual WISE Data Report

Davina Akiu, System Partner Co Tri-Lead

Davina reported that most programs are at capacity. Excelsior and Frontier have a few openings. Lutheran has a wait list.

C. Regional Issues

Evaluation results

In the meeting evaluations, a request was made for presentations for transitional age youth. Becky shared with the NE FYSPRT members the presentations in 2023 that addressed this need, including Passages' Peer Respite program and Excelsior's new program. Several members commented on how appreciative they were of these presentations.

Another discussion point related to the discharge challenges with individuals being released from CLIP facilities and lack of advance notice to families and WISE teams. Becky asked if this issue should be again elevated to the statewide FYSPRT group and there was discussion and consensus that it should be discussed further at that level. The dilemma of WISE teams not being able to bill for services when an individual is in a CLIP facility thus hindering the ability to work collaboratively with the CLIP facility staff is also a factor. WISE teams did indicate the issues are not as severe now as they were last year, but commented that the challenges come from CLIP facility is on the west side; they don't experience the challenges as much with facilities in eastern WA. WISE teams asked that there be an automatic release of records to include progress reports, discharge plan, and the safety plan.

Gail reported that she had recently participated in a discharge planning session and felt that the family and providers were being pushed through the



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process and rushed to discharge. The needs of the individual need to be paramount and everyone must contribute to ensure the needs are being met, not just to discharge the individual.

Several MCO care coordinators provided information on their process for ensuring collaboration during an individual's stay in the CLIP facility. CHPW invited WISe team members to contact the CHPW care coordinator for assistance. All agreed that the system must not allow the child/youth to just be discharged without adequate plans in place.

SMS As stated at the last meeting, issues with SMS services has improved considerably. Becky reported that other FYSPRT teams had raised this at the statewide level and the Health Care Authority instituted some improvements with their contractors. She again thanked the NE FYSPRT members for their input and the continued need to identify what's being done right and what challenges remain in providing services to children and youth.

Office of the Behavioral Health Advocacy update

Gail indicated that she has an open forum monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. She asked for FYSPRT participation in the next forum on the 14th which will focus on youth needs in the region. Several NE FYSPRT members volunteered to participate. Gail will provide information to Becky to disseminate to the group.

Discussion was held regarding services for individual on the autism spectrum and the need for special training for WISe teams. Applied behavioral analysis (ABA) is not always the answer. The University of Washington's ECHO program was cited as a good training program. Samantha Hinger discussed some current legislation being considered and emphasized the need to "bring humans to the table."

Meeting Evaluation/Next Meeting: Members attending the meeting were asked to complete the NE FYSPRT evaluation. Next meeting will be February 15, 2024 and it will be hybrid – Zoom and in person.