



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
June 20, 2024**

Introduction

Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement

Becky Hammill, Convener

The NE FYSPRT met on June 20, 2024. Becky Hammill convened the meeting via Zoom and welcomed 24 participants with 12 family, tribal and youth members, and 12 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. Ashley began the meeting by sharing the acknowledgement that we are living and working on land that originally belonged to the Tribes.

Ashley 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
The Emily Program, Caley Willrich, Professional Relations Specialist**

Caley introduced the Emily Program based in Spokane. She provided a brief description of eating disorders: who's affected, how many individuals are impacted nationally, and how disordered eating/eating disorders can affect all aspects of our community. Caley explained that disordered eating and eating disorders are often associated with other behavioral health conditions such as depression and anxiety for example. She explained the multitude of different eating disorder types and the levels of care available, ranging from inpatient which is rare to outpatient. Spokane provides several levels of care, including partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient, and outpatient. She explained an average day in the partial hospitalization service modality. Caley shared how referrals can occur, from the individual themselves, a family member or a provider. The Emily Program has capacity for 12



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
June 20, 2024**

individuals and they currently have space available. She discussed barriers to care, such as insurance issues, and shared how they address those barriers. Caley also shared with the group support groups and other resources.

**B. Contract/Compliance – Community Education/Regional Issues/Work Plan
SPARK CENTRAL – Melissa Bedford, Ph.D, Executive Director**

Dr. Bedford shared the mission of Spark Central, which is: *Ignite the creativity, innovation, and imagination necessary for people to forge the path to their best future.* Spark Central provides drop in programs, structured programs, after-school programs, a maker station, a lending library, and a tech hub. Dr. Bedford explained that they aim to break down barriers to creative learning opportunities like costs, confidence and access. They accomplish these goals through generous support and determination via partnerships, donations, volunteerism, grants, fundraising, and outreach. She shared Spark Central's current programs and the intended participants. Some are for all ages, some for adults, and some for children or youth. She then shared an activity with the group that they utilize in one of the programs.

Standing Reports

A. Contractual WISE Data Report

Davina Akiu, System Partner Co Tri-Lead

Frontier has 20 openings, Excelsior has 25, and Catholic Charities has 2 openings. The other WISE programs are full.

B. Washington State Community Connectors

Nicole Murphy indicated that the statewide Family Network meeting is June 26th and the SUD Family Navigator training is July 15th. She indicated that information on these and other WSCC trainings can be found at the website: wscsupport.org.

C. Office of the Behavioral Health Advocacy

Gail reported that the OBHA will be opening an office in Spokane in July. She indicated there is conference room space that is available to other agencies if they need meeting space. They will be hiring an advocacy coordinator to screen calls and coordinate the provision of resources. This will allow Gail to accomplish more outreach with individuals and organizations. She indicated



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
June 20, 2024**

that a focus for her is education regarding mental health advance directives. Youth beginning at age 13 can now initiate a mental health advance directive. Gail indicated she has not been getting many contacts from youth or regarding services for youth, most recently, contacts have primarily come from adults. She has been attending public events and was very positive regarding the NE FYSPRT Self-Care Fair held in May at which she had a booth for the OBHA.

The next OBHA forum is July 10th and she's requesting input for topics. What regional needs are not being met? She will send the forum link to Becky for distribution to the group.

NE FYSPRT Regional Issues

A. May Self-Care Fair

Ashley James thanked all the NE FYSPRT members who participated or attended the Self-Care and Resource Fair on May 16th. With the weather change and the need to pivot to an indoor event, the vendors had more opportunities to network with partners. The Termonn Peer Respite house tour was very successful and will be included in future events. The event next year is May 1st and Save-the-Date invites have been sent out.

B. Evaluation Feedback – future meeting topics

Becky suggested that we have a community provider discuss intervention and treatment for fentanyl use as well as have the Regional Health District return (they had provided comprehensive information and data on use in Spokane and nationwide at a previous meeting).

Another suggestion was to have the Police Activity Leave (PAL) come to discuss the SPD activity in parks to engage with kids.

If anyone has or knows of summer activities going on, please send to Becky and she'll distribute to the group.

Meeting Evaluation/Next Meeting: Members attending the meeting were asked to complete the NE FYSPRT evaluation. The next meeting is July 18th via Zoom.