

Youth Services Committee Meeting  
February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016

**Meeting called to order at: 6:56 PM**

**In attendance:** John W., Marge T., Jane H., Pat B., Willie M., Dick B., George B., Bob G., Molly U., Ade O., Carla S., Kim F., Anna S., Keith B., Ashley S.

**Approval of last meeting's minutes:**

**Changes:** Anna's name was misspelled in last month's minutes

Motion to approve: Bob, seconded by Molly. Motion passes unanimously.

**Public Comments:** None

**Director's Report: (Brief Summary of John's report)**

John and Bert have had two cog meetings where they presented data about the Interventionist program. Overall, the presentations have been well received with some good questions being asked. A repeated question John and Bert have been presented with deals with the ability to track clients whereabouts years later. Unfortunately, without proper funding, there isn't a great way to be able to track them at this time. Overall, all the interventionists had a successful year with their cases.

John and George continue to lead Peace Circles at Beye Elementary School. The principal, social workers and school specialist are all supportive and would like to make it a model for the entire district. The group meets for 45 minutes during class time. 2 Groups are led. One for just teachers and then a combination of teachers & students. The eventual goal of Peace Circles is to train the teachers to be able to lead the program on their own.

AMENS is rebooting their mentoring program. The original program worked with 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders and followed them through their high school years. The group then transitioned to help support 8<sup>th</sup> graders as they move into High School. They are now looking to hold a summer program to help 5<sup>th</sup> graders transition to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. AMENS is looking to connect with local universities to offer an internship to mentor kids struggling in both Oak Park and River Forest.

**Liaison Reports:**

Right now, there is a focus on reviewing the budgets of each department in both communities. Senior Services has completed their review successfully. There has been an increase of seniors taking advantage of the services offered.

Several great events are happening in the community. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will be presenting Ending the Silence, which aims to help middle and high schoolers understand and raise awareness to help change perceptions surrounding mental illness. Mental Health First Aid is doing an

entire day of mental health training. There was also a great collaboration with Concordia University about Caregiver support.

**New Business:**

The committee received a grant request change from IMP.A.C.T. for the current funding cycle. Several questions were raised about how and when the new supplemental materials would be used. The committee's main concern is authorizing a purchase of materials without fully understanding IMP.A.C.T.'s implementation plan. Anna was able to provide helpful details on what the materials are and explained they are transitioning to an "evidence based" program and that these materials would help support that transition.

After verifying the total dollar amounts of the changes, Bob motioned to approve the first 2 sections of the request for a total of \$2,247.00. The motion was seconded by Jane. The motion passed unanimously.

New contracts were submitted for review for the upcoming FY17 funding cycle. As committee members review those contracts, the main principles they are considering are; leadership, capability of the group to follow through, its use of mentoring as a strategy, the programs history and each programs collaboration efforts with other programs and services in the community. In order to help streamline the process, the committee decided to form small groups and divide the requests within those groups to be able to better review the contracts in depth in preparation for voting.

The committee is thankful to Lynn Hayes for her service. At this time she is helping elsewhere in the community and is no longer able to fulfill her role on the Youth Services Committee. Therefore, an opening for a River Forest representative has opened up.

**Old Business:** None

**Miscellaneous Notes or info:** Rotary International is looking for a host family for an exchange student.

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:09 PM    **Motioned by:** John    **Seconded by:** Molly