

**Youth Services Network**  
**January 11, 2016 9:15 – 10:45am**  
**West Room, Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County**

**MINUTES**

**Introductions** were made.

**November 9, 2015 minutes** were reviewed. No questions. Update is that Planned Parenthood is continuing to search for a provider to start hormonal therapy. They have approval to start.

**Guest presenters**

Donna Hynes gave an update on 2016 health insurance enrollment; the navigation program is provided through NYS DOH. Navigators are located all over Jefferson and Lewis Counties. We have appointments during the days, evenings and Saturdays. The essential plan is the main update – it has been very successful and replaces what we know as family health plus, which was for people who made just a little too much to qualify for Medicaid. The income guidelines are very generous and it is basically an expanded Medicaid program but farmed out to health plans. Individuals enroll just like a person enrolling for a health plan and choose who you would like for coverage; no deductibles, co-pays are reasonable, United Health Care is the only one who offers dental and vision; the rest just cover health insurance. Overall people are very happy with the essential plan. Donna clarified that the essential plan can be applied for all year long. Open enrollment is only for those who don't qualify for the essential plan. New York State says that if your employee health insurance plan is 9.6% of your gross income you must take your employers health insurance. Fines are going up if you don't have health insurance in 2016 – very heavy fines if you are without health insurance for 3 consecutive months. Pregnancy is now considered a special life event by New York State. Open enrollment ends on January 31, 2016.

After enrollment there is help with benefit explanations, finding providers, understanding the language, locating prescriptions, bills with high insurance deductibles and finding overall help needed. A variety of handouts, brochures and booklets were distributed for those who wanted them.

Hilary Davis, ACR Health, Youth Services Coordinator – most of her focus is in Jefferson County for LGBTQ youth. They worked with Jefferson County Crisis Services, Planned Parenthood, NCPPC and NRCIL to form a group. They based their group off of successful examples of Q2 Centers in Syracuse and Utica. They meet every Tuesday at All Souls Church (IR, Carthage, Lyme, GB, South Jeff and Watertown youth are attending) at 1330 Gotham Street. They have their own private space. Volunteers are back ground screened and trained. A support group, education and presentations are provided each time, along with a meal. This group started in June. Since then over 43 different youth have attended, and they are ages 13-18 (up to when one graduates from high school). An average 15-19 youth attend each time. They have now

started another group, 18 and over. There is also a Lowville group for ages 13-20, five youth attending and students from South Lewis are wanting to attend as well, they expect this group to grow in size. The programs are marketed through Facebook and word of mouth, fliers don't have locations on it for privacy. Transportation is provided. A trans group for both youth and parents takes place the last Monday of every month at the ACR Health offices in Watertown. Hilary Davis [hdavis@acrhealth.org](mailto:hdavis@acrhealth.org) is a main contact to make the referral. Hilary also provides Care Management for trans youth since July, serving six or seven right now in this capacity. She can also provide cultural competency training for service providers, one day, seven hours.

## **Program Updates and Other**

Stephanie Graf shared the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County fee for service brochure.

NCPPC 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling fundraiser event, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Plamour Lanes in Watertown. They will send a flier to put on the listserv.

Youth (13 and older) exhibiting high risk behaviors may be referred to Hilary Davis for extra support.

Care management staff is taking referrals for HIV and Aids, free confidential testing, pre and post counseling after testing, syringe exchange program and those with mental health diagnosis.

GPS for Success are ready for their official launch, six different career clusters are ready. February 22<sup>nd</sup> is launch week at WPBS. [www.mygpsforsuccess.com](http://www.mygpsforsuccess.com) Education video isn't up, but the other five are – agriculture, food and natural resources, health systems, architecture and construction, manufacturing, hospitality and tourism. There are 16 national career clusters and it is their goal to have all 16.

Wiley after school has 115 enrolled at this time. Three new programs are starting in 2016. A junior entrepreneur program is starting with a laser engraver. A hydroponics sustainability project, vertical units with herbs and lettuce, for healthy cooking projects. A 55 gallon fish tank with trout. The grades served are 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

Learning Disabilities Organization has moved to Top of the Square plaza, which is underneath Convergys. Working on signs to help people find us better. Series of workshops is taking place, flier will be distributed on the listserv.

Jefferson County Probation works with over 1,300 people, 225 juveniles which are 18 and under. They will be at Salmon Run Mall to provide education on DWI arrests and the consequences on 2/16/16.

NCPPC is putting together funding to bring in a high level program for perinatal bereavement services. We will send this out to the listserv.

**Next meeting date is, March 14, 2016**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Graf