



Meeting Minutes

Northern Capacity Building Advisory Committee Thunder Bay District

Date: August 19, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Present: Danielle Paananen (Chair)
Patty Haney, Parent
Alina Cameron, Parent
Melissa Bianco; SGDSB
Carolyn Mancuso, Ignite Behaviour Consulting
Nicole Deschamps, GJCC
Adrianna Atkins, Parent
Liz Hathazi, Creative Therapy
Sherry Fournier (Co-Chair)

Regrets:

| Item | |
|------------|---|
| 1.0 | Welcome & Introductions |
| | Danielle welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:35 pm. |
| 2.0 | Progress updates (Capacity Grants) |
| | <p>Sherry invited the providers who were present to share an update about the capacity grants and the progress so far. Liz H., Creative Therapy, Carolyn M., Ignite Behaviour Consulting and Nicole D., George Jeffrey Children's Centre shared that they have all hired new therapists however they are also filling maternity leaves and unexpected staff departures (i.e. leaving the role to attend school etc.).</p> <p>Liz also expressed the challenge of expanding the team of therapists requires sustainable funding and qualified BCBAs to supervise. Attracting and retaining new BCBAs to the north is a challenge. The committee briefly discussed solutions, for example, signing bonuses and incentives may be required.</p> <p>Committee members inquired about recruitment of therapists in rural and remote areas and offered some suggestions (potential candidates and connections with local school teams). Despite the significant efforts from all providers recruitment continues to be a challenge however the commitment from all involved to find solutions was affirmed.</p> |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| <p>3.0</p> | <p>CCR & OAP updates</p> <p>Sherry provided the following updates and encouraged committee member to visit the Ontario government website for full details.</p> <p><u>Entry to School</u>: This is a 6-month intervention for children 3-5 years of age entering the school system. Nicole D. George Jeffrey provided a brief overview of the proposal submitted in Thunder Bay. The partners present at the meeting also participated in this proposal along with a number of community partners and local school boards.</p> <p><u>Urgent Response</u>: This is a 12-week intervention available to eligible families throughout the province. MCCSS invited all Coordinating Service Planning agencies to lead the design with partners throughout the province. Alina C. provided a brief overview of the criteria and Nicole D. also shared that FIREFLY was the lead for Thunder Bay and the Northwest. When Sherry receives additional details, she will be share with the committee via email. Members of the committee have expressed interest in obtaining further details on the guidelines and eligibility for this program.</p> <p><u>Determination of Needs</u>: This process will continue until the target of 600 families is achieved. The current team of Care Coordinators will return to their home positions at the end of September. CCR will retain a few CCs to complete the work related to this process.</p> <p>Sherry provided a brief update on the <u>Workforce Capacity Grant</u> and encouraged committee members to view criteria posted on the MCCSS website last week. The committee discussed the concerns with the length of the grant (12 months) as it does not support sustainability however it does prioritize northern communities. Two opportunities are available:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant to expand capacity to deliver core services 2. Innovation Grant <p>Information sessions are available for those interested in learning more. Those choosing to attend must register. The group briefly discussed potential ideas for the innovation grant.</p> <p>All were in agreement the primary focus is in expanding provider capacity to deliver core services.</p> <p>Proposals are due mid-September.</p> |
| <p>4.0</p> | <p>Northern Capacity Buidling Initiative Report</p> <p>Following the meeting Sherry will send a copy of the Northern Capacity Building report for 2021-2022. Like last year, as the data is collected the report will be populated along with anecdotal information capturing the progress of the investments for this fiscal year.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 5.0 | Letter to Minister Fullerton |
| | Sherry and Danielle provided an overview of the letter. All were in agreement with the content and direction. |
| 6.0 | Next Meeting |
| | November 18th, as usual, updates will be shared as they arrive. |
| 7.0 | Adjournment |
| | The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. |