



**NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes
NE FYSPRT
May 21, 2026**

Welcome – Becky Hammill, Convener

Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement

The NE FYSPRT met on May 21, 2026. Gail Kogle, System Partner Co-Tri-Lead convened the meeting via Zoom and welcomed 16 participants with 10 family, tribal, diverse and youth members, and 6 system partners. Sabrena Hindberg, Family Tri- Lead, Ashley James, Youth Tri-Lead and Davina Akiu, System Partner Co Tri-Lead were present.

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
Eileen and Callie's Place – Meeca Akram**

Meeca provided an introduction to this non-profit organization headquartered in Seattle but providing services throughout the State. She stated they were excited to increase their presence in the Spokane community. Eileen and Callie's Place is an organization that celebrates girls who are aging out of the foster care system. Girls age 15 and above are recognized and mentored through their journey to adulthood. The mentoring program "Become Her" provides virtual and in person opportunities including workshops and group events. Their commitment is that *their* agenda is the *girl's* agenda. They meet where the individual wants to meet. The mentor ensures that attendees are comfortable in the space, there's no pressure in group, mentors are there for the girls. All participate voluntarily, there is no court, parent or system ordered attendance. It's their own decision to make the journey. The program celebrates girls turning 18 with a birthday celebration. Meeca provided information on how the



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program started and explained how they will provide services (initially virtually) to individuals in eastern WA. Meeca indicated they would like to increase volunteers who would be mentors. They ask for a commitment of one year. The program offers stipends to the mentors as well as training. Girls can participate in the program without a mentor.

Meeca was asked to provide information to display at the June Self-Care Fair and thanked for her presentation and support for these individuals in our community.

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

Gail Kogle, Office of Behavioral Health and Recovery, indicated they have changed the date for their community event to July 17th. She will provide additional information as plans/venue, etc are finalized but asked that NE FYSPRT members participate. The June forum focused on the lack of inpatient beds for children and youth and they continue to assist families who are experience barriers with inpatient services. Calls have increased. For the next forum, Gail will plan to discuss training gaps/needs by families or individuals.

C. WISE update

The WISE Symposium will be occurring soon and Davina encouraged all WISE teams to participate. There are some family workshops and opportunities for skills training for WISE providers.

Davina provided an overview of WISE to new NE FYSPRT attendees.

Almost all WISE programs are full with interest lists. Excelsior is providing virtual services until a WISE opening occurs. Lutheran Social Services indicated their FOCUS program has a wait of about 30 days. This program is a high intensity hospital diversion program for youth at risk of losing placement or being hospitalized. All participants must have a therapist they can return to following participation in FOCUS. The program identifies two to three issues to address in order to stabilize the individual until they can connect with a WISE team if necessary.

NE FYSPRT Regional Issues

A. Regional Issues and Information – Community strengths and areas for growth:



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The region continues to struggle with insufficient resources for youth respite. The Health Care Authority is currently identifying statewide needs.

Becky attended the WSU Eastern Washington Behavioral Health Summit and shared information about Manzanita House, a new program for immigrant youth and adults. She will invite them to a future NE FYSPRT meeting. In July, the Health Care Authority will speak with NE FYSPRT about Family Initiated Treatment (FIT).

Becky provided an overview of how concerns are presented to the State FYSPRT: When a local FYSPRT identifies gaps and challenges, they solicit input from families, youth, and system partners to verify region wide impact. The issue is then raised at the Statewide FYSPRT who asks the other regional FYSPRTs to confirm whether these are gaps/challenges in their region also. When confirmed that it's a statewide issue, the State FYSPRT presents the concern to the Health Care Authority.

NE FYSPRT members have identified a regional gap in training for specific behavioral health diagnosis. Such as autism training, psychosis training, and reactive attachment training to name a few. Individuals being referred to WISe have more challenging behaviors that result in continual crises for the families. The members discussed available crisis response, including MRSS mobile unit and Josh Henderson shared how services are provided through crisis response. There is good collaboration between the crisis response team and community providers. There are about 20 MRSS team members. But not a sufficient amount to meet the needs of all the WISe families in the region.

More attention needs to be paid to the behavioral health challenges of the individuals in services and that's where training needs to focus and especially for both youth and parents. WISe teams are seeing referrals for younger and younger children and training is needed to address the needs of that special population when there is already a gap in services.

Members also raised the concern of how to address the needs of individuals who have received crisis services and the time gap before they can get into a WISe team. MRSS can be utilized more as often as needed.

Becky indicated she will meet with the Tri-Leads to create a gaps and needs



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statement to address the lack training experienced in our region. Gail asked WISe providers to participate in the July forum. She will then have time to collect data from the forum to include in the gaps/need analysis for the Statewide FYSPRT meeting.

D. June 25, 2026 Self-Care and Resource Fair

Becky reminded the members that the June meeting is the Self-Care and Resource Fair on June 25th at the Spokane County Fairgrounds. Returning vendors this year include DSHS, Breast Intentions, and The WSU mobile clinic. Free lunches are provided for all attendees. She asked that NE FYSPRT system partners register as soon as possible. We are looking for small, newly established providers/agencies that might like this opportunity to share their services with the community.

Conclusion

Attendees were asked to please complete the monthly evaluation to provide input into what's working and what's not working in our community relating to services for children and youth. System Partners as well as parents were asked to complete the survey so the leads can follow up to determine future meeting presentations or identify known gaps in the system. If a community organization is doing well, the leads would also like to know that information to share with the group.

The next NE FYSPRT meeting will be July 16, 2026 via Zoom. The June meeting is the Self-Care and Resource Fair on June 25th.