Health Services Advisory Committee Minutes

December 12, 2019

Members Present: June Rushton, Cheryl Langie, Deka Aimad, Ledora Wohler, Janet Dumas, and Kim Vance

Staff Present: Lillian Okla, Ashley Braaten, Emily Schmiess, Lindsey Burkhardt, Kathy Vosburg, and Ann Mumm

Welcome and introductions were made by those in attendance.

Minutes from the December 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved by the members.

**Staff TB Screens:**

There is a high number of Head Start staff having to go in for TB testing due to traveling outside the country. We are looking for suggestions on the TB form. Kim is going to check with Cass County to see what they have on their form and she will email it to Lillian. Sarah Meyers, looked over the form from Kim and is in agreement with the members to replace Head Start form.

**Staff Physical Exams:**

New staff are required to have a physical exam upon starting, then periodically during their employment. There was discussion on what the word “periodically” meant. Should staff have an exam yearly or every 2 years? There was also a question about what does “communicable diseases” mean? The term is very vague. As of right now, Head Start staff aren’t required to have flu shots or immunizations on record. If it is made a requirement, who will pay for the shots? It was recommended that staff get the DTAP for whooping cough (especially Early Head Start staff) and flu shot. On the medical report that the staff member has filled out by the doctor, it was recommended to take out the Mantoux screening and replace with recommended immunizations. This could be a teaching moment. Staff follow the same illness policy as the Head Start children. Sarah Meyers, was consulted and she agreed with the members. Lillian will add the changes top the physical form for staff to use during the upcoming school year. Members were in agreement to define “periodic” as every two years each staff is to have a completed physical for on file.

**Immunizations Schedule/Requirements:**

Head Start is required to follow the CDC recommendations for immunizations. If a doctor states on the physical exam that immunizations are “up – to – date” are they considered “complete” at that time. Discussion about a doctor notes in the physical exam about shots “reviewed” but not elaborating on if that means the child has completed the recommended immunizations. The members consensus was that immunizations “reviewed” was not sufficient on its own unless followed by a note from the doctor stating the child is up to date on their immunizations. Member also suggested reaching out to Sarah Meyers to get her input. After meeting with Sarah, she agreed with the members. Sarah, also agreed that if the health care provider states on the physical exam that immunizations are “up-t-date” although the child does not necessarily have all immunizations according to the CDC chart, the health care provider’s comments over ride staff count of immunizations, and therefore that child’s immunizations are complete at that time.

**Flu Vaccine for Children:**

The CDC requires yearly flu shots for all enrolled children in our program. Head Start staff were looking into ways to help promote that requirement with the families as staff often hear that the flu shot is a choice rather than a requirement. Although, Head Start posts flu shot flyer at the different sites the members suggested including that information in the family newsletter to help educate parents of the importance of that vaccine.

**Review PIR Data for HS & EHS:**

Lillian shared with the members that health data from the last three years. The data reflected continuous growth in all health areas. A huge thank you to all our members and community partnerships for helping us clsose the gaps on our kids’ health requirements.

Sanford has allotted 25 free physicals for Head Start children who do not have insurance.

Dr. Holman and Marsha Krumm, CDA, RDA, a Certified Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC), provided free dental exams for children without insurance in Fargo, Lisbon and Wahpeton this year.

Family Health Care comes to Early Head Start 4 times a year to do dental exams.

**Program Updates from the Director:**

Lindsey gave a program update. Received Notice of award and currently funded through year 2. Currently finishing self-assessments and there are 3 focus areas to improve upon.

Mental health and disabilities we currently have 8 children on IFP’s at EHS, 42 children on IEP’s at HS and 20 children being evaluated.

Family finances and parent child relationships were 2 of the family goals. A financial workshop was held.

Current waitlist for enrollment is EHS 213 children and 189 children at HS.

**Community Updates:**

Burleigh County now has Nurse Family Practitioner.

Children on Healthy Steps beginning January 2020 will be3 eligible to receive services through Healthy Tracks.